

PATCHWAY TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Finance Committee held on 4 October 2011 at Callicroft House, Rodway Road, Patchway

Present: Cllr. M. Grotzke (in the Chair)
C. Mills
P. Cottrell
S. Scott
Miss R. Thorne

1. Patchway Detached Youth Work

The Chairman welcomed Mark Seed, Children's Services Manager of Southern Brooks Community Partnership, who showed a presentation on the detached youth work being carried out in Patchway with support from the Council. It was noted that the project had been working with 250 individual young people since April of this year on two nights per week: on Monday evenings in Scott Park where the "On the Ball" football project attracted both males and females and on Thursday evenings at The Parade, Gorse Covert and Rodway Road shops. From November the project would be working from Coniston Community Centre running street dance and healthy eating sessions over the winter months.

The Town Council had agreed a grant of £17,600 for detached youth work in Patchway in this financial year but had agreed to make an advance payment to the project in March 2011 of £2,600. The Committee agreed to authorise payment of the balance of £15,000 from the Youth Work budget.

Mark also spoke about development of youth work in the 2012-13 financial year and beyond and had circulated a document, "Patchway Young Community Project". This would include individual support for young people referred by other agencies as well as group work and would extend to cover Patchway Common and Charlton Hayes. Mark asked if the Council would agree to fund this project for three years to the annual level of £18,400. He would be approaching other funders as the total cost of the project would be £45,754 per year. The Committee discussed this matter after Mark had left the meeting and agreed to give sympathetic consideration to this request at the budgeting meeting for the next financial year.

2. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. Gordon, Walker, Tiley and Moore.

3. Declarations of Interest

The Chairman asked any members having an interest in a matter to be discussed in the meeting to declare it at the appropriate time.

4. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 6 September were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

4. Matters arising from the Minutes

a) Patchway Community Centre

The Committee agreed to suggest the date of Friday 21 October to Patchway Community Association and the Day Centre for the Elderly (Casson Centre).

b) Boiler servicing

The Committee noted that as all boilers were overdue for servicing, this had been carried out at a cost of £85 per boiler as agreed by the Council. The Deputy Clerk presented information on an extension to the Council's insurance policy to cover boiler replacement but the Committee decided unanimously to proceed with a British Gas contract, "Heat Sure", which would cover servicing, parts and labour for each of the Council's boilers which were not under guarantee for £261 each per annum. It was noted that the maintenance of the boilers for the showers at the Sports & Social Club were now the responsibility of the Council and should be included in this contract.

c) Sheltered Housing

The Committee was pleased to hear that action was being organised by SG Councillors in support of both sheltered housing schemes in Patchway. It was noted that both were highly in demand, ideally located for residents' access to facilities and communities within the community of Patchway.

d) Housing Receipts

Cllr. Scott reported on discussions on expenditure from the HRA money allocated to the three SG Councillors. The Councillors would like to propose the following:

- That £250 should be spent on stickers for litter bins stating that these could be used to dispose of dog faeces where there was no dog bin close by.
- That the Town Council should ask local schools if they have any projects which could be supported by this fund.
- That three prices should be presented for the provision of fitness equipment in Scott Park by the Town Council

5. Current financial position

The Committee noted that the second instalment of the Precept from SGC had been received and that the bank balances at today's date were:

Current account:	£1,000.00
Business Reserve account:	£341,205.90

6. Monthly summary of expenditure

The Committee noted the summary of expenditure for the month of September. It was agreed to transfer funds from contingencies to cover unexpected expenditure on utility bills relating to the previous year which had not been issued by British Gas.

7. Grant applications

The following grant applications were agreed:

Patchway, Filton & the Stokes Volunteer Bureau	£1,000
Southern Brooks Community Partnership for Detached Youth Work (balance - see item 1)	£15,000

8. Precept payment to Joint Burial Committee

After discussion on a report from the last meeting of the Joint Burial Committee, the Committee agreed to return the cheque, honouring the Council's legal requirement to pay the Precept of £1,100 in this financial year.

9. Internal Audit Plan

The Committee agreed unanimously to adopt the Internal Audit Plan, which had been previously circulated, as required by the Audit Commission. The purpose of this document was to maintain an adequate and effective system of internal audit. It was noted that the Council's Internal Auditor was Mr. W. Davies.

10. Date of next meeting

It was noted that the next meeting would be held on Tuesday 1 November.