



NEWARK TOWN COUNCIL

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FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MINUTES

Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on Wednesday 7th November 2018 in the Council Chamber at the Town Hall.

Membership Present:	Councillor	D Lloyd (in the Chair)
	Councillors	M G Cope (Vice-Chairman) Mrs C Barker-Powell Mrs I Brown M Cleasby Mrs R Crowe R A Crowe Mrs G Dawn (Ap) P Duncan (Ap) Ms H Gent (Ap) K Girling L Goff S Haynes (Ap) D Hyde (Ap) D Jones (A) T Roberts MBE (Ap) M Skinner R Williams
Apologies for Absence:	Councillors	Mrs G Dawn, P Duncan, Ms H Gent, S Haynes, D Hyde, T Roberts MBE.
Officers Present:	Town Clerk	Alan Mellor & Ian Harrison
	There were no members of the public present.	
Venue:	Council Chamber, Town Hall	

FGP38/18/19 Minutes of the last meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on Wednesday 3rd October 2018

The Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting held on Wednesday 3rd October 2018 were **AGREED** as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

FGP39/18/19 Matters Arising

There were no Matters Arising.

FGP40/18/19 Declarations of Interest

It was **AGREED** to accept any Declarations of Interest as and when they arose during the meeting.

FGP41/18/19 Payment Schedule 6/19

Members **AGREED** that payment in accordance with Payment Schedule 6/19 in the sum of £273,049.21 (two hundred and seventy three thousand and forty nine pounds and 21p) be **APPROVED**.

FGP42/18/19 Voluntary Body Grant Applications

Members **AGREED** to grant the following application for free use of the Town Hall:

- (1) Newark Emmaus Trust for free use of the Ballroom, Council Chamber and Kitchen on Saturday 2nd February 2019, to hold a 25th Anniversary reunion at a cost of £445.33 net.

FGP43/18/19 Street Collection Licences

- (i) Cllr Mrs R Crowe said that she could support the approval of a Licence for the RAFA, Royal British Legion, Newark & Sherwood District Round Table and the Salvation Army, on an ongoing basis and Moved this proposal, this was Seconded by Cllr K Girling.

The Town Clerk advised Members that approval would be given under the scheme of delegation for these organisations but that they would still need to submit an application to the District Council in the normal way each year.

Members **AGREED** to give the Town Clerk delegated authority, through the Scheme of Delegation, to approve the Street Collection Licence applications (should one be submitted) for the following organisations who collect on a regular annual basis:

RAFA

Royal British Legion

Newark & District Round Table

The Salvation Army

- (ii) Cllr K Girling raised concerns about Collectors who he had challenged outside W H Smith's; they had told him that they had been given permission by the shop to collect from that location.

Ian Harrison advised that any organisation collecting cash requires to have in place a Street Collection licence. The Markets Team do endeavour to police the activity of both Street Collection Licences organisations and that of Direct Debit

'Chuggers'. If any Member has an issue then they should refer them to the market's Team and they will encourage them to undertake their operations in an appropriate manner.

The Town Clerk said that whilst the current arrangements are not ideal the procedures that are in place are the best that can be achieved without a change in legislation which controls more tightly the actions of Direct Debit collectors.

Members **NOTED** the arrangements and restrictions in place for Chuggers fundraising through the collection of direct debits.

FGP44/18/19 Final Accounts 2017/18 – External Audit

- (i) Members **NOTED** the approval of the Town Council's financial accounts for the 2017/18 financial year ended on 31st March 2018 by the external auditors.
- (ii) Members also **NOTED** the adjustments which will be required to reflect the current advice on the treatment of the CCLA Property Fund Investment which should be recorded as a Long Term Investment.

FGP45/18/19 Unitary Local Government in Nottinghamshire

Members **NOTED** and **ENDORSED** the comments submitted by the Town Clerk to the County Council, on the proposals for the introduction of a new Unitary Local Government structure in Nottinghamshire.

FGP46/18/19 Insurance Renewal

- (i) Members **AGREED** to accept the offer from Zurich Municipal Insurance of a new three year Long Term Agreement, subject to the premiums being no higher than the current year's figure.
- (ii) Members **AGREED** to **APPROVE** the exception to Standing Order 37 (2) as outlined in the Agenda Report.
- (iii) Members to **AGREED** grant delegated authority to the Town Clerk, in consultation with the Chairman of the Finance & General Purposes Committee, to approve the new Long Term Agreement subject to an appropriate renewal premium being submitted.

FGP47/18/19 Museum Update

Members requested that the document which has been prepared to make connections with St. Mary Magdalene Church be circulated to all Town Councillors.

Members thought it would be a good idea to get feedback from the coach tour parties to ascertain what can be done to attract more such visitors.

Members also felt that whilst there is a 'visitors Book' available in the Museum; the Museum Guides give a formal feedback form to visitors.

Members **NOTED** the on-going museum activities.

Meeting Closed:	8.05pm	Next Meeting:	Wednesday 5th December 2018
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