



**Minutes of a Town Business Committee
held on Monday 29th March 2021 at 7.00pm
Virtual meeting held on Microsoft Teams**

Present: Councillors: Mike Davis, Neil Gibbs (Chair) Carol Kambites (Vice Chair), Sally Pickering, Pam Swain and Theresa Watt

In Attendance: Rachel Russell, Deputy Clerk, a resident (part)

Attendees were reminded that the Proceedings of the meeting could be filmed, photographed or recorded.

A resident, member of Magpies Club joined meeting briefly after item B/217 had been discussed. He was informed that a grant had been awarded and left the meeting.

B/212 To receive apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr. Binns.

B/213 To receive Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

B/214 To approve the minutes of the Business Committee meeting held on 1st March 2021

The minutes of 1st March 21 were otherwise **APPROVED** as a true and accurate record; they are to be signed by the Chairman at the earliest opportunity.

B/215 To consider the latest budget position up to and including February 2021

A budget report showing Business Committee actual net income of £384,367.77 and expenditure of £290,211.71 up to 29 March 2021 was **NOTED**. Cllr. Watt queried the overspend of £7,772.79 on the grants budget; the Deputy clerk advised that currently £8,473.21 of expenditure covered by grants received was included as expenditure under the budget but would be shown in reserves movements for End of Year accounts. Grants awarded from the £15,000 budget totalled £12,850.

B/216 To approve payments in accordance with the budget to date as listed

Committee **APPROVED** the payments list totalling £19,956.09; this included a payment of £2,096.00 to Stonehouse Town Football Club in relation to the Government's Local Restrictions Support Grant - this amount was paid into

the Council account by Stroud District Council specifically in support of the football club.

B/217 To consider assistance to Magpies Sports Club including a grant application
An award of a £1,000 grant to Magpies Sports Club was **APPROVED** as a contribution to additional costs to repair damage caused by break ins to the Club.

B/218 To consider amendments to the following council policies:

- **Procurement**

It was **AGREED** to recommend the draft Procurement Policy to Town Council for adoption.

- **Data Protection**

Cllr Davis outlined the work the Policy Working Group had done on this policy using a NALC model; outstanding queries have been raised with officers.

- **Strategy**

It was **AGREED** to recommend the revised draft Council Strategy to Town Council for adoption.

- **Action Plan**

It was **AGREED** to recommend the revised Action Plan to Town Council for approval subject to the Plan being cross referenced to the revised Council Strategy.

B/219 To receive an update from the 'Support Stonehouse' Working Group and consider its recommendations

Cllr. Swain advised that All Pulling Together had asked for food and household items and to date Support Stonehouse had spent £3,454 out of a budget of £5,000 (TC2511). Expenditure on UHT milk, orange juice, cereal and washing up liquid within this budget was **APPROVED**.

Councillors noted the need to consider long term community support in order to build resilience such as benefits and debt advice, once pandemic crisis had eased.

B/220 To receive reports from the following groups and consider recommendations:-

- **Canal Rejuvenation Working Group**

No report received.

- **Stonehouse Climate Change Action Forum**

To consider recommendation for campaign to discourage engine idling.

It was **AGREED** to pay from the Climate Change budget for a campaign to discourage engine idling in line with costs given in quote from Jo mew creative of 18th March 2021, 4 banners to be provided so total cost to be £410.

- **Youth Services Working Group**

Notes of the working group meeting of 19th March 2021 and a report from The Door had been circulated. Cllr. Swain reported that the youth service continued to do good work on a detached basis and would soon be able to do outdoor work for large groups. It was suggested that The Door be invited to the Annual Meeting along with other groups who have supported town over the last year. Youth services will be put out to tender in Autumn 2021.

- **Communication Working Group**

Notes of a meeting of 22 March 2021 had been circulated.

- **Recreation Working Group**

Deputy Clerk to organise meeting for week beginning 19th April 2021.

- **Business Networking Group**

No report received.

B/221 Date of next meeting: 19th April 2021

Cllr. Pickering gave apologies for the 19 April meeting.