

26th January 2023

Minutes of the proceedings of the Strategy and Policy Committee held this day in the Kitty Dancy Room, Sandhurst Community Centre Complex, Sandhurst commencing at 7.30pm and finishing at 8.40pm.

PRESENT

Chairman: Cllr N Allen
Councillors: Mrs J Bettison, D Birch, B Brooks, Mrs S Davenport, R Mossom, M Sanderson.

IN ATTENDANCE

Executive Officer (Angela Carey)
Deputy Executive Officer (Josie Mahamdallie)
Cllr P Bettison

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (Agenda item 1)

Apologies for received and accepted from Councillors:
P Panesar (Indisposed)

MEMBERS' INTERESTS (Agenda item 2)

None declared.

MINUTES OF THE STRATEGY AND POLICY COMMITTEE (Agenda item 3)

It was proposed by Cllr N Allen and the following was

**RESOLVED
2839**

that the Minutes of the Strategy and Policy meeting held on 24th November 2022 (pages 1342-1345) be received as a true and correct record and that they be confirmed and signed by the Chairman. (Unanimous)

HEALTH AND SAFETY (Agenda item 4)

No incidents were reported. The Committee were updated on the recent issues with the boiler causing the heating not to be working correctly. This has now been rectified.

SANDHURST YOUTH (Agenda item 5)

Nothing to report. No meetings have been held.

FEES AND CHARGES REVIEW (Agenda item 6)

The Committee were asked to consider the recommended uplifts to the fees and charges for 2023/24. Further to discussion it was proposed by Cllr N Allen and seconded by Cllr Mrs J Bettison and the following was

**RESOLVED
2840**

that the recommended uplifts are approved and adopted from 1st April 2023. (Unanimous)

ACTION: EO

SOUND SYSTEM FOR COMMUNITY HALL (Agenda item 7)

The Committee were asked to consider updating the sound system in the main hall to enable hirers to benefit from an enhanced system with wireless



connection. Further to discussion it was proposed by Cllr N Allen and seconded by Cllr D Birch and the following was

**RESOLVED
2841**

that the costs of providing an adequate sound system are acquired and presented to this committee for consideration.

ACTION: EO

DEBIT CARD USAGE FOR PURCHASES (Agenda item 8)

The Committee were advised of the issues that are being faced when a need arises to purchase items online as there currently no debit card facility on the bank account. They were asked to consider enabling a debit card on the account. Further to discussion it was proposed by Cllr N Allen and seconded by Cllr Mrs J Bettison and the following was

**RESOLVED
2842**

that one debit card will be obtained from the bank and this will be used solely by the Executive Officer for purchases where no account is held by STC.

ACTION: EO

THAMES VALLEY POLICE UPDATE (Agenda item 9)

An update was received by the Committee. PC Scott McSweeney has joined the Bracknell team. There were three catalytic converter thefts in Sandhurst in December and an offending vehicle was identified. TVP are working with another local force to locate and arrest the perpetrators. TVP are also aware of the issues surrounding car meets and have some action planned around this.

SRA LIAISON MEETINGS (Agenda item 10)

A request was received from the Chairman of the Sandhurst Residents Association requesting that the liaison meetings with STC recommence following their postponement during the pandemic. Further to discussion it was proposed by Cllr N Allen and seconded by Cllr Mrs J Bettison and the following was

**RESOLVED
2843**

that the liaison meetings are reinstated. These will commence in the Spring/Summer of 2023.

ACTION: EO

REVIEW OF SOLICITORS (Agenda item 11)

The Committee were consulted on the need to review our current arrangements for legal work. STC have used the same solicitors for many years and no comparisons have been sought. Further to discussion it was proposed by Cllr N Allen and seconded by Cllr Mrs J Bettison and the following was

**RESOLVED
2844**

that a comparison exercise is undertaken and the findings are presented to this committee for consideration.



ACTION: EO

ROOF REPAIRS (Agenda item 12)

Following resolution 2797 where the Committee agreed for the contractor to commence the roof repairs, the Committee were asked to consider the revised quote as they original had expired. This has increased significantly. Further to discussion it was proposed by Cllr D Birch and seconded by Cllr N Allen and the following was

**RESOLVED
2845**

that the quote is accepted, and the work is booked in.

ACTION: EO

BUDGET AND PRECEPT (2023/24) (Agenda item 13)

a) The budget proposals were received and reviewed.
b) The overall budget was discussed. The preparation of the budget with a 0% increase in the Band D rate was noted. Further to discussion it was proposed by Cllr N Allen and seconded by Cllr D Birch, and the following was

**RESOLVED
2846**

that the budget proposals for the financial year 2023/24 be **recommended** for approval by the Town Council, and that an increase of 2%(this equates to an increase of £1.49 for the year on a band D property) is applied to the precept, setting the level of Precept at £608,932.50. (Unanimous)

ACTION: EO

PRESS & PUBLICITY (Agenda item 14)

There was a request for a press release about the budget to be added to the press and publicity forward plan, following the outcome of the Town Council budget setting meeting.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING (Agenda item 15)

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as 23rd March 2023.

EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS (Agenda item 16)

It was proposed by Cllr N Allen and seconded by Cllr Mrs J Bettison and the following was

**RESOLVED
2847**

that in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the public and press would be excluded for discussion regarding the engagement, terms of service and conduct of employees where publicity might be prejudicial to the special nature of the business.

PERFORMANCE AWARDS (Agenda item 17)

The Committee received the recommendations of the Personnel Sub-Committee in relation to staff Performance Awards for 2022/23. Further to discussion it was proposed by Cllr N Allen and seconded by Cllr Mrs J Bettison and the following was

**RESOLVED
2848**

that the recommendations from the Personnel Sub-Committee as detailed in Confidential Annexe 6 be accepted and recommended to the Town Council. (Unanimous)



ACTION: EO

LEASE (Agenda item 18)

The Committee were asked to consider an amendment to the proposed lease from leaseholder A. Further to discussion it was proposed by Cllr D Birch and seconded by Cllr N Allen and the following was

**RESOLVED
2849**

that the lease is amended as per the leaseholders request.

ACTION: EO

**SIGNED AND DATED BY
CHAIRMAN**

