

FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

11th October 2016

PRESENT Councillors: Mrs.N.Thompson (Chairman)
Mrs.L.Clark
Mrs.T.Coombs
Mrs.L.Dedden
S.Flower
Mrs.S.L.Grove
S.Hazel
Mrs.P.Morrow
Ms. J.Russell
Mrs.S.Shaw
Miss. K.Stephens

Apologies were given by Cllr: P J Mann

Also in attendance: Mrs.M.Saunders, Admin Assistant.

Public: 0

131/16 Declaration of Interests and Requests for Dispensations.

Declaration of Interests and Requests for Dispensations.Councillors Mrs.T.Coombs and S.Flower both declared a non-pecuniary interest under agenda item 3 – Shaping Your Councils- Local Government Reorganisation as they are members of East Dorset District Council. They took no part in the discussion or recommendation.

132/16 Clerk's Report.

a) **Minute102/16 (f) refers Right of Way** between Woodlinken Drive and Rowan Close. The application form has been filled in and sent with evidence from members of the public. This was noted.

133/16 Monthly Budgets.

The monthly budget reports for September 2016 will be provided at the Full Council Meeting.

134/16 Reshaping Your Council – Local Government Reorganisation.

The consultation questionnaire was copied to all members in advance and members had had a presentation at the last full council meeting. The Committee had been given delegated powers by the Full council to comment due to the time scale.

After discussion the questionnaire was completed. Each answer was proposed by a member, seconded by another member and agreed unanimously.

RESOLVED that the answers given are representing the Town Council's views.

A copy of the questionnaire will be attached to the minutes in the minute book.

135/16 Local Government Finance Technical Consultation Paper-‘Changes to Local Resources’.

The consultation covers proposals for the local government finance settlement for 2017/18. Members were asked to consider the ‘Changes to local resources’ chapter and answer questions. It was proposed, seconded and

RECOMMENDED that the following responses be sent:

- i) Do you agree that the referendum principles should be extended to larger higher-spending town and parish councils in 2017/18 as set out in paragraphs 3.3.3 to 3.3.4?
After discussion and a show of hands the following was the comment:
Disagree
- ii) Do you agree with the proposed approach to take account of the transfer of responsibilities to town and parish councils as outlined in paragraph 3.3.5?
After discussion and a show of hands the following was the comment:
Agree, subject to the following principle. Where the principle council has removed (or intends to discontinue) a particular service and the Parish or Town Council chooses to take on this service without any funding being available from the principle council, then the Parish or Town Council should receive a dispensation under this clause.
- iii) Do you agree with the suggestion that referendum principles may be extended to all local precepting authorities as set out in paragraph 3.3.6? If so what level of principle should be set?
After discussion and a show of hands the following was the comment:
Disagree
- iv) Do you have views on the practical implications of a possible extension of referendum principles to all local precepting authorities as set out in paragraph 3.3.7?
After discussion, it was agreed that the following comment should be made:
“Verwood and Three Legged Cross Town Council strongly feel that the cost of implementing and policing any change as suggested in this document should be proportional to the benefit received of this change.”

136/16 Town Clerk's Appraisal.

Two councillors are required to carry out the Town Clerk's appraisal. After discussion it was proposed, seconded and
RECOMMENDED that Councillors Mrs N Thompson and Mrs S L Grove would carry out the Appraisal.

137/16 Service Level Agreement with East Dorset District Council.

A meeting had taken place with East Dorset District Council on the SLA with the Town Council. A report was circulated to Members and a verbal report provided by Cllr Nicole Thompson. Members noted that the service at Potterne Park was improving and a number of projects were underway. As the figures provided were from April – September 2016, additional information would be requested from East Dorset District Council on the expected annual budget for the year for the next report.

(45)

138/16 Reports on Health & Safety aspects from the Amenities Committee members.

The inspection of the Cemetery has been carried out. Inspection of the Recreation Grounds & Open Spaces will be carried out this week. The Clerk will arrange for any necessary work to be carried out.

139/16 Other reports and items for future agendas.

It was reported that the Youth Centre at Emmanuel School has now re-opened. This was noted.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.52 p.m.

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Chairman