WYMONDHAM TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE held on 17th December 2013 in the Council Offices commencing at 7.30pm

Present: M J Gibbins (Chairman)
J Andrews
N Ward
J Turner (substitute for DM Hockaday)
M Heard

Also Present: Cllr. Longhurst
1 member of the public.

F43/13 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Cllr. Hockaday

F44/13 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- Cllr Ward - agenda item 8 Grant Application for Wymondham Symphony Orchestra – personal interest in knowing organisations chairman.

F45/13 ITEMS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

- Mr Walker
  - Agenda item 6 – why are Larking Gowen being appointed.
    - Cllr. Gibbins - because they successfully tendered.
  - Agenda item 11 – When are contracts reviewed.
    - Cllr. Gibbins – reviewed by Town Clerk
  - Agenda item 11 – had Council looked at contracting out work and have Council looked at sharing with other Councils.
    - Cllr. Gibbins – Council regularly reviewed staffing levels and in view of the type of work carried out by employees it was not applicable at this time to share services.
  - Why am I being excluded from the meeting when the budgets are being discussed?
    - Cllr. Gibbins – As the budgets prepared are in draft form and have not been discussed nor approved by the Committee it is appropriate that they are discussed confidentially to allow any changes to be made before being made public at the next full Council meeting.
  - Is it fair and correct that I only have full papers 10 minutes before the meeting.
    - Clerk replied that agenda is posted on the Councils website in accordance with statutory requirements and that attachments to the agenda are to assist Councilllors in making decisions. At the meetings these papers are issued upon request as a courtesy.

F46/13 MINUTES OF MEETING On the proposition of Cllr. Ward and seconded by Cllr Andrews it was resolved to approve the minutes of the Finance & General Purposes committee meeting held on 13th October 2013 as a correct record.

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F47/13 MATTERS ARISING

- F42/13 FINANCIAL REGULATIONS Clerk confirmed that the revised regulations had been approved by full Council and were now in force.

F48/13 INTERNAL AUDITORS On the proposition of Cllr. Gibbins and seconded by Cllr Ward it was resolved to appoint Larking Gowen as the Council's internal auditors for the 2014/15 financial year. It was agreed that this work would be put out to tender for the 2015/16 year..

F49/13 TREASURY MANAGEMENT POLICY On the proposition of Cllr. Gibbins and seconded by Cllr Ward it was resolved to recommend the attached policy to the full Council.

F50/13 GRANT APPLICATION Upon the proposition of Cllr. Andrews and seconded by Cllr. Heard it was unanimously resolved to approve a grant of £250 to Wymondham Symphony Orchestra to defray costs in respect of a commemorative composition.

F51/10 EXCLUSION PUBLIC & PRESS On the proposition of Cllr. Gibbins and seconded by Cllr Ward resolution by the Council under the provisions of Section 1 of the Public Bodies (Admissions to meetings) Act 1960 to exclude Press and the Public from the meeting of Wymondham Town Council in order to discuss matters where publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted

F52/13 2014/15 DRAFT FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE BUDGET Cllr. Gibbins outlined the budget that had been prepared for the 2014/15 financial year and a revised copy was distributed to Committee members as South Norfolk Council had now advised an estimate of a tax base figure of 4837 with a transitional grant of £27895. Questions were then raised and answered in accordance with the attached.

Upon the resolution of Cllr. Gibbins and seconded by Cllr. Ward it was unanimously agreed to recommend a net budget of £232173.

F53/13 2014/15 DRAFT COUNCIL BUDGET Cllr. Gibbins and the Clerk outlined the proposed full budget for the 2014/15 year being an amalgamation of the budgets agreed by the Leisure & Environment Committee (£150757) and the Finance & General Purposes Committee (£232173). Upon the proposition of Cllr. Gibbins and seconded by Cllr. Ward it was unanimously agreed to recommend a budget of £382930 which after receipt of a £27895 transitional grant from South Norfolk Council leaves a required precept of £355035. This results in a band 'D' Council charge of £73.40.

[The meeting closed at 20.37 pm]

DATED this …… day of ……..2014

SIGNED ……. (Chairman)

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