

PATCHWAY TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Finance Committee held on 1 May 2012 at Callicroft House,
Rodway Road, Patchway**

Present: Cllr. C. Mills (in the Chair)
E. Gordon JP
M. Grotzke
P. Cottrell
S. Scott
D. Tiley
Mrs E. Orpen
Ms R. Thorne
K. Walker

In attendance: Mrs L. Hamid
M. Winter

1. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. Thorne and Moore.
It was agreed that apologies should only be recorded from committee members

2. 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.

3. Minutes

The minutes of the meetings held on 3 April 2012 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman with the following amendment:
Item 1, line 6. Delete £13.3m and substitute £1.65m. Proposed S.Scott, seconded K. Walker

4. Matters arising from the Minutes

a) CYP Review

The Chairman reported that Cllrs. Scott, Mills and Moore had met with Julie Close and had agreed that the first choice was keeping all three services “in house”, but that if SGC decided to privatise them, Patchway Town Council would like local organisations to deliver them. This view was endorsed by the Finance Committee.

With regard to the Youth Centre, it was recommended that Patchway

Town Council should engage with Southern Brooks Community Partnership to take over the running of the Centre with a view to moving provision into part of the new Patchway Community Centre, using the sale of the youth centre land to fund this. This would enable the maintenance of universal youth provision on a limited scale.

The Committee agreed that detailed information on costing's and usage would be required for the Council to make a decision on this matter and It was agreed to recommend to Council that and Emergency council Meeting should be held on Tuesday 15 May so that full consideration could be given to this matter.

b) Patchway Community Centre

The Committee noted that SGC had asked the architect to produce a detailed proposal for rebuilding the community centre but agreed that details should remain confidential until the funding had been confirmed. It had been agreed at the last meeting with the Community Association In March to appoint four representatives of the Association and of the Council to meet to progress the matter and the Committee agreed that the Council representatives should be Cllrs. Mills, Cottrell, Tiley and Gordon and that the first meeting should be held at 6.30p.m. on Wednesday 9 May. It was suggested that the architect be asked to include provision for travellers and young people in the new building.

c) SG Audit Review

It was noted that the auditor had spent two days in the office and had requested various documents but the report had not yet been received. The RBS software would be introduced during the year as agreed.

d) Bank Mandate

The Committee was pleased to note that the new Bank Mandate had now been signed by all Councillors and that the changes agreed to bank accounts had been made.

e) Rodway Road shopkeepers meeting

The Committee noted that this meeting had been held and that the matters raised would more appropriately be dealt with by the Planning & Transport Committee.

5. Current financial position

The Committee noted the financial position at the end of the financial year:

Business Reserve a/c	£294,051.97*
Current a/c	£1,000.00

New deposit a/c £25,000.00

The Committee noted that this balance included the first half of the Precept which had been received at the beginning of May.

6. Monthly summary of expenditure

The Committee noted the summary of expenditure for the month of April and also the income and expenditure accounts for the same period. The Deputy Clerk presented the figures and answered questions on both documents. These figures were accepted and it was noted that no changes would be made, proposed by Cllr. Scott, seconded by Cllr. Tiley

7. Grant applications

The Committee agreed to given consideration to the production of a sticker stating “provided by a grant from Patchway Town Council” in order to promote the support given by the Council to local groups.

Patchway Community Association

An application for £12,000 was deferred as there was some concern about whether the Association was working to its Constitution. It was agreed to request a copy of the minutes of the last two meetings of the Executive Committee and the last audited accounts. Cllrs. Scott and Cottrell declared their interest in this matter.

Blakeney road Allotment Association

It was agreed that the amount budgeted towards the construction of a meeting rooms for the allotments, to include a toilet and kitchen, should now be paid to the Allotments Association in the sum of £,3,500.

Little Rainbows Pre-School

It was agreed to contribute £300 towards the cost of garden parasols to protect the children from the sun but that this would not be sent until the last audited account had been received.

Patchway Cricket Club

A request for a grant towards the cost of building a scoreboard and scorers’ hut was noted. It was agreed to request a copy of the last audited accounts and that discussions with the club on the best position for this structure would continue with the Parks Committee.

8. Other financial & urgent matters

a) Skateboard park

The Committee noted that improvements to the skateboard area in Scott Park had been raised by young people at the Patchway Safer & Stronger Group and that Julie Close, as Chair of this Group, had offered to co-ordinate a meeting of those interested in this topic. The Patchway SC Councillors had subsequently agreed to contribute £10,000 towards this project from the remainder of the HRA money. The Committee Welcomed the development and asked that Cllr. Grotzke should be invited to the meeting.

b) Temporary closure of the top section of Coniston Road

The Committee noted that SGC would be closing the section of Coniston Road from Martin Close to Highwood Road for road improvement works and asked that more information should be obtained on alternative access for residents.

c) Cycle sculpture at Gorse Covert

The Committee was pleased to see a photograph of the cycle sculpture at the picnic area in the field on the Stroud Road side of Gorse Covert , which had been paid for by the Town Council.

9. Date of next meeting

It was noted that the next meeting would be held on Tuesday 5 June at 7.30 p.m.