

FILEY TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE
HELD ON THURSDAY 21 APRIL 2016 AT 10.00AM

Present: Cllr Susan Bosomworth (Chairman), Cllr J Casey, Cllr Marion Wright
Clerk - Mrs G Robinson

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and the Clerk advised that the meeting was quorate with only three members present.

NOTICE OF THE MEETING

RESOLVED: That Public Notice of the meeting had been given in accordance with Schedule 12, para 10(2) of the Local Government Act 1972. 315/016

APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Cllr John Shackleton (holiday), Cllr Jeff Meek (holiday) and Cllr Richard Walker (personal). It was

RESOLVED: That Cllr John Shackleton, Cllr Jeff Meek and Cllr Richard Walker's apologies be accepted 316/016

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Chairman reminded members of the need to consider whether they needed to declare a disclosable pecuniary interest (DPI) or personal interest as detailed in Appendix A and Appendix B of the Town Council's Code of Conduct. The Chairman informed Members that they could make a declaration of interest at any point during the meeting. It was

RESOLVED: That it be noted that no declarations of interest were declared. 317/016

SCARBOROUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL NEW CODE OF CONDUCT

Members had previously been circulated with an email from the Yorkshire Local Council Association (YLCA) advising that after seeking legal advice from the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) summarised the main points as follows:

- NALC do not accept the view of SBC that the NALC code of conduct is not consistent with the Nolan Principles.
- That the reasons why the NALC code of conduct is written as it is are still valid.
- That the new code of conduct adopted by SBC contains obligations about personal and prejudicial interests, which were categories of interest incorporated in the prescriptive statutory model code of conduct which was repealed in 2012 and that that in itself is reason enough for parish councils not to adopt it.
- That each parish council is competent to assess themselves as to whether they prefer the SBC code of conduct over the NALC version which was drafted specifically for parish councils.

After discussion it was

RESOLVED: That the above advice from NALC be accepted and no changes be made to the Town Council's Code of Conduct at the present time. 318/016

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION

Further to Minute No 112/016 the Clerk informed members that she had completed a report on the viability of becoming a paperless council and this was circulated at the meeting for members to consider. The report highlighted the approximate amount of efficiency savings on photocopying, stationery, postage and staff time which could be made following an initial outlay of purchasing the equipment, with the main saving being made on staff time whereby other work could be accommodated. The Clerk explained to members how the system would work by using Microsoft Office 365 with documents being uploaded to cloud storage with access and permissions being set by an administrator, this software would be an ongoing annual cost to the council but by becoming a paperless council would still identify significant savings on other budget headings in future years. Members noted that training would be required to enable members to use a portable device to the best advantage at council meetings. The Clerk informed members that she had obtained some initial costings for electronic devices and software but required more clarification from members on the type of devices they thought to be preferable. The Clerk informed members that prior to agendas and associated information being sent electronically to members the Council would need to pass a resolution to agree to accept this method of delivery by electronic means.

Continued overleaf

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION continued

After discussion it was

RESOLVED: That a recommendation be made to full council that the contents of the report be accepted to acknowledge that sufficient efficiency savings can be made to progress this project further for the Town Council. 319/016

RESOLVED: That if the above recommendation is accepted by full council the Clerk be requested to obtain detailed quotations for android portable devices and cases, a Microsoft Office 365 platform, training and set up. 320/016

Cllr Casey requested that the use of social media e.g. Facebook and Twitter by the Town Council be placed on the next Strategic Planning Meeting Agenda. It was

RESOLVED: That Cllr Casey's request for an item on the next Strategic Planning Agenda be noted. 321/016

FILEY TOWN PLAN 2016-2020

The Clerk informed members that she had arranged for a Borough Council Forward Planning Officer to speak with members of both the Strategic Planning Committee and the Planning Committee on Monday 9 May 2016 at 7.00pm to discuss the benefits of the Town Council producing a Neighbourhood Plan. It was

RESOLVED: That this information be noted. 322/016

The meeting closed at 10.43am.

Councillor Susan Bosomworth
Chairman
Strategic Planning Committee