

MIDDLEWICH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Town Council's Finance, Policy and Governance Committee, held in Room 3A, Victoria Building, Lewin Street, Middlewich on Monday 6th November 2017, commencing at 6.00pm.

PRESENT

Councillor S Moss (in the Chair) and Councillors PJ Farrell, DJ Latham, B Walmsley and W Walmsley

OFFICERS PRESENT

DJ French, Assistant Town Clerk

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillors K Kingston and SN McGrory (prior meeting commitments)

198 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following Declarations of Interest were made:

- Councillor Latham declared an interest in minute 201 Town Council budget as a supplier of services to the Middlewich Mexon market;
- Councillors Farrell, Moss and B Walmsley declared interests in minute 201 Town Council budget due to their involvement with Middlewich Community Trust;
- Councillors Farrell and W Walmsley declared interests in minute 201 Town Council budget due to their role at the Wych Centre.

199 MINUTES

Resolved:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 26th October be confirmed as a correct record.

200 GRANT APPLICATION

The Committee considered a grant application from the Middlewich and District Concert Society. The grant requested was towards raising awareness, promotion of the Society, attracting new members and increasing attendance at concerts.

RESOLVED:

That the Middlewich and District Concert Society be awarded a grant of £100 and in addition be offered a 50% reduction for hire of the Victoria Hall for 4 concerts during the 2018-19 season on any weekday evening (Monday – Friday), subject to availability.

PART TWO

RESOLVED: that the meeting be moved into Part 2 session on the grounds that the matter to be discussed involves financial and staffing matters

201 TOWN COUNCIL BUDGET 2018-19

The Committee gave further consideration to the draft budget for 2018-19.

The answers to the queries raised at the previous meeting had been circulated with the agenda pack.

Members went through the budget raising the following points:

- Telephones including Events mobile – figure of £2,500 to remain in the budget but when the mobile phone contract ends, a better deal to be sought;
- Over 70s Party – remain at £1,500;
- Cemetery Grant – reduced to zero – agreed to reduce the grant to £0;
- PCSO – the Assistant Clerk reported on a discussion held with Cheshire Constabulary that advised that remaining with the current resource would mean the budget for the PCSO could be reduced to zero; otherwise the Council could decide to resource an additional PCSO for the town for around £33,000;
- Christmas lights – the contract for Christmas lights had been awarded and the tree was to be sponsored (£1,000) therefore the figure could be reduced by £1,000 to £17,000 to include a contingency.

RESOLVED: that the draft budget be amended as outlined above and the possible funding for PCSO resource be considered further at the next meeting.

Date of next meeting –Monday 4 December 2017 at 6.00pm

Cllr S Moss

Chairman

.....2017