

Parish Council of Balsall

Approved Minutes of the Extraordinary Finance Committee Meeting held on Monday 4th July 2016 at 1.00pm at the Westlake Room, Village Hall, Station Road, Balsall Common

Present

Cllr Will Heard (Chair), Cllr Mark Tattum , Cllr Raymond Ritchie, Cllr Judy Lea, Cllr Sheila Cooper and 2 members of the public

Headings are those set out on the Agenda

1. Apologies

None

2. Declarations of Interest

None

3. CCTV – To consider quotations and select contractor for updating the CCTV system

Chair provided information of the quotations received to upgrade the CCTV system. These had been circulated to all members prior to the meeting. The system upgrade is required to update the cameras and to overcome the problem caused by the new Tesco building blocking signals.

The quotation costs for upgrading the CCTV are as follows:-

Quote 1 - £21,700 plus VAT

Quote 2 - £21,529.93 plus VAT

Quote 3 - £15,556 plus VAT

Quote 3 also provided an additional costing for managing and monitoring the system at an annual cost of £3,080.00 plus VAT.

RESOLVED – That there is a recommendation to Full Council to proceed with Quotation number 3 for the upgrade of the CCTV being TIS and to also include monitoring costs per annum

RESOLVED – That the funds used are to be taken from the Earmarked reserves with any balance being utilised towards the continuing annual monitoring costs

RESLOVED – That there is a recommendation to Full Council to approach Berkswell PC to contribute towards the capital cost of the upgrade in the sum of £5,000 together with a further contribution towards annual monitoring costs

4. Office Premises – To conduct a review of the office options and to make a recommendation to Full Council

Chair invited members of the public to address the Committee.

Mr Cedric Lea who manages the Volunteers at the Police shop advised that there is a possible closure of the Police shop. If at all possible, he would urge the parish Council to retain the Police shop. An amount of extra funding has been granted to the Police. The local Police have informed that they would like to stay. There is a likelihood that the Police station at Homer Road would close and with the closure of this office, there would be no Police presence in the South of the Borough.

Mr Cedric Lea confirmed that he has written to the Police and Crime Commissioner and would like this Parish Council to back the idea of the Police remaining in Balsall Common.

Clarification was sought as to the cost. It was confirmed that the Parish Council currently contributes £9,000 towards the Police shop.

It was agreed that it was in everyone's interest to keep the Police shop open.

Cllr Judy Lea advised that she has approached the Chair to Berkswell PC who is supportive of keeping the Police and possibly providing financial support.

Chair agreed that this was an option that would be considered when looking at Options for Parish premises.

It was proposed that a meeting is held with the Police to understand the rural policing requirements in the area and to find a way of maintaining the status quo regarding the current premises

ACTION – Clerk to contact Police to arrange a meeting to understand the rural policing requirements in the area and to find a way of maintaining the status quo regarding the current premises.

Mr Cedric Lea to be present at the meeting.

Chair outlined other options for the office premises.

Option A – Library conservatory option – details of costs and proposal have been circulated to members. This entails the conversion of the conservatory at a cost of approximately £20,000 plus an annual cost of £5,800 to include running costs

Option B – Westwood Option – This is the old sweet shop behind the Hairdressing salon. Cllr Mark Tattum proposed this option. The costs are £7,200 per annum to include maintenance and heating and lighting

Option C – Library front vestibule – Chair proposed this option to move the entrance of the library to the back of the building and transfer the entrance to an office. The cost of this option is not known

Option D – Remain at the Police shop

The matter was open for discussion.

Each of the options was considered. A number of questions arose and it became apparent that further information was needed to enable the matter to be considered.

ACTION – Cllr Judy Lea to produce costings for the Police shop

ACTION – To produce a report setting out the costs and benefits of each proposal to allow the matter to be considered further

5. Date for next meeting – The date for the next Finance meeting is Wednesday 21st September 2016 at 6.00pm the Westlake Room, Village Hall, Station Road

There being no further business the Chair thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 14.33pm

Signed..... Dated.....

Cllr Will Heard

Chair

Balsall Parish Council Finance Committee