

Minutes of a meeting of the **FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE** held on **Tuesday 10th March 2009** in the **Pavilion** at **Elm Park, Filton.**

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**PRESENT: - Cllrs: -** R Hutchinson (Chair), A Monk (Vice Chair), T Blake, D Daniels, B Freeguard, T Pomroy, S Sims,

**APOLOGIES: - Cllrs:-** J Hutchinson, A Tink

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**237. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** Cllr Daniels declared a personal interest as a member of Filton Twinning Association.

**238. PRESENTATION FROM FOUR TOWNS PLAY:** The co-ordinator, Carrie Creamer, opened her presentation by speaking about her role as a part time fundraiser and summarised the history behind the development of the project. Kerry confirmed that the association had been running for over 10 years and provided free play activities for children aged 5 – 11. Future planned activities for 2009 included a number of family fun days, healthy eating sessions and visits from zoo staff. Carrie confirmed that the scheme was looking for a contribution of £5,000 from each of the five Town Councils to reflect additional training and induction for staff, equipment and publicity in the coming year. The Chair thanked Carrie for her presentation and confirmed that their application for funding would be discussed later in the agenda.

**239. MINUTES:** of the meeting held 10th February 2009 were approved as an accurate record.

**240. MATTERS ARISING:** *From Minute 230 – Fencing Quotes, Elm Park* – The Clerk confirmed that only one quote had been received so far. **Agreed:** The Clerk to report back when all the quotes had been received.

**Action: Town Clerk**

*From Minute 232 – Renewal of Electricity Contract* – The Clerk reported that British Gas had provided competitive quotes for dual supply. However, there was still an issue with the contract for the Dolphin Pool which was not due for renewal until the beginning of October 2009. **Agreed:** The Clerk to report back.

**Action: Town Clerk**

*From Minute 233 – Stocktakers Report* – Questions were raised regarding the reasons given for the increase in gross profit and how staff duties are being affected by some of the new measures which had been implemented. **Agreed:** to refer the matter to the next meeting of the staffing committee.

**Action: Town Clerk**

*From Minute 243 – Heating Coil* – It was reported that the replacement part is currently on order. Miller and Hiron had been instructed to carry out the repair as soon as the part arrived. *From Minute 234 – Skatepark Fencing* – It was noted that the matter had been referred to the next meeting of the Capital Projects working party. **Agreed:** to request an extension to the time limit given by the insurance company.

**Action: Town Clerk**

*From Minute 236 – Section 106 Agreement – It was confirmed that the requirements for Section 106 agreements are based on the 'expectation of use of services' i.e. education, highways, public transport etc*

- 241. DRAFT INCOME & EXPENDITURE REPORT FOR JANUARY 2009:** An observation was made that the monthly figures for the bar are showing an overall loss. Members of the bar working party confirmed that the recommendation to cancel entertainment in the bar had not been implemented until the beginning of January. **Agreed:** to continue to monitor the situation.
- 242. BAR UPDATE:**  
**i) Stocktaker's Report:** The contents of the report for the period covering 26th January to 2nd March 2009 were noted.  
**ii) Signage:** The Clerk reported that that she was awaiting further quotes.  
**Agreed:** to defer the matter to the next meeting of the Finance Committee.  
**Action: Town Clerk**
- 243. POOL UPDATE:**  
**i) Operations Manager's Report:** The contents of the report were noted.  
**Agreed:** To circulate a report to members on the outcome of a meeting between the Operations Manager and representatives from South Gloucestershire Leisure Trust regarding the 'active card' scheme.  
**Action: Operations Manager**  
**School Swimming:** It was reported that St Chads School had recently decided to move to Bradley Stoke Leisure Centre in order to continue their school swimming as the Dolphin Pool was unable to offer the facilities required to accommodate children with more severe disabilities. **Agreed:** to contact the 'Userbility' Forum for further information on the way forward and to report back at the next meeting.  
**Action: Town Clerk**  
**Water Tank:** It was noted that a company called Hydrotech had been contracted to carry out the work.  
**Acoustic Tiles:** A revised quote of £9,750 had now been received from Sound Absorption UK Ltd. It was noted that a provisional date of Monday 20th April had been agreed as a start date for the work. **Agreed:** to confirm the financial viability of the company and to obtain a guarantee on the work to be carried out.  
**Agreed:** to report back at the next meeting of full Council  
**Action: Town Clerk**  
**Other Items Needing Attention:** It was agreed that any actions were dependent on the time scale of the planned refurbishment. **Agreed:** to note at present
- 244. CAPITAL PROJECTS UPDATE:** It was confirmed that planning permission had been granted for the fieldworks. The Clerk was now in the process of arranging a date for the next meeting of the Capital Projects working party. The purpose of the meeting would be to meet with the contractors to look at the way forward. A general discussion took place on who should attend the meeting. The Chair reminded members that the remit of any working party is to make recommendations for approval by full Council.

**245. GRANT APPLICATIONS:**

**i) Grove Senior Citizens Club: Agreed:** to award a grant of £250

**ii) Filton Twinning Association: Agreed:** to request an outline plan of the visit, and estimated budgets **Agreed:** to confirm how the Council can offer specific help and to clarify what the Council had previously agreed to provide. **Agreed:** to report back at the next meeting.

**Action: Town Clerk**

**iii) Four Towns Play Association: Agreed:** The Clerk to obtain more specific costs and information for next year's scheme. **Agreed:** To confirm that this Council is fully committed to the scheme but is unable to specify the exact amount of its contribution until further information has been obtained. **Agreed:** to defer a decision until the next meeting.

**Action: Town Clerk**

**iv) Running Total: Agreed: Agreed:** The remaining £300 in the budget to be 'ring fenced' and added to next year's Four Towns Play Association budget.

**There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9pm**