

Minutes of Finance and Policy Committee Meeting.
Monday October 10th 2011
The Haskell, Centre. Midhurst Road, Liphook

1. Announcements.

Hearing Loop; fire exits; voice recorder on for minutes; mobile phones.

2. Apologies for absence

Cllr Jerrard.

3. Declaration of Interest.

This was read out. None were declared.

4. Minutes of 12th September Meeting.

Amend the sheet to say that Cllr Robinson and Mouland attended both the open and the exempt session.

Proposed by Cllr Hoskins

Seconded by Cllr Poole

Voted. All except Cllr Croucher who abstained as he was absent.

5. Matters Arising

None.

6. Public participation. Items not on the Agenda

Mr Fitcher: Running of the office. How are you looking after the office and financial matters such as paying wages and signing cheques.

Cllr Croucher: We are paying our bills and have changed the bank mandate to allow this. As far as running the office, a rota has been set up and Councillors are giving up their time voluntarily. Some giving whole days at a time such as Cllr Hoskins, but all of us are pulling together in this regard to support Gina Spencer.

We have had many members of the public coming in to congratulate us on keeping the office open.

We are getting a lot of people coming to ask for timetables and information relating to the village shuttle bus. We have no concrete information on this from Hampshire County Council so we are not in a good position to respond without using guesswork.

Mr Young: I have made enquiries today and have just found out that the 230 bus will continue with a new operator from Monday to Friday running between 9:30 - 12:30. I have tried to get a timetable but cannot.

Cllr Croucher: We are in constant communication with HCC. We have been told that the bus stops should display and amended timetable - but we don't know if that has happened. We have been promised timetables but don't have them as yet.

It is understood that the routes 13 and 18 are going to merge, but we don't have any more information on it.

Cllr Hope: As Chairperson of the Council, I would like to give a big vote of thanks to all the councillors who have been giving their time endlessly. This often amounts to a longer day than this Parish Office has ever been open before. We have had Councillors going home at seven o'clock who have been in since nine in the morning. They have given their time without complaint and done it for the community. I would like to pass on my thanks for their real and considerable effort. Thank you on behalf of Liphook.

Mr Young: Can we agree that the lunch club is a core client

Cllr Croucher: We can't decide if it is not on the Agenda. We will get on next month and make the decision on it.

Mr Hall: the day centre [year miss] has this typo been sorted out.

Cllr Hoskins: I don't think it has been amended yet, but we will look into it.

Cllr Croucher: You will receive a letter asking for financial information I expect.

7. Working Party Report.

Nothing to update us as of yet the situation is on going.

8. Staff Matters:

Motion: Help to P Lucas..... Read out and

Cllr Hope: Mrs Lucas will lead on the investigation herself and carry out interviews with staff and councillors. She has a colleague who will also interview people. that will happen from the 17th October onwards. We need to get going as soon as possible and interview independently.

Cllr Hoskins: If we interview ourselves it could cause question marks to sit over the investigation. It is better to bear the cost and have things done properly than run the risk of being pulled up for it afterwards. This is what we have an HR provision for.

Cllr Croucher: Cllr Robinson has sent letters out to Councillors and staff asking them to attend interviews.

proposed by Cllr Croucher

Seconded by Cllr Hope.

Vote: unanimous - passed.

Cllr Hope: We have arranged to employ a Locum Clerk to cover the current Clerk's period of absence. She is Mrs Lisa O'Sullivan, who is currently part time Deputy Clerk with Haslemere Town Council. She will be with us on Tuesdays and Thursdays and will also come in for two evening's a month so the F&P meetings and the Full Council meetings can be clerked. She is very experienced. We did not want an inexperienced person as there is so much here to sort out - we need a qualified person to bring us up to standard around here. She is a very nice and pleasant person so we are all looking forward to working with Lisa and she will be with us until Christmas when we have to give her back!

9. Exclusion or Public and Press.

There are no press present. A query was raised as to how the articles are getting into the press if the press reporter is not in attendance. This has happened at least twice now.

The notice was read out.

Proposed: Cllr Croucher

Seconded: Cllr Poole

Vote: All except Cllr Hoskins: