

Malmesbury Town Council

Minutes of the Policy & Resources Committee held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Malmesbury on Tuesday 30th October 2007 at 7pm.

Present: The Deputy Mayor, Councillor A C R Woodcock
Councillors: Mrs A L Davis, P J Goldstone, M H Snell,
and C M Vernon.

Apologies: His Worship the Mayor, Councillor J R Lawton, Councillor Mrs C C Doody,
and Councillor R F Sanderson.

Attendance: Councillor W G Blake.

Public Question Time

No questions were submitted

Declarations of Interest

Councillor C M Vernon declared a Prejudicial Interest in agenda item 9.

21. Minutes

Resolved that the minutes of the Policy & Resources Committee meeting held on the 7th August 2007, as circulated, be received and adopted.

22. Request from Leisure and Youth Committee to reallocate project funds

Consideration was given to a request from the Leisure and Youth Committee that the sum of £5,000 be taken from the funds set aside for the fencing of the Cloister Gardens to enable an application to be made for lottery funding for a play area on Reeds Farm, subject to section 106 funding not being available. It was RESOLVED that the transfer be authorised.

23. Internet Banking

Members of the Committee had received a report previously circulated with the agenda as report No. 2 on the subject of Internet banking. The Town Clerk explained the difficulties with the present system and it was RESOLVED that a demonstration be arranged to which members of the committee would be invited.

24. Christmas Lights Working Group

A report had been circulated as Report No.3 informing members of the action taken by the Christmas Lights Working Group. It was RESOLVED that the action of the group be supported and any shortfall in the sponsorship for purchase and erection of the lights would be met by virement up to a level of £827 identified by the Town Clerk and Chair of Committee. The details of any virement required to be reported to the next meeting of the committee.

25. Financial Report to the period 23rd October 2007

Members gave consideration to details of the income and expenditure of the Town Council for the period ending 23rd October, previously circulated as Report No.4. It was RESOLVED that the report be noted.

Councillor C M Vernon withdrew from the Council Chamber for the next item of business having declared a prejudicial interest. The Vice-Chair, Councillor Mrs A Davis took the chair.

26. Friends of Athelstan Museum extension of free period of occupation

The committee considered a report previously circulated as Report No.5 containing a request from the Friends of Athelstan Museum (FOAM) for the extension of the three year period during which there would be no charge levied by the Town Council for rent, rates or utility costs. FOAM proposed that the period in which they occupied alternative premises should be added to the original three-year term identified in the transfer agreement with North Wiltshire District Council. The committee agreed to **RECOMMEND** to the Town Council that, in the event FOAM were required to occupy alternative premises for longer than a twelve month period through no fault or action on their part, the Town Council would extend the period free from rent, rates and utility charges for the excess time over and above the twelve month period.

Councillor C M Vernon returned to the Council Chamber

27. Farmers Market

The committee considered report from the Town Clerk circulated as Report No.7 outlining the situation concerning the Farmers Market. It was **RESOLVED** that the Wiltshire Farmers Market be invited to take over the operation of the market at terms as contained within the report.

28. Draft Budget Requirements for 2008/9

The Town Clerk had previously circulated a draft budget for the next financial year and a summary of budget pressures as Report No.6. At this point the committee were no longer quorate but those members of committee remaining noted the report and expressed concern at the potential level of increase in the precept.

The meeting closed at 21.20 hrs.