

BRACKNELL TOWN COUNCIL  
STRATEGY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE  
14<sup>th</sup> June 2016

Present: Chairman Cllr: Chris Turrell.  
Cllrs: Paul Bidwell, Gill Birch, P Hill, Isabel Mattick, Malcolm Tullett  
Apologies: Cllrs: Marc Brunel-Walker, Peter Heydon, Iain McCracken, Jennie McCracken,  
Sanjeev Prasad.  
In Attendance R Reeve (TC), J Burgess (OSM).

The meeting opened at 7.30pm and closed at 8.25pm

**1387 Declarations of Interest.**

There were no declarations of interest

**1388 Minutes**

The minutes of the meetings held on 26<sup>th</sup> April 2016 and 10<sup>th</sup> May 2016 were accepted as a true record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.

**1389 Matters arising out of the minutes not to be discussed elsewhere**

None.

**1390 Final report from the Internal Auditor for the year ended 31March 2016**

Report was received and actions to be taken noted. The reason for 'opting to tax' for the Great Hollands Pavilion was explained.

**1391 Financial Statements and the Annual Return for the 2015/16 year**

The Financial Statements and the Annual Return for the 2015/16 year were considered and agreed for submission to Council for approval.

**1392 Financial Report – 2016/17 year**

The report of income and expenditure against budget for months one and two for the 2016/17 year was reviewed by councillors, together with the notes of the Budget Monitoring Group meeting held on 7th June. Questions were then answered on items 1-11. In answer to the question on item 12, it was noted that the Mayor's charity funds were to be channelled through Fixers (website [fixers.org.uk](http://fixers.org.uk), registered charity no 298643, company no 2194957). In response to a question from Cllr Tullett, the Town Clerk outlined the current workings of the BTC Mayor's Fund. The Clerk then announced that Fixers, the 2016/17 BTC Mayor's charity, would be doing a presentation at the full Bracknell Town Council meeting on 28 June.

**1393 Levels of reserves and balances levels for the start of the 2016/17 year**

Proposals for allocation of the brought forward funds of £1,518,822 were considered and agreed for submission to Council for approval. These result in a reserves balance of £897,414 and a general balance of £621,408 at the start of the 2016/17 year which it was agreed provided an adequate level of reserves to meet known future spending requirements as well as an adequate balance to meet potential unforeseen spending needs at the present time. Within this, the provision for the Great Hollands Pavilion is able to be increased to approaching £0.7m in total, through reductions of provisions not needed elsewhere.

**1394 Corporate and Business Service Risks**

The Corporate Risk Assessment Register update was noted. The format is to be further revised, with a breakdown to be provided of project risks for the Great Hollands Pavilion as these become clearer in the period before the next meeting.

**1395 Health and Safety**

An update on Health and Safety matters was provided. Councillors noted actions being taken to deal with problems that had arisen with installing the long slide at Hedgehog Park during a period of heavy use.

**Clerks Report**

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**1396 Great Hollands pavilion update**

Site surveys and investigations were about to start, with plans to refurbish or build a new pavilion to become clearer at end of July. The Business case, with funding streams and building costings, would also be refined at that point. For VAT purposes, proposing to 'opt to tax' to recover VAT on construction costs, but will then need to pay VAT on income received in future. Sport England had declined giving a grant at present, so budget revised, and action to progress other grant funding sources planned. The budget at this point was the sum of the internally generated funding at £0.7m, together with loan funding, at £1m, meaning project funds total £1.7m. The BALC route to secure loan funding, which would require a resolution at the June Council meeting, appeared to have a good chance of success.  
Agreed and noted.

**1397 Valuation of assets update**

This work had been completed on the date of the meeting, and a report was now awaited.

**1398 Neighbourhood Plan update**

Work was currently being undertaken to compile the evidence portfolio upon which our Neighbourhood Plan has been based and to prepare the full draft Neighbourhood Plan for further stakeholder consultation in the Autumn, in advance of Inspector Examination at the end of the Year.

**1399 Small Grant request**

A grant request from Bracknell Gymnastics Club was unanimously approved. Councillors wished the Club well, were keen to be kept updated on future activities and also for the Town Mayor to ask if they were willing to attend a future Council meeting.

Next Meeting 27<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm at Brooke House.

Signed .....Dated .....