



Bracknell Town Council

Strategy and Finance Committee Information Gathering Discussion

29th March 2022

Attendance

Councillors Present	Paul Bidwell, Gill Birch, Jennie Green, Diana Henfrey, Isabel Mattick, Sanjeev Prasad, Dai Roberts, Chris Turrell
Councillors Absent	James Alexander
In Attendance	Rachel Gordge (OM), Member of the Public

The meeting opened via Zoom at 7.35pm and closed at 9.06pm

SF1405	Declarations of Interest There were no declarations of interest
SF1406	Minutes The minutes of the Strategy and Finance Committee held on 25 th January 2022 were approved. It was RESOLVED that the recommendations contained therein are received and adopted as a correct record and signed by the Chair
SF1407	Matters Arising from the Minutes SF1076 Birch Hill Toilets – This item was moved to Confidential Matters SF1172 Open Spaces Leases – The leases are with the BFC legal team SF1325 Play Areas Working Group - The date for the Working Group will be sent out for sometime in May based on staff availability
SF1408	Budget Carry Forward It was proposed by Councillor Chris Turrell to approve the budget carry forwards for any ongoing projects that have not been completed. This was seconded by Councillor Gill Birch APPROVED
SF1409	National Pay Rise The National pay rise was agreed at 1.75% and has been backdated to 01.04.2021. This was budgeted for 3% and therefore any excess funds will be carried forward to help cover the next pay increase. NOTED
SF1410	Council Tax Letter A request from a resident was received asking for the increase percentage for the precept to be added to the Council Tax letter that is sent out to residents. This was discussed and in the interest of transparency Councillors agreed with the request. It was proposed by Councillor Sanjeev Prasad and seconded by Councillor Jennie Green APPROVED The Town Clerk will request this change with BFC
SF1411	Meeting Schedule The proposed meeting schedule was NOTED There are two meetings which still clash with Borough meetings, the Office Manager will contact BFC to ask them to rearrange these meetings due to the agreement the BTC holds meetings on Tuesday as a priority



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SF1412	Draft IT Policy
	The Draft IT Policy was reviewed. Some grammatical errors were highlighted to be changed. Councillor Roberts offered some help on the formatting of policies and documents to assist in making changes were sent to the Office Manager. Changes to the policy will be made and brought to the next meeting for approval
SF1413	App Demonstration
	The App demonstration was delayed as Cloudy had to cancel their meeting with staff last minute. The demo will be shown at the next meeting
SF1414	Budget Monitoring Working Group
	The Chair of the Budget Monitoring Working Group gave an update following the last meeting. The minutes were reviewed and it was suggested that the working group should monitor the fixed asset register mentioned in the Internal Auditors Report
SF1415	Community Events Working Group
	The Chair of the Community Events Working Group gave an update following the last meeting. Additional funding was requested from the unspent Community Events budget: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• £650 requested to book a petting farm for the Early Years event• £500 requested for decorations for Brooke House and two pavilions This was proposed by Councillor Gill Birch and seconded by Councillor Chris Turrell APPROVED
SF1416	CIL
	The CIL Report was reviewed. The following items on the wish list are to be moved into the APPROVED list and work may begin on these projects when Officers are ready: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Queensway stone - £425• Speed Watch Signs x 12 (3 signs for 4 areas) £50 each• Defibrillators and case x 3 - £1600-£2000 each A new idea of protecting BTC grass verges where parking is common with grids was discussed. This is to be added to the wish list and can be researched with the help of Highways and along with other ideas to protect the grass A noticeboard has been requested by the Priestwood Environmental Group via Councillor Bidwell. Details of noticeboards have been sent out and the idea will be added to the wish list.
SF1417	Queen's Platinum Jubilee Grant
	It was NOTED that the Office Manager has secured a grant for £3,700 to purchase Memorial Benches in honour of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. The placement of these benches will be decided by the Town Clerk and RFM to ensure they are easily seen but also positioned to avoid anti-social behaviour



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SF1418	Community Governance Working Group
	The Working Group has completed their assessment of the proposed boundary changes. The response is being finalised by Officers and will be taken to the additional Full Council meeting on 3 rd May for approval before the response deadline
SF1419	Internal Auditors Interim Report
	The interim report from the Internal Auditor was NOTED
	Confidential Business
SF1420	Insurance
	The insurance quote for BTC with the current provider has increased over 50%. The Town Clerk was given the information extremely late making it very difficult to secure other quotes. With less than two weeks until the renewal, the Town Clerk managed to secure a competitive quote from Zurich and recommended that this quote be accepted. It was proposed by Councillor Chris Turrell that the quote be accepted, this was seconded by Councillor Gill Birch. Further details regarding flooding at Jocks Lane and Mill Pond not being covered will be sought and brought to the next meeting APPROVED
SF1421	Scout Lease
	The Scouts have withdrawn from their lease of the hut at Braybrooke. The Town Clerk would like to look at a transfer of ownership to Bracknell Town Council with a view to lease the hut long term to a client with the help of BFC. This was proposed by Councillor Chris Turrell and seconded by Councillor Gill Birch APPROVED
SF1422	SF1076 – Birch Hill Toilets
	This item was moved to Confidential. There has been a change in funding and Government are offering grants for Changing Places facilities. The leader of BTC will speak to BFC to advise that we would like to move forward with this project using the grant money and BTC EMR. This was proposed by Councillor Chris Turrell and seconded by Councillor Gill Birch APPROVED

Sign:		Date	
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Date of the next meeting 14th June 2022 at 7.30pm