

Minutes & Proceedings of the Finance & General Purposes Committee Meeting

Held at the Community Centre Monday 6th March 2017

Present Cllr D, North (Chair) Cllr P Ford (vice chair), C, Barnett, R, Booker, J Giles, P Makinson, J Walker (Clerk).

105. Apologies for absence were received from: - Cllr K Wicks, D Dyson and B Lee.

106. Minutes of the previous meeting, held Monday 6th February 2017 were read.

107. Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting.
Cllr C Barnett declared an interest in the Play Group as their treasurer.

100 A. Play Group £15.00 per session £18.00 per session.
8.50 to 11.50.

Cllr P Ford proposed an hourly increase of £1.00 per hour Cllr P Makinson seconded the proposal. The meeting voted unanimously in favour of the increase. The proposal is carried.

Cllr C Barnett made the point that this is a 20% increase.

100 B. Play Works £320.00 per calendar month £400.00 pcm.
7.30 to 8.40 & 15.00 to 18.00

Cllr P Makinson proposed increasing the monthly charge to £400.00 Cllr P Ford seconded the proposal. The meeting voted unanimously in favour of the increase. The proposal is carried.

Cllr C Barnett pointed out that this is a 20% increase for the Play Group and 25% for Playworks.

And went on to point out the percentage increases applied to other user groups / facilities which are: - Senior football increased by 10%, Bowling season ticket increased by 12.5%, Bowling match and competition fees increased by 5.8%, Allotments annual rent increased by 20%.

Cllr C Barnett produced data which showed the financial input from the two play groups covered the gas, electric and water charges incurred by the council. Cllr C Barnett asked Cllrs Ford and Makinson why they thought it these increases were necessary. Cllr P Makinson said I work on pounds and pence not on percentages and felt that a one pound per hour increase was a fair increase. Cllr J Giles said they have had a good run on cheap rents. Cllr P Makinson said we didn't have this information at the meeting. Cllr C Barnett said have a look at the form and the figures show that the income from the play groups for the last three years is £22313.00 and the cost of gas, electric and water is £9357.00 leaving a profit of £12956.00 to the parish. We get these figures at every meeting from the clerk. Cllr P Ford said these figures don't include the cleaning cost and toilet rolls etc. The figures for the bowling green include labour costs so these should include the cleaning costs. The cleaner's wages for three years are £9000.00. Cllr C Barnett said if you include that it still shows an income for the parish of £4000.00.

And we have always had a cleaner whether we had play groups or not.

Cllr P Makinson said they must be making a profit or they wouldn't continue. Cllr C Barnett said they are barely making profits i.e. if they get one more child they're okay but if they lose one they're running at a loss. They too have to abide by the national minimum wage increase, if we keep increasing rents in this way there is only one outcome and the parish will lose the income altogether.

The chair said we as a parish council are here to provide facilities for the community. We run as a community asset not as a business. We run for the good of the community. The chair read letters sent in by the two play groups. The two groups both feel this year's increase is excessive and have asked that that the increase is reviewed. Cllr P Ford said playworks are in here ten hours a day during the schools summer holidays. Cllr C Barnett said the school holiday period is for ten weeks per year and if this increase stands as it is they will be paying ten pence per hour more than the play group pay at present.

Cllr C Barnett suggested that we need to be considering the information relating to the annual charges review prior to the actual meeting. Cllr P Makinson said we ought to have a specific meeting for the annual charges and payroll review. The chair asked are we going to look at the play groups / works increase again. Cllr P Makinson said we should rescind the minutes 100 A and 100 B. Cllr J Giles proposed that the minutes 100 A and 100 B be rescinded Cllr R Booker seconded the proposal. The chair asked for any amendments to the proposal, none were received. The meeting voted unanimously in favour of the proposal. The proposal is passed the two minutes are now rescinded. The annual increase for the two play groups will now be reviewed at the next finance and general purposes meeting on 10th April 2017.

108. Ratification of the minutes of the previous meeting.

Proposed ratification Cllr P Ford seconded by Cllr J Giles. The minutes from the finance and general purposes meeting held on 6th February 2017 are ratified.

109. Accounts for payment. Cheques to the total value of £3862.33 were approved for signing. Cheques were signed by Cllrs D North P Ford and R Booker.

110. Monthly Statement of Accounts. The clerk produced a statement of Receipts and Payments up to and including the month of February 2017. Direct debits are – Yorkshire water community centre £44.00 Yorkshire water allotments £118.00. Total direct debits £162.00. Cheques were made payable to SYPA ex clerks pension £76.31. Bank transfer to BMBC for Xmas lights £3030.00. Card payment to KDA warehouse for cleaning products £26.21. Total expenditure for February 2017 £5963.71. Total income for February 2017 £385.00. Members accepted the figures and the clerk was thanked accordingly.

111. Correspondence.

111 A. Letters from UCR Consultants confirming the new gas contract starting on 2nd September 2017 for a period of twelve months. Standing charge is nil, units p/kwh 3.84p. The electricity contract starts on 2nd November 2017. Standing charges is nil, units p/kwh day units 13.95 night units 8.56.

111 B. Letters have been received from Shafton Playworks and Shafton Play Group. To raise concerns over the proposed rent increase.

111 C. Invoice from BMBC for the erection and removal of Xmas motifs. For the value of £3030.00.

111 D. Received proposed ground maintenance contract from BMBC for 2017/18. Contract value is £658.47 + vat.

111 E. Monthly invoice from SYPA for the ex-clerks pension. For the value of £76.31.

112. Any other business.

112 A. The chair said Shafton Parish Council in conjunction with BMBC cleansing services and The North East Ward Alliance have completed a clean-up on the old section of Brierley Road leading to the scrapyard. At the clean-up the scrapyard manager, a local farmer and the members of the North East Alliance agreed to jointly fund mobile CCTV cameras. Cllr P Makinson said Maplins have a good range that do not illuminate when activated. These are approx. £180.00. The chair said we ought to get two.

113. Date of next meeting. 10th April 2017 at 07.00pm.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 08.45pm.