



Devizes Town Council

www.devizes-tc.gov.uk

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, 16 February 2016

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 Giraud-Saunders)

Chairman: Councillor Geddes

Councillors: Mrs Bridewell
East
Nash

Mrs Burton
Evans
Wooldridge

Corbett
Hopkins

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 5 January 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 – FINANCIAL REPORT

In accordance with member's instruction the financial report has been amended to show forecasted out turn figures for the year end.

It is evident that there that there is likely to be a budgetary deficient for the year primarily resulting from the £22,000 of lost income from 18 the Brittox. Another are of reduction is the Corn Exchange Room hire. Expenditure is also marginally running above budget providing an overall shortfall of £14,940 on the £1,125,354 budget which represents 1.3%. The balance will be made up from the general reserve.

6. REPORT FOR INFORMATION – SCHEDULE OF ACCOUNTS PAID

A Schedule of Accounts Paid is attached for information (doc 6/1 – doc 6/2).

7. REPORT FOR INFORMATION – INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT FOR 2015/2016

The third Interim Audit of Alistair Morrison for the financial year ended 2015-16, copy is issued alongside. This internal report was received on 1 February 2016. The report conclude that finical control systems in place at the Council continue to be operating effectively and provide a good basis for us to sign the audit certificate at Section 4 of the Annual Return for 2015-16.

8. REPORT FOR INFORMATION – RECRUITMENT – ADMINISTRATION ASSISTANT

Through a successful recruitment process, Cathy Stockwell has been appointed to the position of Administration Assistant, she will take up her post on 7 March 2016.

9. REPORT FOR DECISION – QUEEN'S 90TH BEACON

Recommendation

That the committee decides if there should be a beacon lit on Roundway Hill in celebration of the Queen's 90th

Purpose of the Report

To decide if Devizes should join in with national beacon initiative which will form part of the Queen's 90th birthday celebration.

Background

Councils and similar organisations have been contacted by the coordinator of the national beacon lighting ceremony for the Queen's 90th Birthday to invite Devizes to take part.

Historically, Devizes has had taken part during national beacon celebrations, however more recently this has not happened.

The event is scheduled for the 21st April, which currently is the night of the Annual Town's Meeting and therefore given the encouragement that as many dignitaries should attend as possible, it is proposed that if it is agreed to take part in the celebration then this meeting should be rescheduled for the 28th April.

Furthermore, given that the beacon is likely to be in Roundway Parish it is further recommended that project is overseen by the Joint Governance Committee as a joint initiative.

Options Considered

The committee needs to decide if Devizes Town Council should take part in the national beacon lighting ceremony to mark the Queen's 90th Birthday.

Should the committee agree that the Town Council should take part it needs to decide if the Annual Town's Meeting should be moved to the 28 April and if the project ought to be overseen by the Joint Governance Committee.

Implications and Risks

Financial and Resource Implications

Officers are unaware of any significant financial or resource implication for the Council associated with this decision. The committee has put some money aside for national celebrations in the 2016/17 budget.

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.

8. REPORT FOR DECISION – FREE USE OF THE TOWN HALL FOR THE HERITAGE OPEN DAY

Recommendation

That the committee decides if the Trust for Devizes can include the Town Hall in the Heritage Open Day, free of charge.

Purpose of the Report

To decide if the Town Hall should be included in Devizes Heritage day.

Background

A request has been received from the Trust for Devizes seeking permission to include the Town Hall as part of the in Devizes Heritage day.

Last year the event was held on the 12 September when about 100 visitors came to the building with over 75% coming from the town.

September is generally a busier month for venues bookings following the summer lull and therefore allowing the venue to be used for this activity does have financial implication. Last year the Town Hall was hired by a fee paying customer on every Saturday the exception of the 12th, where two bookings were unable to be accommodated one being a conference and the other a wedding.

Whilst the venue is currently not booked there are other Saturdays in the month where bookings have been taken therefore it is likely that it will be hired.

Options Considered

The committee needs to decide if the Town Hall is to be included in the Devizes Heritage day organised by the Trust for Devizes.

Implications and Risks

Financial and Resource Implications

The financial and resource implications for this decision are indicated within 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.

9. REPORT FOR DECISION – PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON THE COST OF POLICING IN 2016-2017

Recommendation

That the committee considers if they have a view cost of Policing as set out by the Police and Crime Commissioner for Wiltshire.

Purpose of the Report

To enable the Committee to respond to the Cost of Policing consultation.

Background

The Police and Crime Commissioner is consulting on the cost of policing in 2016 -17. He is considering an increase of 1.9%, which amounts to £3.12 per year or 6p per week for the average home (Band D property). At present, band D homes pay £163.98 a year. Out of the 43 forces in England and Wales, only two receive less funding per head of population than Wiltshire.

The police grant settlement that Wiltshire Police received from the Home Office in December showed a slight reduction in the central government grant.

Initial indications are that a further savings will need to be made in 2016 -17 of between £2.7m and £3.5m.

The proposed £3.12 a year increase would provide the Commissioner with an additional £769,000 of local income for 2016-17. This would help to cover rising costs, including £2m worth of National Insurance contributions from which they have previously been exempt.

The money raised from the police part of the council tax will also be used to protect community policing which the Commissioner believes is greatly valued by people in Wiltshire and Swindon.

Options Considered

The Committee needs to give their views.

Implications and Risks

Financial and Resource Implications

Officers are unaware of any financial or resource implication for the Council associated with this decision.

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.

10. REPORT FOR DECISION – 2016/2017 CIVIC CALENDAR

Recommendation

That this committee consider and agree any changes to the draft civic calendar, which is issued alongside this agenda.

Purpose of the Report

To agree the Civic Calendar for the civic year 2016 to 2017 up to and including 11 May 2017.

Background

The draft civic calendar is issued alongside this agenda and members are asked to consider any amendments to be considered at the meeting.

The carol concert has been booked for Wednesday 7 December.

Implications & Risks

Financial and Resource Implications

Officers are not aware of any financial or resource implications arising from this report.

Legal Implications and Legislative Powers

Officers are not aware of any legal implications arising from this report.

Environmental Implications

Officers are not aware of any environmental issues arising from this report.

Risk Assessment

If key meetings are not held at appropriate times the council may fail to respond to consultative issues within the prescribed times.

It is imperative that Full Council takes place prior to the calendar year end (2017) to ensure that the precept is reported to the proper authority at the proper time.

Crime and Disorder

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

11. 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