

## Kingsbridge Town Council

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE HELD AT 6.30 p.m. ON TUESDAY 2 DECEMBER 2014 IN QUAY HOUSE

**Present:** Cllr Anne Balkwill (Chairman)  
Cllr Amanda Bloomer  
Cllr Rufus Gilbert  
Cllr Wayne Grills  
Cllr Irene Jeeninga  
Cllr Philip Yates

**In Attendance:** Martin Johnson (Town Clerk)

#### 14/19 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

#### 14/20 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Bloomer declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item 14/22 (Fees & Charges: Room Rental for Room 9 Saltstone Caring).

Cllr Balkwill declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item 14/23 (Budget for FY 15/16: Grant Aid for Cookworthy Museum).

#### 14/21 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Members received minutes of the last meeting held on 21 October 2014 which were approved as a correct record.

#### 14/22 FEES AND CHARGES

Members were in receipt of Fees and Charges effective from 1 April 2014 and a thorough review was completed. It was **RECOMMENDED** for:

- Fixed leases/rents for Age Concern and Creeks End Bin Store to be noted.
- The Property Committee to progress a new lease for the Rear Hall noting its termination in July 2015 and for a rent review to be actioned.
- All permanent room rentals in Quay House (Rooms 4, 8, 9, 10 & 12) to be increased by 1.3% (Office for National Statistics figure for Consumer Prices Index growth to October 2014).
- Casual room rental for the Council Chamber to be increased to £30.
- Casual room rental for Rooms 3 & 7 to be increased to £15.
- Council Chamber rental for Weddings to be increased to £75.
- Allotment rents to be increased to £35 for a full plot and £20 for a half plot.
- Bandstand hire charges to be retained at current FY rates.
- Play equipment hire to be included at £10 (and for equipment hire per se to be promoted).
- Photocopying charges to be increased to provide near parity with commercial rates.

- All Embankment Road Cemetery fees to be increased by 10%.

A listing of proposed Fees and Charges for financial year 2015/16 is at Annex A.

#### **14/23 BUDGET FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2015/16**

Members were in receipt of a draft budget which was carefully considered. It was noted that:

- South Hams District Council would reduce the Council Tax Support Grant by £1,157.
- Devon County Council was likely to stop maintaining/restocking grit bins (6 in town at circa £300 for total refill), reduce delegated funding (currently £1,113.38) for grass verge cutting to achieve visibility at junctions only, and to stop highway weed spraying.
- Numerous projects had been earmarked including: flashing flood warning signs for the Quay area, pedestrian wayfinder street signage to earmark locations of interest around town, a heritage trail, and greater support for Cookworthy Museum/Kingsbridge In Bloom.

It was **RECOMMENDED** to progress the draft Income and Expenditure Budget for financial year 2015/16 at Annex B.

#### **14/24 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday 6 January 2015 at 6.30 p.m. (3<sup>rd</sup> quarter income & expenditure report for FY 2014/15 and re-consideration of the draft budget for FY 2015/16).

Annexes:

- A. Proposed Fees and Charges for Financial Year 2015/16.
- B. Draft Budget for Financial Year 2015/16.

*The meeting closed at 7.55 p.m.*