

Present

*Cllr A J C Fyson – Chairman
*Cllr F J Hawke – Vice-Chairman

#Cllr P F Allen
*Cllr G B F Coles
*Cllr R W I Cooke (Deputy Mayor)
*Cllr D M Gent
*Cllr R M Lyon (Town Mayor)
*Cllr R F Rendle
*Cllr R Springett

Observers: Cllr B T Harriss

Also in attendance 1 member of the public and 1 member of the press.

*Denotes attendance
#Denotes apology for absence

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

Cllr Lyon declared a personal interest in agenda item 3 – request for a grant from the Mayflower 400 group.

2. REQUEST FOR A GRANT FROM THE MAYFLOWER 400 GROUP.

A request for a major grant of £9,265.80 had been received from the Mayflower 400 group together with accounts and a business plan. Members were concerned that the figures did not include monies raised from a recent fundraising event and that the Sister City monies were included in the Mayflower accounts. It was noted that a grant of £5,000 from Dartmouth United Charities had yet to be received and was for a specific project. Clarification was requested on when the grant would be drawn down and if additional grants would be sought in future years.

Proposed: Cllr F J Hawke
Seconded: Cllr R Springett

Recommended: That this application be deferred until the Town Council budget meeting on 1st November 2016 and clarification be sought on the payment schedule of this grant and future grant application by the Mayflower 400 group; consideration would be given to partial payment of grant monies during the current financial year.

3. REVIEW OF BOATFLOAT CHARGES.

Details of the current Boatfloat charges had been circulated to members. This item would be reviewed with all the Town Council's charges at the budget meeting on 1st November 2016.

4. REPORT ON INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE 6 MONTHS TO 30th SEPTEMBER 2016.

A copy of a summary of income and expenditure to 30th September 2016 had been circulated. The Finance Officer would earmark the unspent grant monies from Devon County Council for Ivy Lane received in 2015/2016. Noted.

5. EXTERNAL AUDITORS REPORT ON THE TOWN COUNCIL'S ACCOUNTS TO 31st MARCH 2016.

A copy of the External Auditor's report (Grant Thornton UK LLP) on the Town Council's accounts for the financial year 2015/2016 had been circulated to members. Cllr Rendle congratulated the Finance Officer on the production of the Town Council's accounts. Noted.

6. BUDGET 2017/2018.

A copy of the 2016/2017 budget had been circulated to members to assist in consideration of proposals for the 2017/2018 budget at a meeting on 1st November 2016. Members were given an opportunity to ask questions and the Chairman asked those present to consider bringing written proposals to the budget meeting on 1st November if there were amendments or additions they wished to be considered.

Cllr Lyon left the meeting at 6.40 pm

Proposed: Cllr D M Gent

Seconded: Cllr R Springett

Resolved: That in view of the confidential nature of business about to be transacted, it was in the public interest that the press and public be excluded and that they be instructed to withdraw.

7. AGED DEBTORS REPORT AS AT 30TH SEPTEMBER 2016.

A copy of the aged debtors report as at 30th September 2016 was laid round the table. The Finance Officer explained each of the items on the aged debtors report for members.

8. QUOTATIONS FOR TABLEWARE FOR THE GUILDHALL.

Details of 4 quotations from 3 companies for 120 place settings of tableware for the Guildhall had been presented to the July Finance Committee meeting. Samples of the tableware from 2 of the companies providing quotes were available at the meeting for members to view.

Proposed: Cllr R Springett

Seconded: Cllr F J Hawke

Recommended: That a group of Councillors decide on the final crockery, cutlery etc. and spend up to £4,000 (excluding vat).