

Minutes of the Meeting of the **FINANCE AND PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE** held at the Town Hall, Swanage on **MONDAY, 14th JANUARY 2013** at 9.30 a.m.

PRESENT:- Councillor W.S. Trite (Town Mayor) – Chairman.

Councillor I. Brown  
Councillor Mrs. A. Patrick (until 10.30 a.m.)  
Councillor S. Poultney  
Councillor M.W. Pratt  
Councillor M. Whitwam

**Public Participation Time**

There was one member of the public present at the meeting.

Before the commencement of the Meeting, the Town Mayor reported on the sad death of Mr. Ken Bartlett, and on behalf of the Council, wished to convey to Councillor Mrs. Bartlett sincere condolences on the loss of her husband.

1. **APOLOGIES**

There were no apologies to report for inability to attend the Meeting.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members were invited to declare their interest under the Code of Conduct as defined by regulations made under section 30 (3) of the Localism Act 2011.

There were no declarations to record on this occasion.

3. **TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY STATEMENT AND INVESTMENT STRATEGY 2013/14 to 2015/16**

Copies of the draft Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Investment Strategy 2013/14 to 2015/16 had been circulated to all Members prior to the Meeting.

The document detailed the Council's projected investment/borrowing strategy over the next 3 years, and outlined the parameters within which the Council's officers could operate with regards to the annual investment strategy over the next financial year.

Following a brief discussion, it was RESOLVED:-

To approve the draft Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Investment Strategy for submission to the Estimates meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2013.

4. **PARISH PRECEPTS 2013/14 - CHANGES TO COUNCIL TAX BASE**

Further to Minute No. 120 (b) of the Council meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> January 2013, detailed consideration was given to the proposed changes to local government finance which would reflect in the Council Tax base, and the impact that these changes may have on Parish Precepts in 2013/14 and future years.

In light of the uncertainty surrounding the impact of government legislation and the effect this may have on future funding from the District Council, and the possibility of ‘capping’ of town and parish councils in future years, additional information had been prepared for consideration by the Town Council when setting its Council Tax precept for 2013/14.

Following a lengthy discussion, it was proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Pratt, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

To adhere to the decision of the Finance and Performance Management Committee held on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2012 (Minute No. 4) that the draft Estimates 2013/14 incorporating a proposed increase in Council Tax precept of 2.5% be approved for final consideration by the full Council on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2013.

Councillor Mrs. Patrick left the Meeting at 10.30 a.m.

5. **ITEMS OF INFORMATION AND MATTERS FOR FORTHCOMING AGENDAS**

There were no additional matters to report at the present time.

6. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Finance and Performance Management Committee would be held in April 2013 (date to be confirmed).

7. **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Poultney, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That, under Standing Orders nos. 67 and 68, by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public be excluded from the Meeting during consideration of the following matters.

8. **REVIEW OF COUNCIL PRIORITY PROJECTS**

Further to Minute No. 4 of the Finance and Performance Management Committee meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2012, an updated schedule of Council Priority Projects was submitted, for information.

In accepting the Report, Members re-affirmed the Council’s main priority as progressing the seafront and Downs stabilisation schemes, and were also pleased to note the satisfactory conclusion of several legal matters.

The meeting concluded at 11.00 a.m.