



Minutes of the Seaton Town Council Meeting on Monday, 21 December 2020

Present:

Chair: Cllr. K. Beer

Town

Councillors: D. Ledger, D. Haggerty, A. Singh, J. Russell, E. Bowman,
C. Wood, D. Wright and K. Briggs

Officers: Town Clerk

Note: All attendees accessed the meeting remotely and could be either seen and/or heard

125. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. Hartnell & Macaskill.

126. Declarations of interest

Cllr Ledger declared a personal interest as an East Devon District Councillor.

127. Minutes

Members **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the meeting of Seaton Town Council ('the Council') held remotely on 7th December 2020 (proposed Cllr. Ledger; seconded Cllr. Haggerty)

128. Public Question Time

No members of the public were present.

129. Seafont Enhancement Scheme

Members considered the recommendation from the recent meeting of the Seafont Enhancement Working Group, which had met to consider the viability of implementing the scheme permitted by virtue of planning permission 17/0369/FUL, and **RESOLVED**:

- that the seafont development permitted by virtue of planning permission 17/ 0369/FUL could not be taken forward and should not be implemented
- the £62,834 earmarked for the development should be retained and ringfenced for alternative improvements to the seafont

(proposed Cllr. Singh; seconded Cllr. Haggerty)

130. Budget & Precept 2021/22

Members **RESOLVED** to:

1. Approve the budget for 2021/22, as set out in the spreadsheet dated 21 December and attached to these minutes



2. approved the precept for 2021/22 at £356,939 – a rise of 5.6% (or £5.86 per year on a Band D property) - making the total annual payment £110.47 on a Band D property
(proposed Cllr. Singh; seconded Cllr. Russell)

131. Policy Updates

Members reviewed the draft policies and **RESOLVED** to adopt the following new policies and to agree the amendments to the Staff Handbook to reflect the new policies:

- Smoking Policy
- Lone Working Policy (including risk assessment and procedure) including amendments to reflect the fact that the Town Maintenance Officer mostly worked alone), such amendments delegated to the Clerk
- Equality & Diversity Policy
- Staff Handbook

(proposed Cllr. Ledger; seconded Cllr. Singh)

132. Cyclefest 2021

Members considered the request from the organisers of Cyclefest 2021 dated 15 December regarding the suggested updated payment schedule for the sponsorship fee and **RESOLVED** to approve an increase in the advance payment to £1000, subject to a commitment that this would be repaid, should the event not go ahead for any reason.

(proposed Cllr. Beer; seconded Cllr. Wood)

Confidential Items

133. Grounds Maintenance Contract (including planting & watering)

Members noted the position regarding the need to renew the 3-year contract and efforts already made to seek quotations for the works for 2021-24. On balance they considered that, in light of the nature and frequency of the works required and the success that a personalised service from a local company had provided over successive years, that it was reasonable to waive the use of the Government's national procurement site and use a more localised process.

Members therefore **RESOLVED** to waive the use of the government's national procurement website – Contract Finder and instead seek quotations from the contractors included in the recommendation in the report to this item
(proposed Cllr. Ledger; seconded Cllr. Wood)



134. Refurbishment/replacement of civic regalia

Members considered the quotations available for the refurbishment of the Mayoral chain and **RESOLVED:**

- to approve the refurbishment of the Mayoral chain by Fattorini as detailed in the quotation of November 2020 (proposed Cllr. Ledger; seconded Cllr. Haggerty)
- that enquiries should be made to establish whether the case for the Mayor chain can be repaired as a project by, for instance, the Beer Mens' Shed with the Council covering the cost of materials (proposed Cllr. Wood; seconded Cllr. Beer)

Meeting closed at 6.07pm

Signed: _____

Dated: _____

DRAFT