



DAWLISH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the **Finance & General Purposes Committee** Held at The Manor House, Dawlish on Thursday, 22 March 2018 at 7.00 pm

Present:

Councillor Clemens (Chairman)
Councillors Lowther, Mayne, Nickless, and Wrigley

Other Town Councillors Present:

Councillor Alison Foden

Officers in attendance

Yola Mitchell – Finance Officer

Members of the public

There was one member of the public present who spoke in support of both grant applications for Dawlish Warren Tourism

Declarations of interest

Councillor Lisa Mayne declared an interest in the following grant applications and therefore did not take part in the vote:

Dawlish Warren Tourism Group – as a member
Dawlish Community Transport – as a trustee

Items requiring urgent attention

- Grant Request from Dawlish Community Transport for £5000
- Grant Request from Volunteering in Health for £250
- Consideration of renewal options for utility providers for the Waterfowl Hut and Riverside Centre
- Item from Civic Amenities to approve funds for three finger posts

108 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillors Almond, A Fenne, G Fenne, Goodman-Bradbury and Taylor.

109 Minutes

Members present and voting received the Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting held on 25 January 2018.

RESOLVED unanimously that the minutes of the 25 January 2018 meeting be signed by the Committee Chairman as a true and accurate record of the meeting subject to typographical errors being corrected.

110 To consider requests for dispensation

No requests were received.

111 To consider grant applications received

Smaller Grants

- **Dawlish Fairtrade Friends** – a grant of £100 to pay for speakers from organisations that benefit from Fairtrade to speak at an event and schools in Dawlish during Fairtrade Fortnight.

RESOLVED unanimously that a grant of £100 be approved.

- **Dawlish Garden Society** – a grant of £250 to refill compost, plant up and make a more appealing entrance to both town and country park at A379.

RESOLVED unanimously that a grant of £250 be approved.

- **(Late Item) Volunteering for Health** – a grant of £250 to cover room hire costs for the Memory Café and other expenses

RESOLVED unanimously that a grant of £250 be approved.

Larger Grants

- **Dawlish Warren Tourism** – a grant of £1330 to pay for Punch and Judy one day per week for the six week summer holiday period and Thursday of carnival week.

RESOLVED by majority that a grant of £1330 be approved.

- **Dawlish Warren Tourism** – a grant of £1937.90 to replace signs into Dawlish Warren.

RESOLVED by majority that a grant of £1937.90 be approved. Members wished to note that they would like to see traders to contribute to any future applications where there is a commercial element.

- **Citizens Advice** – a grant of £7500 to maintain the current service based in Dawlish for the people of Dawlish to meet their ongoing needs.

RESOLVED unanimously that a grant of £7500 be approved.

- **(Late Item) Dawlish Community Transport** – a grant of £5000 to continue to maintain the community transport vehicles and service provided.

RESOLVED by majority that a grant of £5000 be approved.

112 Internal Auditors Report

RESOLVED unanimously that the item be deferred to a future meeting of the Committee.

113 Manor House Business Rates Appeal

The update letter regarding the ongoing appeal process was **NOTED** by members.

114 VAT Recommendation

In accordance with recommendations given by the VAT Specialists members considered and unanimously **RESOLVED** the following:

- a) The council should opt to Tax the Manor House building from 1st April 2018.
- b) VAT should be absorbed into the existing fees and charges for the first year then be reviewed in accordance with minute 84 of the Town Council Meeting held in November 2017.
- c) To employ DCK Accounting Solutions to assist with the process of Opting to Tax the Manor House.

115 Invoices for Payment, Direct Debit and Income

Members present received and considered the report of invoices paid, direct debits and income received since the last report to the Committee.

RESOLVED unanimously that this report be approved.

116 Bank Reconciliation

Members present received and considered the bank reconciliation as at 31 January and 28 February 2018.

RESOLVED unanimously that the report be approved.

117 Financial Report

RESOLVED unanimously that the 31 January and 28 February 2018 Budget Comparison be approved.

118 Items from Civic Amenities Committee

(Late Item) A request for funding for 2 finger-post signs for signposting Dawlish Community Transport / Shop mobility, and 1 sign for signposting the Manor Gardens play park.

RESOLVED unanimously to approve funding up to the value of £1000 for the 3 requested signs.

119 Items from Events Committee

There were no items from the Events Committee

120 Late Items

To consider utility supplier renewal options for the Riverside Centre and Waterfowl Hut

DEFERRED – members asked that further short-term contract options be requested to be considered.

121 Press Release

Members agreed to issue a press release regarding the approved grants and ongoing support for:

- **Dawlish Fairtrade Friends**
- **Dawlish Garden Society**
- **Volunteering for Health**
- **Dawlish Warren Tourism**
- **Citizens Advice**
- **Dawlish Community Transport**

Part II Exclusion of the Public and Press – The Public Bodies (Admissions to meetings) Act 1960

Pursuant to Section 1(2) of The Public Bodies (admissions to meetings) Act 1960, and having regard to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted it was RESOLVED that the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business:

122 Salary and Expenses

(Confidential by virtue of relating to members of staff)

Salaries and Expenses for January and February 2018 were noted.

The meeting was closed by the Committee Chairman, Councillor Humphrey Clemens at 8.47pm.

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Cllr Humphrey Clemens, Chairman