

**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE
HELD ON MONDAY 26 FEBRUARY 2018**

PRESENT: The Town Mayor, Councillor Maureen Fenton, in the Chair;
The Deputy Mayor, Councillor Pam Dowson
Councillors: Ian Brown, Kerry Fletcher, Mark French, Allan Knox,
Mary Robinson, Paul Robinson
Cathy Holmes, Town Clerk

01.18 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence, together with reasons, had been received from Councillors Stewart Fletcher and Sue Knox.

It was proposed that Item 7 be considered in Part 2

02.18 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.

There was no public participation.

03.18 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

The Deputy Town Mayor and Cllr Ian Brown declared an interest in planning application 3/2018/0093, Agenda item 6.

04.18 MINUTES.

The Minutes of the General Purposes Committee meeting held on 11 December 2017 were proposed and seconded as a correct record and duly signed by the Chairman.

05.18 MAYORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Details of official duties undertaken by the Town Mayor and Deputy Town Mayor since the last Town Council meeting were submitted for information.

06.18 PLANNING APPLICATIONS.

Consideration was given to planning applications received for weeks ended 26 January 2018, 02 February, 09 February, 16 February and 23 February 2018.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That no objections be raised to the following applications :-
3/2017/1120; 3/2018/0011; 0033 & 0034; 0039; 0051; 0057; 0077; 0117; 0126 and 0131.
- (2) That an objection be raised to application 3/2018/0093 on the grounds that the size and particularly the height of the proposed extension are inappropriately excessive for the location and there appears to be inadequate parking facilities for the residential accommodation proposed.

07.18 PARISH LENGTHSMAN'S REPORTS

The Parish Lengthsman's General Report, Play Areas Report and Allotments' Report for January 2018 were considered.

The Town Clerk confirmed that the Allotments Manager produced his Allotment Report in a standard format and any allotments in a poor condition or on a trial period would be listed but that none of the four sites had any allotments currently in those categories.

08.18 REQUESTS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

(i) Ribble Valley Choir

The Town Clerk submitted a request for financial assistance from the Ribble Valley Choir towards the costs of the Joy to the World Christmas event to be held in December 2018.

RESOLVED: That the Town Council contribute £100.00 towards the cost of the project.

(ii) Ribble Valley Jazz & Blues Festival

The Town Clerk submitted a request for financial assistance from Ribble Valley Jazz & Blues towards the costs of the organisation's 2018 events and activities.

RESOLVED: That the Town Council contribute £500.00 towards the costs of this project.

It was suggested that the Town Council make it clear to applicants that grants and donations would not necessarily be made on an annual basis, even if historically this had been the case. The application form could also be revised to show when a grant was last received from the Town Council, to avoid more than one donation being made within a certain timeframe.

09.18 ACCOUNTS PAID JANUARY 2018

The Town Clerk submitted details of the accounts paid to date in January 2018 for approval.

RESOLVED:

THAT the accounts paid in January 2018 be approved.

PART 2 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED that by virtue of the next item being exempt information under paragraph 3 of section 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be now excluded from the meeting.

10.18 RENEWAL OF THE PARISH LENGTHSMAN'S CONTRACT

It was explained that a decision regarding renewal of the parish lengthman's contract as of 01 April 2018 was required as he was appointed on an annual basis. It was noted that sufficient monies were in the budget to support the renewal of the contract for 2018/19. The Clerk advised that a claim for the maximum grant under RVBC's concurrent functions scheme had been made for 2016/17 and the maximum amount would continue to be claimed for subsequent years if the scheme continued to operate on the existing basis.

RESOLVED:

THAT the Parish Lengthsman's contract be renewed for another year with effect from 01 April 2018.

The meeting finished at 7.55pm

Signed

Chairman