

HUNGERFORD TOWN COUNCIL

The Mayor
Cllr Martin Crane OBE
28 Cottrell Close
Hungerford
Berkshire
RG17 0HF
Tel: 01488 684804
martincrane41@sky.com



The Town Clerk
Mrs Claire Barnes
The Library
Church Street
Hungerford
Berkshire RG17 0JG
Tel: 01488 686195
townclerk@hungerford-tc.gov.uk
www.hungerford-tc.gov.uk

MINUTES of the **Finance & General Purposes Committee** held on Tuesday 15th March 2016 at 7.00pm in the Town Council Office, The Library, Church Street, Hungerford

Present: Cllrs Bumbieris, Crane, Benneyworth and Brookman.
Also present: Geoff Adams (Adviser), Town Clerk and RFO

1. **Apologies for absence** – None
2. **Declarations of interest** – None
3. **Minutes – Propose minutes of F&GP meeting on 12th January 2016.** Cllr Bumbieris proposed minutes as a true record, seconded by Cllr Brookman, all in favour.
4. **Finance**
 - a. **VAT – Options for Triangle Field.** At present TFMC collect any income. However, if HTC want to collect income from Triangle Field, as this would be deemed as business, they would need to opt to tax on Triangle Field. If TFMC receive all the income HTC can consider reducing the £3k grant given accordingly. TFMC will invoice the Theatre Company, Charlie Austin Football School and the Circus. Cllr Crane proposed that Theatre Company rent should be paid to TFMC, seconded by Cllr Bumbieris, all in favour. **Action:** Clerk to email both parties to advise.
 - b. **British Gas Energy Costs** – The RFO has reviewed the cost of electric at the Croft Field. Cllr Bumbieris proposed the RFOs recommendation of renewal for 2 years with British Gas at £1389.94, seconded by Cllr Crane, all in favour.
5. **Triangle Field – Hiring enquiry.** Who should actively market the Triangle Field, if TFMC don't wish to. Booking system on web is not used. Are fees up to date? **Action:** Add to R&A Agenda
6. **Croft Field Activity Centre – Outstanding £8,500 WBC grant.** **Action:** - Cllr Crane to write to DC James Podger about the o/s amount. RFO suggested using S106 money allocated to Croft Field to put against expenditure. Expenditure on building so far is £24,346 and income £8,500 (members bid). Cllr Benneyworth proposed, to clear the account use £12,451.01 of S106 amount £14,884.28 and also use smaller S106 amounts £341.91, £1,058 + £1,995.03, seconded by Cllr Crane, all in favour. CCTV deposit due of £4793.50 +vat will come out of £8,233 reserve.
7. **Queens 90th Celebrations – Budget and memorabilia.** Rotary party will be held on Saturday 11th, suggest residents hold their own street parties on 12th, Sunday 18th June, HTC will celebrate using Big Top at Triangle Field. The Mayor would like each Hungerford Primary School student to receive a commemorative medal/coin. Cost to this is £2 a go. Cllr Crane proposed earmarking £600 from this year's Mayor's allowance and £100 from civic expenses to purchase them, seconded by Cllr Bumbieris, all in favour. A number of Hungerford residents (Bill Bailey, Bert Harrison, Viv Long, Bob Pullen) have been awarded Legion D'Honneur and this will be celebrated at 12-12.30 on 3rd April 2016 at RBL. Mayor of Ligueil will come over for event. Can we carry forward £150 from current pot for this for next year? **Action:** Add to next F&P Agenda. £300 Gas Beacon has been ordered.

8. **Any update on financial information related to cuts.** **Action:** Clerk to reply to Fran at Greenham and speak to Julian May tomorrow about library cuts. It is thought 5 clear working days are need to put Questions to the meeting of 24th – CHECK. WBC should share resources with the other 5 local authorities. Aldbourne employ a Part Time Librarian to run their library and Ramsbury run theirs with volunteers. Suggestions were made that Hungerford should become part of Wiltshire. **Action:** Schedule extra Full Council meeting for Tuesday 29th March 7.30pm, after E&P and postpone H&T. Also schedule an Extra F&GP meeting to decide grants on Monday 18th April 2016.

Meeting closed at 8.03pm