

Swanley Town Council
Civic Centre, St Marys Road, Swanley, Kent, BR8 7BU
Tel: 01322 611663
www.swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk

FINANCE AND AUDIT

MINUTES
Wednesday 22nd February 2017

Present: Chairman Cllr Southern, Cllr Ball, Cllr Morris, Cllr J Barnes, Cllr Dyball, Cllr Komolafe, Cllr Searles,

Also Present: Cllr Hogg, Cllr Horwood, Cllr Scott, Cllr Willingale

Officers: CEO Steve Nash, Civic Manager Toni Roast, Estates Manager Dan Sutton

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

All Present

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None Received

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

To approve as correct the Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 8th February 2017

AGREED

4. FINANCE UPDATE

The Chairman was pleased to note that the council are now receiving detailed financial information on all aspects of the councils operation, including debtors and creditors and financial projections.

Cllr Scott expressed concerns over how the accounts had previously been handled and wondered if there was a need to investigate further. Cllr Southern stated there would be a huge cost in investigating further and as things were now on track it might be a wasted expense. The CEO backed this by explaining that current priorities are to identify Debtors and reduce costs. Cllr Hogg also raised concerns about financial reporting but was pleased to see things were now more transparent.

RESOLVED: To accept reports A/B

5. COST REDUCTION

The Chairman again said how pleased he was to see that contracts were being looked into and was astounded by how much the council had been paying for these services up to this point. The CEO pointed out that the council will save over £25,000 this year just by switching contracts as indicated in Report C

RESOLVED: That the CEO take up the new contracts under his delegated powers.

6. SWITCHING ENERGY PROVIDERS

The CEO outlined the plan to seek a more economical provider and further reduce costs to the town council. Cllr Morris asked if the energy tariff would still be paid to us if we switched provider. The CEO advised that this would not be known until the provider had been identified but explained that the system had been disconnected from our building so that we receive no direct reduction on costs at present.

The Chairman supported the idea of reducing costs by seeking best value and commended this to councillors.

RESOLVED: That the CEO arrange to switch energy providers under his delegated powers

The Chairman expressed his thanks to the CEO for the savings made so far and hoped that this would continue

7. Date of next meeting

22nd March 2017

MEETING CLOSED AT 20:20 hrs

If you would like further information on any of the agenda items, please contact Mr Steve Nash, on 01322 611663 or snash@swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk

Committee Members:

(Chair) Cllr Southern, (Vice Chair) Cllr Morris, Cllr Ball, Cllr Dyball, Cllr J Barnes, Cllr Searles, Cllr Komolafe