

# BRIDGWATER TOWN COUNCIL

## FINANCE COMMITTEE

JOHN TURNER ROOM TOWN HALL BRIDGWATER - 11 July 2018 at 11.00am

**PRESENT:** Cllrs Glassford, Granter, Heywood, Johnstone, Lerry, Moore, Pearce & Smedley

**APOLOGIES:** none

### Decisions and recommendations:

01. **Election of Chair:** Cllr Smedley elected
02. **ARTS CENTRE – Presentation by Chief Executive & Artistic Director Adam Clarke accompanied by Beccy Armory:** The plans for the immediate future were outlined identifying the key issues for the development of the Arts Centre in all forms as an essential part of the community given it's long history as the first Arts Centre in the country and the wide range of provision already available and enjoyed. Plans were aimed at increasing as a business and broadening the appeal rather than any elitist impression. To this end a series of audits would be conducted leading to a re-evaluation of the current business plan(s) and information systems and increasing ambitions locally and regionally. This would continue to work with other cultural partners in the town and district and explore funding opportunities at every step. Support from the BTC was critical although longer term the aim was to expand the business model income streams. Both were thanked for the breadth of coverage in the information provided.
03. **MINUTES of 14 March 2018 : APPROVED** – Arising (Min 40) Policy Review of Annual Grants deferred to item 06 below to be picked up as part of Grants Report.
04. **TOWN COUNCIL MEETING of 14 June 2018 - MATTERS REFERRED -**
  1. (Min. 05/18) report of the Tourism Forum 20 June 2018 and Town Guide Working Party 09 July 2018 – **Resolved** for reference to Council: 1. That the current arrangements previously with Somerset Live for production of a Town Guide be terminated; 2. that in future the Council look to 2 productions – a specifically tourism focussed promotional brochure commencing immediately with an in-house production as recommended and costed in the report presented and in due course a separate Town Directory booklet; 3. that the previous company be requested to confirm whether additional copies of the current 2017/18 publication can be obtained.
  2. (Min. 08/18 iv) Community Toilet Scheme – As report submitted by Leader & Deputy Leader – **Resolved:** After full discussion of all issues including opening times, footfall, recognition requirements and agreement by exchange of letter to implement scheme at 4 locations confirmed paying £500.00 per site on a trial basis to be reviewed after 1 year of operation.
  3. (Min. 12/18 I) EDF/HPC Community Impact Mitigation Fund bids – update including report on the Bridgwater Library/Blake Gardens revised proposed submission and Town Centre approved scheme – **Resolved:** That a decision whether to offer financial support to both elements of the scheme as detailed (circa £40k) be referred to the Chairman (Leader), Deputy Leader & Town Clerk pending review and further information on content and total costings and cost benefit. *(Vote: Cllrs Glassford, Granter, Johnstone & Moore voted against and requested that this be recorded).*  
**See Leader's Report date 12 July 2018 attached as an appendix confirming decision subsequently taken to approve contributions.**
05. **PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS AND RECEIPTS:**  
**Resolved:** That the payments including Section 137 payments made during June 2018 (month 3) itemising all cheques and DDRs, be approved and confirmed, and income received during the period together with the cost centre reports and bank reconciliation and investments be noted.

- 06. FUNDING, GRANTS AND SPONSORSHIP: RESOLVED:** That the existing process for the consideration and determination of annual grants to listed organisations be reaffirmed, and all continue to be dealt with on an individual basis subject to information provided in each grant application and all items decided as below -

**GENERAL GRANTS:** (normally up to 50% to maximum of £2,500)

2016/17/18: St Mary's Church Bell augmentation £2500.00 – reconfirmed.

2018/19:

ACTs – Barnum production costs - £2500.00

B/w Flower Show – 2018 Event support - £600.00

Tuga productions – Portugal Day - £2000.00

B/w Dementia Alliance – Community Hub preparation works - £2500.00

Life Education Wessex & Thames Valley – St J & St F School 4 day visit - £500.00

Arts Centre – From Twinning Forum co-production and delivery with Homberg

Kulturring of visual arts exhibition internal and external - £1045.00 – confirmed

BCP – Quayside Festival input - £7000.00

CAB – Core funding - £2500.00 – approved

Arts Centre – Core funding - £15000.00 – approved (*Vote: Cllrs Glassford and Moore voted against and requested that this be recorded*)

Victoria Park CC – Core and Project funding - £13000.00 & £5000.00 - approved

BATA – Core funding and fencing (Kidsbury) - £3800.00 – approved

Stand Against Violence – Delivery of workshops - £2000.00 – approved

Engine Room - Bridgwater Together - £1000.00 – approved

Mendip Community Transport – grant form issued

Musgrove Park Hospital MRI Scanner appeal – subject to checking £500.00 available

St Mary's Church Re-ordering - declined

**WARD GRANTS:**

(£1,000 (£7,000 in total) available each year through life term of Council (4 years)

(Fairfax Wards and Dunwear Wards each treated as one for purposes of Ward Grant funding): Details provided confirming monies available as at 01 July 2018 including payment via Fuse for School based workshops in preparation for Quayside Festival.

**YOUTH GRANTS:**

List circulated of 17 grants awarded. 3 applications received for September tranche

**SPONSORSHIP 2018/19:**

BCC – v Taunton St Andrews (Saturday 25 August 2018)

BT(1984)FC – Match to be confirmed

B & A RFC – Match to be confirmed (in accordance with new BTC policy of support each year to main clubs)

BGFCC – Pre-Carnival Fireworks - £5200.00 (specific budget allocation)

**REFERENCES FROM BTC** – Dog Bin requests – referred to SDC having regard to locations with dual use of waste bins now permitted.

- 07. STAFFING SUB-COMMITTEE – Town Clerk & RFO post (Report circulated):**  
**Resolved:** That the report and recommendation be endorsed and referred to Council.

- 08. AUDIT of ACCOUNTS 2017/18 & Internal Audit Report:**  
**Resolved:** That the completion of Audit requirements, including Governance statement and the Internal Audit Report and submission to the External Auditors as approved by Council be noted.

- 09. TOWN CLERK & RFO – Extra hours and Remuneration:**  
**Resolved:** That the confidential report from the Chairman in relation to Town Clerk be approved and honorarium granted in accordance with adopted practice as report.

- 10. NEXT MEETING:** 12 September 2018 (11am)

(Declarations of interest – Cllr Lerry (Personal) Min. 06. Victoria Park CC and Cllr Pearce (Personal) Min. 06. BATA)

