

## **POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

**Draft Minutes of the Meeting held in the Large Hall of the Town Hall, Calne on  
Monday 19 March 2007**

**PRESENT:** Councillor C J Viner – Town Mayor  
Councillor R Golding – Deputy Town Mayor - **Chair**  
Councillor Mrs M J Baggs  
Councillor Mrs E M Bland  
Councillor P Dolman  
Councillor R J Stigwood  
Councillor A J Trotman

**OFFICERS:** Mrs A Kingdon – Town Clerk  
Mrs L Roberts – Deputy Town Clerk  
Mrs A Cawkwell – Committee Clerk

### **57/06 APOLOGIES**

Apologies had been received from Councillor P R Atkinson and Councillor Ms C J Bowyer.

### **58/06 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Mrs M J Baggs declared a non-pecuniary interest in Agenda Item 5.2, *Calne Lions Club*, as she was once a member and still goes out collecting with the Lions Club for the duck race and at Christmas.

### **59/06 MINUTES**

At 53/06 Councillor P Dolman wished it to be noted and minuted that he was invited as a Councillor to attend the meeting referred to with the Recreation Club, but not as a representative of the Council at this meeting.

With the above amendment, the Minutes of the meeting of the Policy & Resources Committee held on Monday 22 January 2007, having previously been circulated, were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

### **60/06 EARMARKED RESERVES**

The Earmarked Reserves and Capital Receipt Allocations for this Committee were noted.

## 61/06 GRANTS AND DONATIONS

The list of grants and donations awarded to date for 2006/2007 was noted.

### 61.1 *Splash*

After the presentation which was held prior to this meeting, members raised some questions and the following issues were raised:

- After the Alcohol Awareness Programme evaluation forms are handed to key workers or parents as a follow up to monitor the behaviour of youths after the programme.
- Members agreed this was a very worthwhile project.
- It was pointed out that although there is a large amount in the Grants & Donations budget there is no longer the £2,000 contribution to the Citizens Advice Bureau so this would be without detriment to other groups who normally apply for grants.
- The Deputy Town Clerk clarified that this expense would be offset against other grant funding which she was currently investigating for this project.
- If a decision to proceed was made plans would be put in place to hold a programme in Calne at May half term, and this would therefore not be affected by the elections.

It was proposed by Councillor P Dolman, seconded by Councillor Mrs M J Baggs and

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to award a grant of £1,254.00 to Splash from the Grants and Donations Budget 2007/2008, under Section 142 of the 1972 Local Government Act and to seek other funding to reduce this contribution where possible.

### 61.2 *Calne Lions Club*

It was proposed by Councillor A J Trotman, seconded by Councillor P R Atkinson and

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to award Free Use of the Town Hall to Calne Lions Club on Sunday 7 October 2007 at a cost of £133 to be taken from the Civic and Ceremonial budget.

### 61.3 *Calne Development Project Trust*

It was proposed by Councillor P Dolman, seconded by Councillor Mrs M J Baggs and

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to award a grant of £275 from this years Grants and Donations Budget and £75 from the Grants and Donations Budget 2007/2008.

**62/06 CAIAC – Progress Report** – The Community Development Officer’s report, which is attached to and forms part of these Minutes, was discussed by members and the following points were raised:

- CAIAC organises several events in the town which are well thought of by residents and it should therefore be properly constituted with a proper management structure, and proper record of what happens within the organisation.
- It was hopeful that they would get some proper accounting support, however, nothing has happened since this was suggested at the last meeting with them.
- Another meeting should be arranged with CAIAC as soon as possible.
- It is very difficult to give firm support to the group with its current make up. Last year the £2,000 was not awarded to CAIAC it was used towards payment of the reindeers and paid to the reindeer company direct.
- The Town Clerk informed that the £2,000 had gone back into the events and carnivals budget and could therefore be used to pay bills direct until such time as the group is properly constituted.

#### **63/06 RECREATION CLUB LEASE**

The Town Clerk’s report, which is attached to and forms part of these Minutes, was discussed by members and the following points were raised:

- Councillor P Dolman stated that he had attended the meeting with the Recreation Club to discuss the renegotiation of the commencement date of the lease. He did not fully support the comments in this report about what happened at this meeting and was not in favour of the recommendations given.
- He stated that the opportunity to resolve this issue had been missed and now, as a result, the Council are involved in considerable costs, both legal and others.
- Councillor Dolman felt it was a decision of the Full Council to finalise this issue, as and when the negotiations are complete under the Section 26 notice, and this matter should not be delegated to anyone.
- The Town Clerk clarified that should the situation become clearer in time for the Agenda for the Full Council meeting on 16 April it can be discussed at this time by all members. However, if the information is not received in time this issue will have to wait until 25 June before anything can be dealt with. This was the reasoning behind the recommendations in her report.
- It was felt that this matter should be resolved as soon as possible and the recommendations in the report should be considered.
- The lease is not in dispute it is the commencement date of the lease. The ramifications of not agreeing a date is either going to court or being forced to evict the Recreation Club, however, this would not be acceptable for the residents of the town.
- Taking the course of action in the recommendations, once the legal side of the Section 26 Notice is clarified, there is not reason why negotiations cannot continue.

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs E M Bland, seconded by Councillor Mrs M J Baggs and

**RESOLVED**

- 1) To delegate authority to the Town Mayor, Deputy Town Mayor and Committee Chairs (Councillor Mrs Baggs – Amenities and also town Council representative to the Recreation Club, Councillor Mrs Hammond – Amenities, Councillor Atkinson – PERC) and the Town Clerk to deal with the Lease to the Recreation Club to a satisfactory conclusion.
- 2) If the matter is not concluded by the time of the May elections, to delegate authority solely to the Town Clerk to deal with the Lease to the Recreation Club to a satisfactory conclusion, taking professional advice when necessary and to report back to this Committee on 25 June 2007.

**64/06 ENFORCEMENT OF DOG CONTROL ORDERS**

The Town Clerk's report, which is attached to and forms part of these Minutes, was discussed by members and the following points were raised:

- If all open spaces are to have this rule there will be nowhere to exercise dogs, especially on the south side of the town.
- It was felt by enforcing this rule it would result in responsible dog owners pulling away and irresponsible dog owners continuing. There was a need to enforce fines on those who do not clear up after their dogs. It was considered unfair to responsible dog owners.
- The Town Clerk clarified that this order would be to prevent access of dogs to all equipped Childrens' play areas.
- This problem is evident all over the town, there is a vital need to enforce this ban.
- For the PCSOs to carry out this enforcement it would put additional duties on an already thin workforce, and for a parking attendant to do this it would be geared to Town Centre and only one or two days per week.
- Councillor Trotman informed members that at a recent NWDC meeting it had been decided that Traffic Wardens would have nothing to do with this enforcement. However, if was felt the law should still be put in place, even if it cannot be enforced.

It was proposed by the Chair, Councillor R Golding, seconded by the Town Mayor, Councillor C J Viner and

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to note the contents of the report and request more research into this matter by officers.

**65/06 FINANCE SUB COMMITTEE**

The Minutes of the Finance Sub Committee meeting held on 22 January 2007 were noted.

**66/06 ITEM FOR INFORMATION**

**66.1** *Publication of Food Premises Hazard Ratings and Star Rating System* – the letter from NWDC was noted.

**67/06 CONFIDENTIAL SESSION**

It was

**RESOLVED** that in view of the Confidential Nature of the business about to be transacted, concerning financial matters, that the public and press be excluded and they were instructed to withdraw.

Draft