

**WIRKSWORTH TOWN COUNCIL – TOWN AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
MONDAY 11 JANUARY 2010**

TF093/09 Present: Cllr A Clamp (Chairman), Cllrs D Haspel, A Pollock, I Ratcliffe, M Ratcliffe, C Whittall. In attendance – Cllrs F Bark, S Maskrey, Mrs J Walls (Town Clerk).

TF094/09 Apologies: K Frith.

TF095/09 Members' Interests in Agenda Items:

None declared.

TF096/09 Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting of the Town and Finance Committee dated 14 December 2009 were confirmed as a correct record.

TF097/09 Monthly Balance Sheet & Bank Reconciliation:

The monthly balance sheet and bank reconciliation was circulated for information.

RECOMM: That this be noted.

TF098/09 Monthly Budget Balance:

The monthly budget balance was circulated for information.

RECOMM: That this be noted.

TF099/09 Planning & Environment Recommendations to Full Council:

None reported.

TF100/09 Request for Funding:

A letter had been received from Wirksworth Festival, seeking £800 funding, which the Town Council have included in the budget for this year. A copy of the most recent accounts had also been received.

RECOMM: That the Town Council makes a donation of £800 to the Wirksworth Festival.

TF101/09 Town Hall/Memorial Hall Improvements – Update:

It was reported that 4 quotations had now been received for the new staging, lighting bars, and curtaining/blackout. Two of the contractors were to be invited to meet with the sub group members as soon as possible, to discuss requirements in more depth. In the meantime, a quotation was being sought for the removal of the existing stage. Cllr Clamp reminded members that there was a deadline for completion of the work in order to meet grant conditions.

RECOMM: That the report be noted.

TF102/09 Grit Bin Budget:

A request had been received for the Town Council to place further grit bins on The Dale and Greenhill. Cllrs had also been approached with regard to the possibility of provision on Malthouse Close.

It was pointed out that since the budget for the current financial year had been set, a further 5 grit bins had been purchased, which required maintenance. However, it appeared that grit was being taken in large quantities from some bins, for use at other locations, resulting in the need for more fills. Bins had therefore been maintained at 30% full, to reduce unauthorised loss where possible, but attention was drawn to the fact that 5 pallets of grit had already been used, only a few bags of grit remained, and the budget was overspent by £340.

A discussion took place on this situation, and it was pointed out that the weather had been particularly severe so far this winter, and the problem was compounded by the fact that DCC had not been filling their gritbins as they were prioritising the highways. Therefore the only grit available was from the Town Council's gritbins.

It was agreed that there must be a limit to the amount of expenditure the Town Council can incur on filling their gritbins but that a further grit purchase should be made, subject to availability, with delegated powers given to the Chair, Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Clerk with regard to further purchases of grit.

RECOMM:

- a) That a further pallet of grit be purchased, with delegated powers for further purchases being granted to the Chair, Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Clerk;
- b) That the contractor be asked to keep a log of distribution of grit, to see which bins are used most frequently.

The meeting closed at 7.30 p.m

.....Chairman