

STOCKSBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Finance Committee of the Town Council, held in the Council Chamber, Stocksbridge Town Hall, on Tuesday 3rd September 2024

PRESENT: Cllr. J Wood (Chair), Cllrs. K Davis, J Grocutt, A Law, R Crowther and J Staniforth

1. Chairman's Remarks and Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. M Whittaker.

The Chairman informed of correspondence received from Susie Abrahams tendering her resignation as a Town Councillor with effect from 1st August 2024 due to personal circumstances. Susie had first joined the Town Council in May 2011 serving a full term, then again from May 2019 to August 2024, being Mayor/Chairman from 2012-2013.

Cllr Wood noted that she is stepping down from her role as Deputy Mayor/Chairman as she can no longer commit the time to fulfil her duties. This will be an agenda item on the next Town Council to select a replacement.

2. Exclusion of Press and Public

There were no items for exclusion of Press and Public.

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest.

4. Grant Applications

a) Friends of Stoneface Creative

Members considered a grant application from Friends of Stoneface Creative requesting funding towards a stone sculpture for Pen Nook Park, an initial step towards the local communities greater ambitions for the park. The Clerk undertook to contact the Parks department Manager regarding the unsafe state of the play equipment currently in the park.

Proposed by Cllr. Davis, seconded by Cllr. Law and

RESOLVED:- That a decision be deferred until a Friends of Group is set up in order to try to obtain funding to help bring the park back up to a standard fit for purpose. The idea of a stone sculpture is supported in principle but ought to be part of a wider plan for the park.

5. Remembrance Day

Members considered a donation to the Royal British Legion for the purchase of poppy wreaths for this year's Remembrance Day Service. The Clerk reported that Amey had been approached requesting costings for traffic management assistance on the day and was pleased to advise that this had been offered free of charge this year. Loxley Silver Band had been secured for the Parade for which there would be a charge of £450.

Proposed by Cllr. Davis, seconded by Cllr. Crowther and

RESOLVED:- i) That approval be given for a donation of £150 to the Royal British legion for the purchase of poppy wreaths for this year's Remembrance Day Service.

ii) that approval be given for £450 to Loxley Silver Band to play at the Remembrance Day Parade and Service.

6. Senior Citizens Christmas Party

Members received costings for the Christmas Party to be held on 4th December 2024. A quotation for hall hire/catering was awaited from The Venue.

Proposed by Cllr. Davis, seconded by Cllr. Crowther and

RESOLVED:- That the Town Council:-

a) Approve expenditure of £300 for entertainment

b) Approve expenditure of £400 for gifts/prizes

7. Christmas Card Competition
The Clerk enquired if the Town Council wished to invite local primary schools to participate in a Christmas Card Competition this year and if so requested approval for expenditure based on last year's event.
Proposed by Cllr. Staniforth, seconded by Cllr. Davis and
RESOLVED:- i) That the Town Council hold a Christmas Card Competition
ii) approve expenditure of £254 for the printing of Christmas Cards
iii) approve the purchase of photo frames for the finalists
8. Website
The Clerk tabled information regarding a new website for the Town Council. The Clerk undertook to obtain quotations for work required.
9. Accounts for Authorisation
There were no accounts for authorisation.
10. Summary of Bad Debts
There were no bad debts to report.
11. STEP Board Representation
Cllr Davis enquired about the replacement of ex Cllr Abrahams on the Board of STEP. The Clerk noted that this item is on the next Town Council agenda for consideration.
12. Organised Bonfires
Cllr Staniforth enquired whether there were to be any organised public bonfires in the local area this year. It was noted that nothing had been suggested by any local group so far.
13. Local Area Committee Meeting
The Clerk noted an invite for a Councillor to attend and update the next LAC meeting to be held on 10th September at the Venue.

There being no further business the meeting closed.