



Sleaford Town Council
Finance & Strategy Panel
Notes and Report of Meeting – 14th March 2019
10am – 11.15am

Panel Members present:

Councillor Anthony Brand (Lead)
Councillor Heather Lorimer
Councillor Ken Fernandes
Councillor David Suiter

Apologies: Councillors S Shanahan-Kluth, G Jackson and M Graves

Non-panel members present: Councillors Bozena Allen, Paul MCallum and John Charlesworth.

Meeting supported by the Deputy Clerk and Administration Officer.

1. Welcome by Lead

The Panel Lead welcomed all to the meeting and accepted apologies for absence.

2. Notes from previous meeting 7th February 2019

The Panel agreed the notes which had been presented to Council on 20th February 2019.

3. Boston Road Layby

The Deputy Clerk reported that the Clerk has contacted LCC about a stopping notice but STC have had no reply to date, therefore no action to be taken. Cllr MCallum addressed the panel outlining his previous occupational skills which could be relevant in the project.

4. Strategic Plan 2018-19

The Panel noted the report.

5. Galley Hill Haulage Way

The Panel discussed the use of the haulage way for vehicles to gain access to the cemetery.

The Panel requested for a comprehensive report to be resubmitted to F&S Panel describing :-

1. The frequency of traffic using the current track
2. The weight and size of traffic using the track
3. Annual maintenance costs of suitable surface

Action: Deputy Clerk to provide a report to be submitted to the next F&S Panel in April.

6. Review of Balances including 7year Programme revisit

To come back to next F&S Panel meeting in April.
10.45 am Cllr Lorimer left the meeting.

7. NK Parking Strategy

It was noted that current provision was in place for 1 hour free – no return but there is no monitoring of the number plates. With the new ticket machines being installed for these to include 1 hour free no return within 3 hours to ensure legitimate car parking for school users in the morning and afternoon. The new machines will be able to provide enhanced data to capture associated usage and this will be used after a 3 month period to review the operation of the car park.

Recommendation to Council:

- 1. The current set of charges are not changed**
- 2. The 1 hour free period will continue but the restriction re-entry will become 3 hours rather than the current 24 hours.**
- 3. Users will be required to enter registration plate numbers when obtaining a ticket.**

8. Website

The Panel discussed the need for a more up-to-date comprehensive website. A spec list should be drawn up and some items to be included are FAQ, a proper search engine, ability to archive, download forms, complaints and pictures of Councillors. There is also a need for staff to be able to up load to the website.

Recommendation to Council: To invite tenders for web developer providers to set up and maintain a new website with an indicative budget of approximately £10K and a maintenance cost.

9. Chair Allowance

The Panel Lead considered that further clarity was required in relation to the Chair Allowance including the separation of budget line for civic events. The Panel discussed the need for clarity and recommended the Council should instruct an Independent Remuneration Panel to investigate further.

Recommendation to Council:

- 1. The Council request (through the Clerk) an Independent Remuneration Panel to make recommendation on the additional amount payable to the Chair for duties associated with the post. This to be implemented from May 2019.**
- 2. The Council seeks advice from the Independent Remuneration Panel in regard to all allowances being updated annually in line with inflation.**
- 3. Consequent upon a Chair's Allowance being set a separate budget head "Civic Events" is established.**

10. Future Items:-

Neighbourhood Plan, Review of Balances and Cemetery Building & Drainage to be put on the plan.

11. Date for next meeting

Thursday 11th April at 10.00am

Meeting closed 11.15am