

**Minutes of a meeting of the
FINANCE COMMITTEE
held on
Monday, 1st November 2010 in the Committee Room
Freight House, Bradley Way, Rochford**

Councillors Present: Vic Leach in the Chair, Mrs E Chippette, Mrs M Dorrell, Mrs H Glynn, R Mitchell, R Patient, D Weir and Mrs M Weir.

Also Present: Cllr Mrs C Cunningham.

In the absence of the Chairman due to illness Cllr Patient proposed that Cllr Leach Chair the meeting, this was seconded by Cllr Mrs Chippette and the motion was carried.

- 35. To receive apologies for non-attendance at meeting:**
Cllr J Dickson (unwell). Members noted and accepted the apology tendered.
- 36. Declarations of Interest:**
There were no declarations of interest.
- 37. To approve the Minutes of the Meeting of 18th October 2010 and to approve the destruction of the manuscript notes in respect of that meeting:**
Members approved that the Minutes of the meeting held on of 18th October 2010 be accepted as a true record and agreed to the destruction of the manuscript notes in respect of that meeting.
- 38. Action Update List:**
No items at present.
- 39. Financial Report:**
The Chairman advised the budgets were looking quite serious and Council needed to take a great deal of care what it spent and how it would be spent; he was aware that the Clerk was conscious of the constraints upon him. There were no questions and Members accepted the Financial Report.
- 40. Interim Internal Audit Report:**
Cllr Mrs Chippette suggested the report was satisfactory and she proposed the report be accepted. Cllr Leach seconded and Members accepted the Interim Internal Audit Report.
- 41. Draft operational plan – adjourned from last meeting:**
The Chairman went through the Operational Plan and Members were content with it as it was set out. The Chairman advised there were no references to Standing Orders as it had previously been proposed and agreed to form an adhoc policy committee between now and the AGM. Members accepted the Operational Plan.
- 42. Consider budget for recommendation to Full Council:**
The Chairman went through the budget and informed the only change was £3K added to General Purposes Projects for a proposed Summer Fayre making the budget £24,525. **Cllr Mrs Glynn proposed the recommendation to Finance of an increase of 3% in precept which would give a Band D annual charge**

of **£29.34**. Members discussed the increase very seriously but felt it was justified. They were asked to vote for the proposal put forward and the motion was carried unanimously.

43. Subscription Renewal: International Tree Foundation (£25):

The subscription budget was queried and Cllr Leach advised there were no funds in the budget. Members discussed the necessity of the renewal and after consideration they agreed to renew the subscription to the International Tree Foundation.

44. Summary of decisions:

- Interim Internal Audit Report accepted.
- Members accepted the Operational Plan.
- Approved proposal to recommend to finance a 3% increase in precept.
- Subscription renewal to International Tree Foundation £25 approved.

The meeting closed at 9.10pm.

Chairman