

**Minutes of the meeting of the  
FINANCE COMMITTEE held on  
Monday, 14<sup>th</sup> September 2015 at 8.30pm  
in the Committee Room, Freight House, Bradley Way, Rochford.**

**Present:** Chairman Cllr Mrs L Shaw, Cllr V Leach (ex-officio) Vice Chairman Cllr K Binding, Cllr R Patient, Cllr D Weir, Cllr Mrs M Weir and Cllr Mrs P Young

**19. To receive apologies for non-attendance at meeting:**

Cllr R Gardner (Holiday).

**20. Declarations of any:**

- a. **Disclosable Pecuniary Interest;**
- b. **Other Pecuniary Interest; or**
- c. **Non-Pecuniary Interest**

**on any matter on the agenda for 14<sup>th</sup> September 2015:**

None were declared.

**21. Public Forum:**

One member of the public present.

**22. To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> June 2015 and to approve the destruction of the notes in respect of that meeting:**

The Minutes of the meeting were **approved** as a correct record and Members approved the destruction of the notes in respect of that meeting.

**23. Action Update List - September 2015:**

Members **accepted** the Action Update List.

**24. Financial Report – August 2015:**

There were no questions and Members accepted the Financial Report.

**25. Council Bank Accounts:**

- a) Clerk reported that the local branch of Barclays is closing in October and from thereon, charges of £18 per month would be implemented.
- b) The Clerk explained that this may be the prudent time to consider switching banks, especially in light of the ability for Parish Councils to now use online banking. Both Unity Bank and Metro Bank seem to be the two main contenders geared up for Parish/Town Council accounts; there are different authorisation methods and cheques to be paid in can be actioned through the post office or sent by post. Feedback from other Clerks through the EALC is positive for Unity Bank and Rochford Parish Council already use Metro Bank. After discussion, with some concerns raised, it was proposed that the Clerk should proceed with the investigations. The Clerk suggested inviting a representative from both banks to talk to members about their services, which was **agreed**.

**26. Annual Subscription: Essex Playing Fields Assn - £30. Agreed.**

**27. Donation requests**

- a) **Citizens Advice Bureau.** There was discussion and it was **agreed** to donate the same figure as last year.
- b) **Hockley & Hawkwell 55+ Centre.** A donation of £3,500 was requested towards the cost of a replacement mini bus. Their letter states they are fund raising themselves and Cllr Leach proposed requesting a copy of their accounts replying that Council is considering their request positively but would have to make provision in the next financial year's budget for a donation. Members also asked that information regarding the type of vehicle, new or second hand, etc also be obtained. This action was **agreed**.

**28. Summary of Decisions:**

- Clerk to contact Unity and Metro Banks
- Pay Annual subscription of £30 to EPFA
- Donate same amount (to be checked) as last year to Citizens Advice Bureau
- Request accounts and further information from Hockley & Hawkwell 55+ Centre

The meeting was closed at 8.50pm.

Chairman

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