

## MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE HELD 6 DECEMBER 2022

**Councillors Present:** Cllr Maggie Allingham, Cllr Ian Corben, Cllr Keith House, Cllr Derek Pretty (Chair), Cllr Jane Welsh

**In attendance:** 2 Market Stallholders

**P1156 Apologies:** Cllr Cliff Morris

**P1157 To consider the Minutes of the meeting held 15 November 2022.**

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 15 November 2022 be signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record.

Matters Arising

None arising.

**P1158 Correspondence**

The Council has received a complaint from a Market Trader which was shared with the Councillors in advance of the meeting. Cllr Pretty noted that it was quite clear that the stallholders should be having their own insurance and to complete a risk assessment as per the market terms and conditions. The stall holders were concerned about one area of the market that is windy. Cllr Pretty noted that one of the stallholders were not on site during the incident. Cllr Corben asked for clarity on where the stall was positioned, and any issues experienced by the other stallholder. He went on to ask what the stallholders had done to risk assess the weather and decide if they should continue trading. The stallholders said that it was one particular gust of wind that had caused the issues and damaged the gazebo and stock. Cllr Maggie Allingham asked for clarity that stallholders are insured. The stallholder replied saying that it didn't cover weather incidents. Cllr Pretty summarised that the market is due to finish on the 21 December, and we would consider the complaint and look again at the market and revised terms and conditions. Cllr Pretty stated that the claim for any compensation would be dismissed as that would need to come out of stallholder's insurance. **RESOLVED: That councillors would provide a response in the new year following consideration of the market and revised terms and conditions.**

**P1159 Revision to Standing Orders**

A copy of the proposed revised standing orders were circulated to Councillors in advance. Councillors discussed the option to not hold meetings on the week leading up to an election/ referendum. Cllrs noted a change was needed to para 37 & 38 as the numbering was incorrect. Councillors noted a spelling error in para 8. **RESOLVED: Councillors agreed that the council should not hold meetings in the week leading up to elections and to recommend Full Council adopts these at its next meeting.**

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**P1160 Revision to Scheme of Delegation**

A copy of the proposed revised scheme of delegation were circulated to Councillors in advance. **RESOLVED: To make the recommended changes. To recommend Full Council adopts these at its next meeting.**

**P1161 Revision to Financial Regulations**

A copy of the proposed revised financial regulations were circulated to Councillors in advance. Councillors noted some of the wording was lengthy and ambiguous and asked for changes to 9.1.8 To ensure buildings meet legislative requirements. Likewise, to 9.1.15 To maintain and upkeep play areas to RoSPA compliance. A change to 10.1.3 To comment on planning applications received from the local planning authorities. A change to 10.1.14 To provide strategic direction of Council. **RESOLVED: To make the changes required and recommend Full Council adopts these at its next meeting.**

**P1162 General Power of Competence**

Councillors discussed the previously circulated report on the General Power of Competence including eligibility and application of the power and agreed that it would be good for the Council to have this now that they are eligible. **RESOLVED: To recommend the resolution to Full Council.**

**P1163 Berrywood Fields**

The Clerk updated the meeting that she had spoken with the Local Area Manager who was looking into this, and no further update was provided. Cllrs discussed the issues noting that we were waiting on some information from Eastleigh Borough Council. The other issue is the long-term lease and that EBC have taken the option to secure the maximum lease where a freehold is not available as this secures the site for future use in Hedge End. The freehold was not available given the governing legislation for the academy school on the site. The Borough opted for the longest lease it could to protect the site as there have been instances elsewhere when the community has lost use of a site that was previously community use such as the Hub. **RESOLVED: That the Clerk asks for a copy of the lease between Hampshire and EBC and if the intention was to sub lease or to transfer the existing lease.**

**P1164 Taplin Pavilion**

The Clerk provided an update that she had spoken with the current providers who were looking at their options to be presented back to the February meeting. **RESOLVED: Cllrs agreed to wait until the deadline of 31 January to consider this further, however the inclination was to**

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**demolish it.**

**P1165 2023/24 Budget Considerations**

A revised budget to include the grants and an uplift of 7% was presented to Councillors. Predicted energy costs for the forthcoming year were also calculated to give an estimated gap in the existing budget provision. Cllrs spoke about the predicted energy costs discussing the measures that are being considered to reduce these. The budget was amended to remove the additional line of transferring underspend into the reserve account. Councillors discussed the holding and use of earmarked reserves. Councillors would now like to see a revenue contribution into the capital budget for longer term replacement and repairs. **RESOLVED: Councillors would like to see budgets account for these increases into capital. Councillors would like a copy of the earmarked reserves. Given that some information was not available to help with budget setting this will be discussed at the January meeting.**

**P1166 Clerks Update**

The clerk suggested the potential for introducing Councillor Long Service Awards. Councillors asked for this to be a exempt business agenda item at a future meeting. The Clerk updated Councillors on the change of external auditor for the next five years from PKF Littlejohn to BDO LLP. The Clerk updated Councillors on the recent damage to Greta Park barrier and the need to look at a replacement if budgets permit at year end. Councillors asked for quotes to come back to the next meeting. The clerk suggested that we might want to consider a monthly car boot. Councillors felt this could be a good addition to Hedge End and asked the clerk to provide a report to a future meeting.

Cllr Derek Pretty attended Tadic AGM recently and was very surprised at the amount of work they have been doing and the amount of people they see against the funding they receive. They have been given notice on the medical centre and are seeking an alternative venue.

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There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting at 20:27 hours.