



# Oundle Town Council

The Courthouse - Mill Road - Oundle – Peterborough - PE8 4BW

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## Minutes of the meeting of the Town Council Operations Management Committee held on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2015 at 7.30pm in The Oundle Suite, Fletton House, Oundle.

**Present:** Cllrs Chapple, Chesser, Fitzgerald, King, N Oakes and Stagg.

**Minutes:** Debra Harper

### OM15.24. Apologies for Absence

15.24.01. To receive apologies for absence.

None.

15.24.02. To accept apologies for absence.

Not applicable.

### OM15.25. Declarations of Interests

The following declarations of interest from Members and Officers under Section 50 of the Local Government Act 2000 (*Standing Order 35*) were received:

OM15.25.01. To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests.

None.

OM15.25.02. To declare any Other Interests.

None.

### OM15.26. Minutes of the Previous Meetings – Operations Management Committee

PROPOSITION: *‘That the minutes of the meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> October 2015 are approved as an accurate record’.*

**Proposed:** Cllr N Oakes

**Seconded:** Cllr Chesser

**Resolved Unanimously**

### OM15.27. Review of Actions of the Previous Meetings

None.

### OM15.28. Representations from Interested Parties

None.

### OM15.29. Consideration of Requests from Interested Parties

None.

**OM15.30. Operational Matters**

To receive a verbal update on the Organisational Development proposals.

Cllr King provided an update on the work being carried out on the Council's organisational structure, form and function and advised that two independent external reviews had been carried out and that the content of these reports will be contained within the paper for Full Council. He apologised that a report was not available for the Operations Management Committee but advised that one of the independent reviews only took place earlier in the day.

**OM15.31. Financial Matters**

To consider the first draft 2016/17 budget proposals.

Following a budget review the following principles were agreed:

- The Hub is to be cost neutral;
- The Council's reserves for 3 month expenditure must be increased to allow for the increased monthly expenditure;
- A Public Works Loan Board is to be considered to bridge the works required to The Courthouse;
- Work is carried out to progress the potential of new facilities for the Council's Maintenance team and associated other facilities that this would necessitate, using a Public Works Loan Board as a mechanism to enable this.
- The grant budget is reviewed to consider the amount available as being 4% of the Council's expenditure.

It was then agreed that scenario planning for budget proposals would be prepared to cover the items below:

- Organisational Changes;
- Solar Panels;
- Improvements to parking around Fletton House;
- Marketing of Oundle;
- Grants;
- Building development work financed via the Public Works Loan Board.

The Clerk also advised that an approach should be made to the administrators of Fairline Boats Ltd to discuss the possible availability of land as this would be an invaluable asset. Members agreed that this should be progressed.

**OM15.32. Correspondence for Action**

None.

**OM15.33. Correspondence for Information**

None.

**OM15.34. Any Other Relevant Matters for Report**

Cllr Chapple expressed concern that the Planning Committee have a quorate of 3 could make it possible that 2 Councillors can make a decision regarding a large scale planning application that 12 members may not agree with and asked that this be considered in the forthcoming review to be presented to Full Council.

A discussion followed regarding the issue of non-attendance at Committee and

Working Party meetings with unanimous agreement that this needs to be addressed. It was also suggested that the Heads of Committees and Working Parties should be elected for a longer term in order to help with consistency and progress. Cllr N Oakes advised that there were ongoing concerns regarding the hedge at Lamorna House.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.02pm.

Signed:.....

Dated:.....

DRAFT