

PATCHWAY TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Finance Committee held on 4 June 2013 at Callicroft House, Rodway Road, Patchway

Present: Cllr. C. Mills (in the Chair)
M. Grotzke
P. Cottrell
S. Scott
K. Walker
J. Moore
Mrs E. Orpen
E. Gordon
M. Greensword

In attendance: Mrs L. Hamid
Mr. M. Winter

1. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. Alsop.
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. When there was a conflict of interest in a meeting he would ask the person to leave the meeting during discussion and voting.

3. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 7 May were agreed as a correct record, proposed Cllr. Walker, seconded Cllr. Scott, and signed by the Chairman.

4. Matters arising

- a) Renewal of glazing for bus shelter
The Committee noted that one bus shelter had been repaired and painted. The other was in hand.

- b) Joint Burial Committee
Cllr. Scott reported on the recent meeting. The membership had not yet been established but this and the financial report would be discussed at the next meeting.
- c) New Homes Bonus
The Committee was very pleased to note that £92,000 had been agreed over two years for the perimeter path at Scott Park. The Parks Committee had discussed this matter the previous week and decided to start work as soon as possible from the top gate in Windermere Road to create a new path to join up with the existing. The existing path would then be widened to the legal width of 1.8m using the budget for this year of £46,000. The remainder of the path would be widened in the next financial year.
The Committee was also pleased to note that work to fence and improve the skateboard area was to be put in hand, paid for by the previous grant from the New Homes Bonus of £15,000.

5. Current financial position

The Committee noted that the first half of the Precept had been received and that the financial position at today's date was:

Business Reserve a/c	£320,546.67
Current a/c	£1,000.00
Savings Bond	£25,000.00

6. Monthly summary of expenditure

The Committee noted and agreed the summary of expenditure for the month of May and also the income and expenditure accounts for the same period. It was agreed to take the cost of tree work at Patchway Common from contingencies.

7. Blakeney Road Allotments

The Chairman reported that he and Cllr. Grotzke had met with the three officers of the allotment association on 22 May and discussed how the association had arrived at the situation where they had insufficient funds to pay the remainder of the ground works. Both Councillors were convinced that it was human error and that there had been no intention to overspend on the

budget. Cllr. Mills explained that Southern Brooks Community Partnership would be offering training on financial management to the allotment committee and that he had informed the representatives that the Council's funds were limited and that if agreement were reached to pay the ground works bill, it would not be possible to make any other grants to the association in the near future. This had been accepted by the representatives.

After discussion, it was proposed by Cllr. Orpen, seconded by Cllr. Walker, that the Council should pay the invoice of Mogford Prescott in the sum of £13,356.00 on the condition that Blakeney Road Allotment Association give the Council the £3,000 currently in their account for this project and also that the Association agreed to pay any other grants for this project as received. (It was noted that a grant application to Merlin Housing was outstanding) It would also be confirmed that future annual grants would be frozen for the foreseeable future.
The resolution was passed unanimously.

8. Grant applications

The following grants were agreed to local organisations:

Patchway Community Sports Association:	£700
North Bristol Advice Centre:	£2,000
(The Committee would review the level of grant later in the financial year)	
Four Towns Play Association	£5,000

It was agreed that no grant could be made to the School Assemblies Team on the grounds that this was a religious organisation.

9. Patchway Youth Centre

Cllr. Orpen left the meeting for discussion of this item due to her interest in Patchway Community Association. The Clerk left the meeting due to her interest in Southern Brooks Community Partnership.

The Chairman explained that the Patchway Centre Pre-School was not now moving from Patchway Community Centre to the Youth Centre and that this would leave Southern Brooks Community Partnership short of £9,000 income in this financial year towards the running costs of the Youth Centre. After discussion the Committee agreed unanimously that the Council should make up this shortfall to enable SBCP to take on the Lease of the Youth Centre from SGC. It was agreed that from 1 June the amount of £750 should be paid to

SBCP until the end of the financial year to give them the opportunity to find another group to help with the running costs of the Centre.

10. Other financial & urgent matters

a) Fuel tank at Scott Park

It was noted that enquiries should be made into fitting a filter and cleaning out the diesel tank at Scott Park which had been contaminating the fuel supply to various mowers. If this was not successful it might be necessary to purchase a new fuel tank which was likely to cost £800.

b) Rent owed by football clubs

The Committee was pleased to note that the overdue amounts had been paid in full by Almondsbury; that regular payments were being received from Rolls-Royce and that the solicitor was in the process of contacting another officer of Bailey's Court.

c) Meeting with Street Care

Following a meeting with Street Care concerning new arrangements for street services from April 2014, the Planning Committee had recommended that the matter should be discussed by full Council.

11. Date of next meeting

It was noted that the next meeting would be held on Tuesday 2 July at 7.30 p.m.