

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE HELD ON 15TH SEPTEMBER 2004

PRESENT

Mr. Gray presided over Mesdames Harrison and Holmes, Messrs. Mackin, Fisher and Wren.

1. APOLOGIES

Mr. Steeples.

Before the commencement of the meeting, a Town Councillor and his wife announced their intention to make several very generous donations to the Town Council. They are as follows :-

A new pendant and chain for the Town Mayor – (the existing one to be passed to the Deputy Mayor).

Two large silver cups to be presented; one to a male and one to a female resident of the town who it was considered had made a significant contribution to the town in the preceding year.

A further silver cup to be presented to a Carnival Queen. It was stated that any such female that wished to apply to be Carnival Queen must be aged between 16 and 26 and should have been resident in the town for at least twelve months.

The Councillor and his wife were thanked for their generosity in donating such excellent gifts to the Town Council.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

3. SHEFFORD SAINTS F C (Juniors)

A reply has been received from the Town Council's insurer's regarding a letter sent to them from Roscoe Capita who represent the football clubs interests. The letter stated that overall the insurer's were not entirely happy with the work carried out by Roscoe Capita bearing in mind there is still further work to be done on the pitch in October. The Insurer's informed members that the endorsement currently on the policy, which excludes all liability if the Meadow is used for organised sporting events will remain. The Saints are to be sent a copy of the Insurer's letter for their attention and action.

4. ROBERT BLOOMFIELD MIDDLE SCHOOL MULTI-USE HALL

A letter has been received from the Headteacher of Robert Bloomfield Middle School explaining the current financial situation in respect of funding for the multi-use hall. It appears that there is a shortfall in the monies required as well as an acute possibility that there will have to be cutbacks in the project. The Headteacher has offered to visit the Council Chamber and speak to members about the situation.

A figure for payment to the school is to be RECOMMENDED to the full Council on 24th September 2004.

5. FULL COUNCIL MEETING DATE FOR DECEMBER 2004

It was decided to make Friday 17th December 2004 as the date for the final full Council meeting of the calendar year.

5. LETTER FROM SANDY SECURITY LTD

A letter has been received from John Beale, the new Manager at Sandy Security Ltd requesting an update from members as to the possibility of installing a second CCTV camera. Mr. Beale is to be informed of the current situation and the subject of CCTV cameras generally is to be put on the Agenda for six months time.

6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Concerns were raised about the security and safety of the clerk being a 'lone worker' in the Council Chamber. Clerk to make enquiries about a door entry system with swipe card and key code access. It was also thought that a 'panic button' should be installed in the Chamber as an additional security measure. Enquiries are to be made as to the cost of an intruder alarm and hearing loop system in the Town Meeting Room.

It was reported that all cases of traffic offences arising from situations involving a school crossing patrol officer have been 'dropped' as the Crown Prosecution Service hadn't acted swiftly enough. Clerk to enquire as to the background surrounding this allegation.

It is to be RECOMMENDED to full Council that the cost of all sizes of advert should be increased by 20% plus an additional four pages.

The meeting closed at 8.50 p.m.
