

SEATON TOWN COUNCIL

FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MINUTES

14th January 2008

PRESENT: Cllr G Jones (chairman)
Cllrs Burrows, Garner, Meakin, Miss O'Connell, Mrs Semple, Mrs Wise

APOLOGIES: Cllrs Knight (EDDC), Mrs Collins (away)

504/07 APOLOGIES

Apologies were accepted and approved

505/07 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest

506/07 MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting held on 10th December 2007 were approved and signed by the chairman.

507/07 TO NOTE AND APPROVE THE MONTHLY SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

The monthly schedule of payments was noted and approved

508/07 TO NOTE BUDGET AND BANK BALANCES TO DATE

The budget and bank balances to date were noted.

509/07 TO CONSIDER PAYMENT OF COUNCILLOR EXPENSES HAVING REGARD TO EDDC REMUNERATION PANEL POLICY

It was proposed that as councillors were able to claim any travel expenses incurred in carrying out their duties, there was not a need for allowances.

It was agreed by 4 votes in favour, 1 against and 2 abstentions (Cllrs Semple and Meakin) not to make provision in the budget for councillor allowances.

510/07 TO PROPOSE THAT SEATON TOWN COUNCIL ASKS EDDC TO PROVIDE SEATON TOWN YOUTH COUNCIL WITH SET FREE USAGE OF THE COUNCIL CHAMBER (Cllr O'Connell)

Miss O'Connell advised that the Youth Town Council was likely to need meeting facilities once a month. The Clerk advised that previously the town council had supported the Youth Town Council by allowing them to use the council chamber as part of the town council's free usage. However, members were concerned that this system was informal and may not be able to continue.

It was therefore unanimously agreed that EDDC be asked to provide the Youth Town Council with set free days usage of the chamber.

511/07 TO PROPOSE THAT THIS COUNCIL DONATES SURPLUS BENCHES TO THE SEATON MARSHES LOCAL NATURE RESERVE FOR USE AS SEATING IN THE BORROW PIT AREA (Cllr Semple)

It was agreed that as wavy benches in the town were replaced with serpent benches, the surplus benches should be offered to the Seaton Marshes Local Nature Reserve but that any installation costs would be met by EDDC.

512/07 TO AGREE BUDGET FOR 2008/9 FOR RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

The following amendments to the draft budget were agreed:

- a) Footpaths – carry forward any surplus from this year's budget and adjust precept accordingly;
- b) Seaton in Bloom – adjust to £6,500 to include cost of installing "S W in Bloom Winner" signs

Cllr Meakin advised a personal interest in any matters that might be discussed concerning Cliff Field Gardens.

- c) Green Waste Contract – the Clerk advised that she had not yet been able to establish an alternative contractor. It was agreed to make any adjustment to the budget figure at the precept setting meeting
- d) Children's Play Area – increase to £2,000
- e) Chairman's allowance – remain at £500
- f) Town seats – reduce to £1,500 and carry forward any balance from this year
- g) CCTV capital projects budget – agreed by 3 votes in favour, 2 against and 1 abstention (Cllr Wise) not to increase provision of £5,000
- h) Grants – agreed to consider request from Explorer Scouts at the next Council meeting

513/07 CORRESPONDENCE

- a) Seaton Land Train – renewal of permission to operate between Seaton and Beer

Members unanimously supported the request that the Seaton Land Train be granted a renewal of their permission to operate between Seaton and Beer during 2008. The Clerk advised that the police had already indicated their support.

These Minutes confirmed thisday of2008

Presiding chairman