

**MINUTES AND REPORT OF THE POLICY & MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
HELD ON 5 SEPTEMBER 2013**

* Councillor Wheatley – Chairman
* Councillor Poulter – Vice Chairman

* Councillor P Martin	* Councillor R Gordon-Smith
* Councillor Thomson	0 Councillor Cosser
* Councillor C Gordon-Smith	* Councillor Lister
* Councillor Reynolds	* Councillor Wilson
* Councillor Woodham	* Councillor A Bott
* Councillor S Bott	* Councillor Hunter
* Councillor Noyce	* Councillor Robinson
* Councillor Thornton	0 Councillor Welland
* Councillor Williams	

* Present # Absent & no apology received 0 Apology L Late

150. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 25 July 2013, having been previously circulated, were signed by the Chairman as a true record.

151. PETITIONS/STATEMENTS/QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

In accordance with Standing Order 4 Mr Robert Park of Wood Street and Mr John Petty of Nightingale Road had asked to make statements regarding Agenda Item 9 – Future of Town Twinning. The Chairman elected to hear those statements at the relevant agenda item and moved that item up the agenda.

152. DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Councillor Wheatley declared a non-pecuniary interest in Agenda Item 9 as the Town Council's representative on the Mayen Association and remained in the Chamber and in the Chair when that agenda item was debated.

Councillor P Martin declared a non-pecuniary interest in Agenda Item 9 as the Chairman of the Friends of Oglethorpe and remained in the Chamber when that agenda item was debated.

Councillor Woodham declared a non-pecuniary interest in Agenda Item 9 as the Town Council's representative on the Joigny Association and remained in the Chamber when that agenda item was debated.

153. COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME

Members considered the draft work programme, heard updates where appropriate and agreed to delete certain items. An amended work programme is attached to the record minutes.

154. ACCOUNTS PAID SINCE LAST MEETING & SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

	£
Godalming Town Council	
Accounts paid since the 13 July 2013	61,345.01
Balance held in Current Account	
Balance at 31 August 2013	19,341.79

Balance held in the Business Deposit Account
Balance at 31 August 2013

377,064.86

A schedule of the accounts paid was tabled for the information of Members. The vouchers relating to these payments were also tabled at the meeting for inspection. All payments made were in line with the agreed budget or other resolution of this Committee or Full Council.

Members agreed that the Chairman should sign the schedule of accounts paid.

155. DETAILED REVIEW OF FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

Members considered and agreed a revised draft set of Financial Regulations; the Regulations were recommended to Full Council for adoption.

156. FIFTY WAYS TO SAVE

Members noted Officers' written response to the working group's earlier report on the Fifty Ways to Save document (Minute 127-13 refers).

157. FUTURE OF TOWN TWINNING

Members heard statements (in accordance with Standing Order 4) from Mr Robert Park representing the Godalming/Mayen Association and Mr John Petty representing the Godalming Joigny Association and then proceeded to consider a report from the Town Clerk.

After debate Members resolved to retain the status quo in respect of the Town's twinning arrangements.

Members further resolved to create an earmarked reserve and that in subsequent years any underspend against the twinning budget should be credited to that reserve.

158. TOWN CLERK'S EXERCISE OF DELEGATED AUTHORITY

Members noted that following the vandalism of the flagpole in the Phillips Memorial Park on the night of 31 July 2013 the flagpole was removed for reasons of public safety and in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee and with the Mayor the Town Clerk exercised her delegated authority to place an order for a replacement flagpole at a cost of £860 (the cost to be met from within the budget for noticeboards and flagpoles). This action was taken on grounds of urgency to ensure that a flagpole would be installed before Remembrance Sunday 2013.

159. TOWN COUNCIL REPRESENTATION ON EXTERNAL BODIES – REPORT ON ST MARKS COMMUNITY INITIATIVE GROUP

Members received an oral report from Councillor Thomson on the St Marks Community Initiative Group and noted that the group is currently in abeyance and that Councillor Thomson will report further when the group is active again.

160. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Policy & Management Committee is scheduled to be held on Thursday, 17 October 2013 at 7.15 pm in the Council Chamber or at the conclusion of the Planning & Environment Committee, whichever is the later.

161. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

THE COMMITTEE RESOLVED TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC AND PRESS FROM THE MEETING AT THIS POINT PRIOR TO CONSIDERATION OF THE FOLLOWING ITEM BY REASON OF THE CONFIDENTIAL NATURE OF THE BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED IE. COMMERCIALY SENSITIVE MATTERS.

162. THE WILFRID NOYCE CENTRE

Members heard from Mr Andrew Jones of BPS Surveyors and considered a report from Officers.

Members agreed that:

- they wish to continue to provide a community centre provision in the town centre and wish to see that service improved;
- the Town Clerk was authorised to engage with WBC to explore the issues covered by para 17.2 of the report;
- a working group should be formed consisting of Councillors T Martin, Reynolds, S Bott, Hunter, Robinson, Thornton and Mr Jeffery. The group should develop options and report its findings to P&M Committee;
- Officers should liaise with SALC to arrange for the working group (and any other interested Member) to view sites of recently developed community centres and halls;
- the working group should identify the primary user market for the WNCC & the priority order of potential facilities as at 15.1.5 to produce a minimum and preferred Customer Requirement Statement;
- in principle the feasibility costs should be met from the New Initiatives Fund.

Detailed issues relating to budgetary implications and costs were deferred pending the deliberations of the working group.