



# Skipton Town Council

**DRAFT**

## Finance and Policy Committee Thursday 15 October 2015 at 7pm

Present: Cllrs: C J Harbron (Chairman), R G Heseltine, Mrs. K McIntyre, P H Whitaker, J W Dawson, G Bell, A F Hickman.

Officers: Dave Parker (Chief Officer) and Jill Peacock (Administration and Finance Officer)

1. To accept representations from the Public between 7.00 pm and 7.15 pm.

None.

2. To accept apologies for absence.

Cllr A Rankine – Prior work commitments.

3. To record declarations of pecuniary and non pecuniary interests items on the agenda.

Item 8 Cllrs C J Harbron, R G Heseltine, J W Dawson – Members of Craven District Council.

4. To consider the recommendations of the Chief Officer relating to requests for dispensations to Members on items requiring a declaration of pecuniary and non pecuniary interests.

None.

5. To note the minutes from the previous meeting held on 20 August 2015.

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the minutes from the Finance and Policy Committee meeting held on 20 August 2015 as a true and accurate record of what transpired at that meeting.

6. To report information arising from the minutes of items not on the agenda from members and the Chief Officer.

None.

7. To consider any matters relating to the closure of Coach Street Toilets.

The issue has now resolved itself as the Travellers left the site on Sunday 11 October. The toilets were cleaned and opened again mid-morning on Monday 12 October.

Members wished to thank the Chief Officer and staff for the actions taken and assistance provided in particular the Town Centre Ambassadors who monitored the security of the toilets throughout.

8. To consider any matters relating to the signing of the lease for the use of offices at Skipton Town Hall and to make a recommendation to Full Council.

Due to problems with the working of the final lease the extra meeting of the Full Council had to be cancelled.

The three key issues are 24 hour access, the commencement of the rent free period and the right to rent out the Council Chamber and Meeting Room on a casual basis.

Members agreed that it was vital that these issues were resolved and if a solution couldn't be found the only answer would be to withdraw.

The Chief Officer was asked to continue with negotiations.

9. To note the Council's Revenue Budget as at 31 August 2015.

Members accepted and **NOTED** the current position of the Council's revenue budget, as at 31 August 2015.

10. To approve the appointment of the Council's Internal Auditor.

Members **RESOLVED** to formally appoint Messrs Windle and Bowker be formally appointed as the Council's Internal Auditor for the purposes of auditing the Council's accounts for the year ending 31 March 2016.

Members **RESOLVED** to appoint Messrs Windle and Bowker be appointed as the Council's Auditors on a consultancy basis for the 2016 to 2017 financial year.

11. To approve the transfer of funds between the nominal and reserve accounts and to approve the closure of the Coach Street Toilets Refurbishment nominal account.

Members **APPROVED** the transfer of the current debit balance on the Toilets Refurbishment Reserve Nominal Account to the Public Conveniences Reserve Account, in the sum of £2,544.18 DR.

Members **AUTHORISED** the closure of the Toilet Refurbishment Reserve Nominal Account to formally complete the project.

12. To consider the future of the Council's Community Grants Scheme.

Members **RESOLVED** to defer to budget setting any decision on whether to include provision for Community Grants.

13. To receive notification of matters that Members would like including on a future agenda.

Devolution will be included on a future agenda as and when information comes to light.

The meeting closed at 7.58 pm.