

POLICY & RESOURCE COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Policy & Resources Committee took place on Wednesday 30th March 2016 in the Town Meeting Room, The Old Courthouse, George Street, Pocklington which commenced at 7pm.

In attendance: Cllr Sykes (Chairman), Cllr Cooper, Cllr Hutchinson, Cllr Jones, Cllr Marron, Cllr Perry & Cllr Shepherd., Clerk.

1. Notice of meeting was accepted.

2. To accept apologies for absence. Apologies were received from Cllr Ratcliffe who had just come out of hospital.

3. To record declarations of interest by any member of the council in respect of the agenda items listed below. Members declaring interests should identify the agenda item and type of interest being declared. None were given.

4. Receive an update on the building works at Pocklington Arts Centre and details of the handover from the builders. Cllr Hutchinson reported attending a meeting on 24th March 2016. He was pleased to report the contract was mostly on time and to budget. Cllr Perry had been updated by Steve Hunt who had received the figures from Hobson & Porter and was coming through to the Arts Centre tomorrow as part of the commissioning process. Receive an update on the WREN grant to replace the studio floor. The clerk reported on having applied to WREN for a change in the funding which will require £5,000 less than previously anticipated. A reply will be given after 4th April. The floor works will take three weeks to a month to complete. A discussion then took place about the pricing structure for the hire of the new rooms. Cllr Perry suggested getting the other venues prices and reflecting on these. Cllr Marron said it should be remembered this is a community facility. Councillors asked the Manager to produce a business plan for the next full council meeting giving details of the suggested charging and how the management of the new resource was to be undertaken.

5. Consider making a donation to the rugby club for their assistance in parking builders vehicles during the refurbishment work at Pocklington Arts Centre. Hobson & Porter have pledged £300. Cllr Jones proposed a similar £300 should be given from the council in view of the public service they had provided. 2nd Cllr Marron. A counter proposal was then put forward by Cllr Cooper who suggested the council donation should be £450 2nd Cllr Shepherd. Three voted for the amendment and three against. Cllr Jones original proposal was again tabled where four voted for and three against.

6. Planning for the Annual Meeting of the council to be held on Wednesday 20th April 2016 at Pocklington Arts Centre. It was agreed the councillors should be at the front of the hall and the main theme of the presentation be on the refurbishment of the Arts Centre. Publicity was the key to a successful evening.

7. Discuss the annual return and receive a report on the current financial position and likely out-turn. The clerk explained there are two newly worded parts to the annual return. One concerned the internal audit arrangements and the other risk assessments. The clerk further explained the monies currently available to the council amounted to £271,184 but the expected final account for the building works will be £230,000. The sum of £27,287 will be retained for a year. Cllr Jones suggested we invest this figure in a separate account. After a discussion it was agreed that once all the invoices have been paid this would be arranged.

There being no further items the meeting closed at 8pm

Councillor Martin Ratcliffe
(Mayor of Pocklington)