

BARTON-UPON-HUMBER TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF A FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING
held on MONDAY 23 OCTOBER 2017 at 7.00 p.m. in
THE ASSEMBLY ROOMS, QUEEN STREET, BARTON-UPON-HUMBER

Prior to the meeting commencing, Mr Neil Turner representing CHAMP Ltd (leaseholders of The Assembly Rooms) attended to give a brief resume of the meeting held on 5 September 2017 with Councillor Mrs J Oxley and former Councillor D Yellowley. It was agreed following the resignation of Councillor D Yellowley that a replacement town councillor would be required to meet with Mr Turner in the future. Councillor Mrs J Oxley felt it was prudent that another councillor also replace her, in order that newer members of the council understood the lease arrangements of The Assembly Rooms for continuity. Mr Turner handed out copies of short term/long term issues of The Assembly Rooms for perusal to all members present. He felt that these required a strategy to implement. In particular, he noted that the rear fire escape staircase required review regarding design issues and stated that CHAMP would pressure wash it to remove a build-up of moss on the treads. He also highlighted that the external painting of the building is required next year with repair work required to some of the wooden window sashes. He stated that he could undertake the repair work for the sashes himself. He reported that the stage lighting has been condemned and work to the Assembly Hall lighting is to be up-graded with led lights for a more economical system. CHAMP are currently sourcing external funding to undertake this. He concluded by requesting permission from the town council to liaise directly with the town council's structural survey consultants to discuss long term monitoring issues of The Assembly Rooms. Mr Turner then left the meeting room.

Ms Fran Rhodes and Ms Grace Woolley representing Ongo Communities Limited spoke about the projects being undertaken at The Viking Centre and the Caistor Road Estate. These are to provide investment into the area for a healthier environment, training issues to help with employment and supporting services to enhance and sustain this area. This is being achieved through partnership working with the Neighbourhood Action Group, Police etc. Various projects were highlighted with a positive outcome for each one. The projects have been funded for the last 2 years by Ongo however, as this funding arrangement is coming to a close, alternative funding to continue the initiatives is now being sought. The Tea Time Club has sourced funding via the Blue Coat Charity and Sanctuary Housing and funding for youth activities has also been sourced. Funding of £5,500 for the monthly crèche sessions are now being investigated for financial support.

The Chairman and Members of the committee thanked Ms Rhodes and Ms Woolley for their informative discussion. Both ladies then left the meeting room.

Present Councillor K Vickers (Chairman)

Councillors Mrs J Oxley, Mr J Oxley, J Sanderson and J P Vickers

Also Present Councillor F Coulsey and Ms S Richards (Town Clerk)

162. **Apologies for Absence**

Councillor Mrs W Witter (on holiday)

163. **Declarations of Interest**

Barton Bike Night – Councillor Mr J Oxley (Personal Interest)

Bowmandale Primary School and CHAMP Ltd – Councillor J P Vickers (Personal Interest)

164. **Minutes of Meeting held on the 24 July 2017**

It was noted that these minutes had been signed as a correct record, for action as necessary, at a meeting of the town council held on 6 September 2017.

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165. **Matters Arising**

(a) **CHAMP Fee** (*Min Ref: 90(c)(iii)/32- F&GP 24/07/17*)

It was noted that the invoice to CHAMP Ltd for the £1 fee in the leasing agreement was outstanding. It was agreed and

Resolved that the town council office invoice CHAMP Ltd for £1 as soon as possible to conform to the lease agreement.

166. **Assembly Rooms Maintenance**

Much discussion took place regarding the informative talk given by Mr N Turner (CHAMP Ltd), prior to the meeting commencing. Also, Councillor Mrs J Oxley highlighted issues from the meeting held with CHAMP Ltd on 5 September 2017. Maintenance of the building, lease arrangements and roles and responsibilities were outlined. It was agreed and

Resolved the Clerk write to Mr Turner at CHAMP Ltd stating that the town council will provide the budget required to undertake external painting of The Assembly Rooms. Three quotations are to be sought from local contractors to be jointly agreed by the town council and CHAMP Ltd. Information and costs of the repair work required to the wooden sash windows to be forwarded to the town council from CHAMP Ltd to progress this matter. The committee did not agree that Mr Turner be allowed to liaise with the town council's contractor regarding the structural survey monitoring of the building at this stage. The town council wish to review this matter again in one year's time. For further report at the next meeting of the town council to be held on 1 November 2017.

167. **The Following Financial Requests Were Considered:**

(a) **Bowmandale Primary School – Newlands Outdoor Residential Visit 2018**

Consideration and discussion took place regarding the merits of this request. It was agreed and

Resolved that the council in accordance with the powers under section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972, should incur the following expenditure, which, in the opinion of the council, is in the interests of the area and/or some of its inhabitants and will benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure of £200 funding towards a residential school visit to Newlands Outdoor Centre. Donation to be taken from the town council's 2017/2018 Community budget 'Donations/Grants (s.137)' in the sum of £200 taken from the town council's reserves.

(b) **Barton Bike Night – Donation 2018**

Consideration and discussion took place regarding this request. It was agreed and

Resolved that a town grant scheme application form be sent to the group for completion, with a request for a copy of the accounts. To be further considered at the Community Committee budget meeting to be held on 11 December 2017.

(c) **North Lincolnshire Council - Castledyke School Bus**

Consideration and discussion took place regarding this request. It was agreed and

Resolved that a breakdown of the funding requested be sought from North Lincolnshire Council,

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pointing out that the town council have jointly supported this initiative for the last 3 years and it may be prudent for them to start looking for other funding avenues in future years after the current financial year. For further report and discussion by the Finance & General Purposes Committee.

(d) Ongo Communities Ltd – The Viking Centre

Following the talk given before this meeting by representatives of Ongo Communities Ltd, members present discussed the merits of the initiatives undertaken by Ongo and partner agencies. Information and advice had also been sourced from ERNLLCA regarding the funding request. All members present were furnished with a copy of this advice. It was agreed and

Resolved the Clerk write to Ongo Communities Ltd endorsing and congratulating them on the hard work and achievements gained in the positive outcome of the projects undertaken. Whilst the town council wish them every success in the future, it is unable to offer financial assistance on this occasion as the funding is required for staff wages and costs which the town council has no power to finance.

168. **The Following Issues Were Considered:**

(a) The Barton Living Memorial Trust – Request for the town council to adopt the ‘Tin Tommy’ sculpture located on Barrow Road, Barton

Discussion took place regarding the sculpture, including location, position, maintenance and insurance. It was agreed and

Resolved that the Clerk write to the group, explaining the town council have not agreed to adopt the sculpture but the town council would be happy to insure the sculpture for theft and serious vandalism (i.e. written off etc), if the group maintain it.

(b) The Town Council’s Audit for 2016/2017 and 2017/2018

The Clerk reported the town council’s audit for 2016/2017 had been completed with no action points reported to undertake. The internal auditor to undertake the half-yearly audit early in November 2017 for a 2 day period.

Resolved that this be noted.

(c) 2017/2018 Budget – Quarterly Summary of Income/Expenditure

Members were furnished with a summary of the council’s income/expenditure for the period 1 July to 30 September 2017. The Clerk reported that the majority of expenditure was within the budget line allocations. However, due to the resignation of the Mayor, Councillor C Ulliott, it would be necessary for two mayoral photographs to be taken in the current financial year, resulting in an over spend on the budgeted amount. Also, additional costs to be incurred for the Christmas Festival. Due to a shortage of large Christmas trees in the Lincolnshire area, a tree is to be purchased out of the area, resulting in additional costs for the tree, transportation etc. To mitigate the additional costs, the transportation of the tree is to be shared with another local town council, thus halving the cost. Additional costs for the first aid at the event are also anticipated as St John Ambulance are unable to provide the service at the current time.

Resolved the quarterly summary of income/expenditure was noted, along with the additional costs reported.

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The Chairman, Councillor K Vickers, closed the meeting at 8.00 p.m.

.....Chairman 1 November 2017