



Devizes Town Council

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Community & Civic Resources Committee

You are summonsed to attend a meeting of the Community & Civic Resources Committee at the following, place and date.

Date: Tuesday, 3 January 2017

Time: Immediately after the Planning Committee Meeting

Venue: Council Chamber, Town Hall, St John's Street, Devizes

Enquiries: Town Hall - Tel: 01380 722160

The Town Mayor (Councillor Mrs Burton)

Chairman: Councillor Geddes

Councillors:	Mrs Bridewell	Carter	Corbett
	East	Evans	Geddes
	Hopkins	Nash	

AGENDA

1. MINUTES

To approve as a correct record and authorise the Chairman to sign the minutes of the Community and Civic Resources Committee Meeting held on 15 November 2016, which have been circulated alongside the agenda.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

3. DISCLOSURE(S) OF INTEREST

To receive any disclosure(s) of interest by a Councillor or an officer in matters to be considered at this meeting, in accordance with provisions of Sections 94 or 117 of the Local Government Act 1972 or the National Code of Local Government Conduct.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

At the Chairman's discretion, members of the public attending the meeting will be allowed to ask questions, make a statement or address the Council upon a matter of concern to that person which is relevant to the Council. A time limit of 5 minutes per person will be permitted, but this may be extended at the Chairman's discretion and a maximum period of 20 minutes has been allocated by the Council for this item of business

5. REPORT FOR INFORMATION – SCHEDULE OF ACCOUNTS PAID

A Schedule of Accounts Paid is attached for information (doc 5/1 – doc 5/2).

6. NARRATIVE INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT & KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS 2016/2017

NOVEMBER 2016 THEREFORE 67%

Members have requested that any variances – or + 10% from the above figure require a narrative by officers.

INCOME

1. Precept received 50% in April and October annually.
2. 8 Commercial Properties are invoiced quarterly in December which do not show in the year to date figures, but do show in the forecast. The committee will be aware that during the course of the current year tenants have received some support for the Council and for a period there was an empty property.
3. The shortfall in actual Town Hall and Corn Exchange income figures compared to budget have recently been reported to members. A decision to implement specific marketing advice was resolved at the forward planning meeting.
4. Café income continues to be stronger than budgeted.
5. Quarterly JBC salary recharge not processed until December 2016
6. Public convenience income projected to be in excess of £8000 in the 2016/17 financial year. No budget provision.
7. 80 Business Christmas Trees sold to Devizes retailers against a budget of 73.
8. Main Christmas Tree sponsorship not processed until December 2016.
9. Full value of JBC Admin recharge received.

EXPENDITURE

10. Festival and Carnival Free use exceeded budget. Expenditure will however fall back in percentage terms as year progresses.
11. 3rd quarter payment in respect of Devizes leisure Centre paid in November 2016
12. Café salary costs projected at £36,388 for the financial year against a budget of £23,000.
13. Expenditure on Public conveniences projected to be £65,000 in the current financial year. No specific budget provision.
14. Christmas festival & lights expended in final quarter of financial year.
15. Town Centre management spend currently at 8% year to date.
16. 3rd quarter JBC payment paid in December quarter.
17. Superloo barriers cost £3,426 not provided in 2016/17 estimates.

7. REPORT FOR INFORMATION – COMMUNITY GRANTS

Letters of thanks have been received from the following organisations.

The Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust - £100
The Crown Centre - £200

8. REPORT FOR INFORMATION – DEVIZES GULLS PROJECT

At the end of 2014 Roundway Parish Council committed to support a project to reduce the number of Gulls in the Garden Trading Estate area as they are significantly impacting on the quality of life of those living in the adjacent residential area.

It has been agreed that where either Roundway Parish Council or Devizes Town Council have committed to a project, the Council will continue with that commitment. To help the committee better understand the project offices have attached a briefing paper prepared by Wiltshire Council, which sets out the back ground to the project a summary of work already undertaken and a recommendation for future action (doc 8/2). A funding commitment has been made for 2017; however it is suggested that at the end of the 2017 phase of the project the issues is brought back to the committee to develop the strategy for 2018.

9. REPORT FOR INFORMATION – LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE SCHEME CONSULTATION

At its meeting on the 4 October, the committee reviewed the Governments consultation in relation to Local Government Finance and in particular the proposal to extend the referendum principle over Council Tax increases to parish councils.

At that meeting the committee rejected the proposals outlined in the consultation document feeling that it would have a detrimental effect on service delivery.

In replying to the consultation, officers forwarded a copy of the Committee concerns to Claire Perry and her response is attached for information (Doc 9/1).

10. REPORT FOR INFORMATION -- WILTSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS (WALC)

On the 10 November 2016 Councillor Carter attended the Wiltshire Association of Local Councils Annual General Meeting. A report of that meeting is attached to this agenda (doc 10/1).

11. REPORT FOR DECISION – REPRESENTATION ON DEVIZES ARTS FESTIVAL COMMITTEE

Recommendation

To consider if the Town Council should seek to have representation on the Devizes Arts Festival Committee.

Purpose of the Report

To decide if the Town Council should seek to have a representative on the Devizes Arts festival Committee and if so whom that should be.

Background

At its meeting on the 15 November the committee were asked if it wished to nominate a new Town Council representative to sit on the Devizes Arts Committee following a decision by Councillor Mrs Rose that she was unable to continue as the Town Council's representative.

At that meeting, it was decided that the committee would defer making a decision until such time as a response has been received from Arts Festival on their views the role of the Town Council representative.

A letter has been received from the Arts Festival, which is attached (doc 11/1). In summary it is suggesting that the Council does not have permanent committee representative, but a Town Council member attends their AGM and when required they could attend a Town Council meeting to give an update and answer any questions.

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The Town Council has provided £6,800 of free venue use this year, therefore the Committee needs to decide if the level on scrutiny as set out in the suggestion made by the Arts Festival, is adequate.

Options Considered

The Committee needs to decide if they accept the suggestion by the Arts Festival that the Town Council does not have permanent committee representation or if the committee feels it's appropriate the a member does attend committee meetings.

If it decides that a member should attend Devizes Arts Festival meetings, the committee needs to further decide who that member should be.

Implications and Risks

Financial and Resource Implications

Officers are unaware of any financial or resource implication for the Council associated with this decision other than what is set out in this report.

Legal Implications and Legislative Powers

The Council will be considering this matter under its General Power of Competence

Environmental Implications

Officers are unaware of any environmental implication for the Council associated with this decision.

Risk Assessment

Officers are unaware of any risk implication for the Council associated with this decision.

Crime and Disorder

Officers are not aware of any issues the Council should consider under Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder act 1998.

12. QUESTION TIME

A short time is allowed at the discretion of the Chairman for councillors to ask questions on matters which are not on the current agenda but which are related to matters which have been previously discussed on an agenda relevant to the committee.

At least 24 hours' notice must be given to officers of the intended question. All other matters should be raised on an agenda and the request should be submitted through the Town Clerk

TOWN CLERK