

HARWICH TOWN COUNCIL

Clerk: Elaine Novorol
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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF HARWICH TOWN COUNCIL FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE HELD at the PARK PAVILION, HARWICH on 14th April 2009 at 6.30pm

Present: Councillor J Wares in the Chair
The Mayor, Councillor D Rutson
Councillors: B Brown, L Double, S Henderson and M Gardner

The Clerk to the Council, Mrs E Novorol

Also present: Councillor D McLeod

F51/08 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor P Burke.

F52/08 DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

None

F53/08 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting held on 2nd December 2008 (previously circulated) be approved by the Chairman and signed as a true record.

F54/08 LEISURE FACILITIES

The Committee received an update, including details of opening times and recruitment, for the leisure facilities 2009 season.

F55/08 THE ROYAL NAVAL ASSOCIATION

Members were advised that, further to minute F23/08, a laptop computer to the value of £500, had been purchased for The Royal Naval Association.

F56/08 CHRISTMAS LIGHTS APPEAL/HARWICH CHAMBER OF TRADE

The Committee noted receipt of £2000 refund, part of the £5000 grant awarded to the Christmas Lights Appeal. The final cost of the scheme was £3500 which included brackets and wires which can be used for years to come. Members were also advised that the lights had now been taken down.

F57/08 HARWICH FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS 2009

Request for grant funding towards the 2009 Harwich Festival of the

Arts. **RESOLVED to recommend:** s.137 funding of £2500.

F58/08 CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU

Request for donation to support core services of C.A.B.

RESOLVED: to write to the Citizens Advice Bureau and advise that, in the past, this Council has supported the local branch with the purchase of equipment and to supply a grant request form.

F59/08 HARWICH SHANTY FESTIVAL

Request for grant funding of £500 for advertising and marketing.

RESOLVED to recommend: s.137 funding of £500 to be paid nearer to the date of the festival.

F60/08 GRANT POLICY

The committee considered the proposed grant policy and new grant request form.

RESOLVED: to adopt the policy and form for future request.

F61/08 SKATE PARK

Members noted the request for an increase from £100 to £260 for the rent of the skate park. Councillor Double advised that he had dealt with the matter via Tendring District Council and that the rent charge would remain at £100 per annum.

F62/08 QUALITY STATUS

The Clerk gave a report on the present situation with regard to Quality Status and related costs. **RESOLVED:** that the Committee is minded to suspend the application for the time being, subject to the opinion of members of the Council.

F63/08 PERFORMANCE TARGETS

The Clerk gave a progress report regarding performance targets and advised the committee that a review of the Risk Assessment for finance was being undertaken. An update regarding staff training was given.

F64/08 TRAINING FOR COUNCILLORS

The Committee noted the information regarding in-house training for members.

F65/08 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED: that pursuant to Section 1 of Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the meeting is closed to the press and public for the transaction of the under-mentioned business.

Annual review of staff performance and salaries.

CHAIRMAN

DATE