

**BARTON-UPONHUMBER TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING
held at Assembly Rooms Queen Street, Barton
MONDAY 18 October 2021 at 7pm**

Councillor J P Vickers (Chairman)
Councillors A Todd, Mrs C Patterson, B Troop, N Jacques
Also, Ms T Broughton (Town Clerk)

CCLA presentation by Kelly Watson Relations Manager on Public Deposit Fund.

CCLA Churches Charities and Local Authorities and have been in business since 1958 and support a lot of faith organisations as well as Local Authorities. CCLA manages £14 Billion and £3 Billion for Local Authorities. Operate across the United Kingdom but predominantly in England. CCLA is a responsible Investment Manager and work with Public Sector organisations. Have been assessed as an A+ as an Investment Manager. Public Sector Deposit Fund is the short term investment fund. Has a three year term investment fund but no small local authorities invest in that fund yet. Have a long term property fund and is for five years of more investment. Have 100 Town and Parish Councils have invested in Local Authorities Property Fund. High Rate of return than the Public Deposit Fund.

One member asked if CCLA had exposure to retail and hotel property.

192. **Apologies for Absence**

Cllr S Evison (Personal)

193. **Declarations of Interest**

Cllr J Vickers declared personal interest in Barton Tourism Partnership and Friends of Baysgarth Park.

Cllr B Troop declared a personal interest in Barton Tourism Partnership and Barton Carnival Committee and Friends of Baysgarth Park

Cllr N Jacques declared a personal interest in Barton Tourism Partnership

Cllr A Todd declared a personal interest in Barton Bike Night

194. **Minutes of Meeting held on the 26 July 2021 approved and confirmed as a correct record at a meeting of the town council held on 1st September 2021**

It was noted that these minutes had been signed as a correct record, for action as necessary, at an ordinary meeting of the town council held on 1st September 2021.

195. **Internal Audit**

AGREED **Proposed Cllr J P Vickers, seconded Cllr A Todd**
 To accept Internal Audit Yorkshire of £495 for the year.
Unanimous

196. **Grass cutting and up to date budget review of all grounds maintenance**

Clerk explained the second grass cutting installment has been deposited into the bank. PROW will remain a separate line but all other grass cutting and grounds maintenance will be under Barton Grass Cutting.

Chairman expressed concerns of rising employment costs to contractors. Contractor is well equipped with resources and assured the council that there are no issues for the contract next year. Clerk explained that training for recognizing Knotweed will be requested.

Will be spare funds and Clerk will talk to NLC to look at winter environment projects that are agreeable with North Lincolnshire Council. There will be further spending on more wild flower schemes to prepare the ground before April 2022. All wild flower spending will come under the NLC grant budget. It was suggested that a request could be made for Town Centre environmental improvements.

197. **To consider the following matters –****a) Six month budget review 2021/22**

Journals agreed at the 26th July meeting have been documented the spreadsheet but not on Omega which will be completed over the next few weeks. Clerk to supply the Income & Expenditure sheet to members monthly.

b) Projected budget review 2021/22

No issues with any of the budgets at present and all are within the allocated budget. Christmas budget may have some differences within the main budget which will be noted to members as the preparations are ongoing. EMR budgets should be recorded on the Omega system and could be recorded in a different way for better clarification. Clerk explained the Bartonian income and the expenditure to members. Members discussed advertising offer and agreed that it remain an introductory offer as it was intended. Clerk explained that more advertisers will be contracted over the next few months to invite to advertise in the Bartonian.

c) Grant applications received and future policy for grant applications.

AGREED

Proposed Cllr J P Vickers, Seconded Cllr B Troop

To approve Barton Lions application for £2000 for their Firework event.

Unanimous

Agreed to commence the new Grant Policy and application timetable for the new council/financial year.

198. **Buy Local Policy**

Chairman explained that the policy does include wherever possible to include and use local businesses. Also there is the encouragement to the community to buy local as well and Preston are a good example as well as Beverley with Shop Local encouragement. To keep Buy Local/Shop Local on the agenda.

199. **Update on Bags for Life Scheme project**

Funding journalled from Barton Bike Night is in the budget and currently awaiting designs. Also there is a budget in the Barton Tourism Partnership and once the designs are in place the bags can be produced and distributed.

200. **Advertising policy for the Bartonian**

Members discussed at length the pros and cons of having a specific policy and the difficulties with working out what is appropriate and what is not to advertise in the Bartonian. Town Clerk explained that any queries with regards to advertising particularly ones that are not within the boundaries of the usual adverts would be brought to Full Council for a decision as with the recent one in relation to potential developers and planning applications. Cllr Todd reminded the committee that the council should remain impartial. Cllr Troop went on to say any requested adverts related to planning applications should be denied. Cllr Jacques questioned the morality of having adverts with gambling facilities and would the council accept other adverts from places not in the main stream. Cllr Troop suggested setting up a contingency decision making delegation if an advert comes in that requires approval, however the Bartonian always comes in for approval at the Full Council meeting. Chairman explained that there are mechanisms in place to protect people such as licensing laws, gambling laws and age restrictions which should give reassurance that adverts are acceptable to be included in the Bartonian. A disclaimer in the Bartonian should be clear that the Council and Editorial Committee do not endorse articles or adverts included in the publications.

201. **To consider budget setting for website upgrade project to upgrade to ensure compliance**

Members discussed the reasons for requirement of a WAG compliant website and Clerk suggested moving Picnic in the Park budget that has not be used for the new website. Cllr Todd suggested that funds will go back into reserves. Cllr Troop stated that the funds may be used this financial year for an event and it was agreed that reserves can be utilised once options have been brought to the committee. To bring to the January 2022 F&GP with options and quotations.

The Chairman, Councillor J Vickers closed the meeting at 20.01

.....Chairman

18 October 2021