



Tiverton Town Council

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Draft until approved

Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee Meeting held in the Mayoralty Room of the Town Hall on Monday 09th March 2020 at 6.30pm

Present: Cllr's S Griggs (Chairman), W Burke, A Bush, S Bush, N Davey, C Harrower, I Hill, B Holdman, T Lindus, A Perris and C Slade.

In Attendance: Town Clerk (Mr J Vanderwolfe), two members of the public and one member of the press.

No attendance: Cllr C Daw

080	Apologies Apologies received from Cllr's D Knowles (meeting) and J Blagg (sickness). Resolved to accept these apologies.
081	Declarations of Interest Cllr N Davey declared a personal interest in grant applications for the Adventure Playground. Cllr B Holdman also declared a personal interest in the Adventure Playground. Cllr C Slade stated that he was a member of a number of organisations and would therefore abstain from voting. Cllr J Rendle declared a personal interest in the museum grant.
082	Minutes The minutes of the meeting held on the 10 th February 2020 were agreed as a true record.
083	Matters arising from the Minutes that are not an agenda item Cllr Hill asked if Andrew Busby had responded with the points that he was going to investigate. The town clerk replied that he had not received any information but would chase this up.
084	Democratic Period A parishioner asked the meeting to support the motion being put forward this evening by Cllr Hill in respect of a contribution towards the cost of providing lighting at Hill Crest. She provided members with a picture of the area affected and a plan of what was required. She had presented the County Council with a petition and had received various correspondence, however, they had stated that they did not have the budget to do the require work. She went on to say that in 2018 the estimated cost for this work was £6k. She concluded but by stating that she was willing to pay the shortfall herself.
085	Financial Reports a) Balance Sheet for February 2020 was agreed b) February 2019 income and expenditure report agreed c) Payments for February 2020 were agreed There were a number of questions relating to the budget v actual spend. The town clerk explained that budgeting is not a precise science, however if any councillors had queries about any of the figures they could contact the office and a full explanation could be

	<p>provided. He stated that without having the finance system in front of him it was often difficult to answer the question. The meeting agreed that this was a good idea.</p> <p>Business Risk assessment: Agreed that Cllr's I Hill and A Perris would prepare the report for the March full council.</p>
086	<p>Grants Allocation for 2020</p> <p>Cllr W Burke presented the recommendations of the Grants Working Party to the meeting. There was a proposal to accept their recommendation which was followed by an amendment that the £150 allocated in reserve be allocated to the Museum, thus the museum would have £1950. This motion was passed; becoming the substantive motion, which was also passed.</p>
087	<p>Motion from Cllr I Hill that this Council contributes £2,500 towards the cost of installing additional lighting at Hill Crest</p> <p>Cllr Hill provided the meeting with a copy of the Minutes of May 2018 council meeting, in which it was agreed that the item be referred to this committee. She made the point that this had not happened. At the time, both county councillors were willing to make a contribution towards the cost of installing the lighting. Cllr Hill felt that the area was not up to standard and was very concerned that it was an accident waiting to happen. The motion was seconded. Cllr Burke explained that following the May 2018 meeting he had understood that a site meeting of DCC and Western Power had taken place and thought that the item had been sorted. The Town Clerk also stated that he had been informed that there was probably no need to go ahead with this. Cllr A Perris stated that it was a very dark and difficult street. Cllr T Lindus questioned why more pressure had not been put on DCC as it was not the town council's responsibility to provide street lighting. Cllr S Bush felt that an opportunity had been missed when a development had taken place near to this site. Sadly the road was very dark and he supported the motion. Cllr Rendle informed the meeting that she had seen correspondence from DCC stating that their lighting budget would not cover this installation and that the cost would be in excess of £6k Cllr C Slade spoke on a matter of clarity to explain how the budget allocation system works at DCC. Cllr Holdman was concerned that the matter remained outstanding. Cllr Davey was concerned that this council did not have the actual cost of installation and therefore questioned how the shortfall would be met. Cllr Hill was then given the opportunity as the proposer of the motion to sum up. She stated that the parishioner was willing to pay the difference, although she (Cllr Hill) felt that this was unfair. She fully accepted that the town council would not normally contribute towards lighting, but pointed out that in May 2018 the council had directed this committee to deal with it. On-going to the vote, the motion was carried. Cllrs C Slade and T Lindus requested that their names be recorded as having abstained from the vote.</p>
088	<p>Vegetation Removal Rear of Town Hall</p> <p>The town clerk explained that this meeting had agreed the removal of the vegetation quotation, which was to be done using a cherry picker. Unfortunately when the vehicle arrived on site, the operator had stated that the incline against the wall was so severe and uneven, that there was a risk that the vehicle could topple over when the cherry picker equipment was operated. Therefore the operation was aborted. Devon Surface Care had now informed him that the only option would be to install scaffolding, which would be 20m x 6 lifts, with internal ladder access. The cost of this would be £2,910 plus Vat. Cllr B Holdman asked if other quotations had been received. The Town Clerk responded by stating that as they had already been given the contract this was an alteration rather than a new</p>

	contract; therefore he did not feel that this was necessary. Cllr Burke felt that this was a very reasonable quotation and moved that it be accepted. This was seconded, and on-going to the vote was agreed.
089	Next Meeting Monday 27 th April 2020 at 6.30pm

Signed -----

Date -----