

SEDGEFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

SPECIAL MEETING

Minutes of the proceedings of the **APRIL SPECIAL MEETING to consider the 2014/15 Financial Information** of the **Council** held following the Special Meeting to consider the Draft Sedgefield Plan in the **Council Offices**, Advice & Information Centre, Sedgefield, on **Thursday 30th April 2015**.

Present **Cllr. Chris Lines (Chairman) and**
Cllrs. Allan Blakemore, David Brown, Mark Cant, Mel Carr, Lynne Dentith, Tim Jeanes, Alf Walton, Dudley Waters and Gloria Wills

Officer Dr. Jane Ayre (Town Clerk)

1. Apologies

Cllrs. Vanessa Carmichael, Rebecca Hagan, John Robinson, Maxine Robinson

2. Declaration of interest

None

3. To approve the accounts for 2014/15 including: -

The Clerk circulated to all Cllrs a copy of the DRAFT 2014/15 Annual Accounts.

a. Financial Summary

Pages 2-5 of the Annual Accounts detailed a financial summary of 2014/15 with pages 11-12 detailing the Council's Fixed Assets Schedule.

b. Income / Expenditure Account

Page 8 of the Annual Accounts detailed in the Income / Expenditure with pages 9 – 10 detailing further the opening and closing balances in relation to debtors and creditors.

c. Balance Sheet

Page 6 of the Annual Accounts presented the Town Council's Balance Sheet.

d. Statement of Accounts

Page 7 of the Annual Accounts detailed a statement of the Town Council's various accounts.

e. Annual Governance Statement

The Clerk circulated to all Cllrs a "2014/15 Annual Governance Statement Report" which explained to Cllrs the requirement for Sedgefield Town Council to produce an Annual Governance Statement declaring the degree to which it meets the governance framework and Section 2 of the Annual Return. Appendix A of this Report considered and detailed how the Town Council comply with each of the 8

statements of assurance. In addition, the Clerk also circulated to all Cllrs for their information a summary of the 2014/15 review of internal controls as undertaken by the Council's recently appointed Internal Auditor, Mr Gordon Fletcher. As a result of this a detailed Internal Auditor's Findings Report will soon be received and will be duly presented and considered by the Council's P&R Committee.

Cllr Mark Cant suggested that the Town Council should review the current rates of interest which are being obtained from its investments. Cllrs felt this was something which should be investigated by the Finance Working Group with an appropriate recommendation being brought back to a future P&R Committee meeting.

Cllr Gloria Wills expressed her thanks to the Town Council's Clerk and Mrs Julia Rowsby for their hard work in producing the 2014/15 Annual Accounts. These comments were endorsed by all other Cllrs present. The Clerk also wished to record her thanks to Mrs Rowsby for her considerable input into this work.

RESOLVED:

- I) To approve the 2014/15 Annual Accounts.**
- II) To approve the 2014/15 Annual Governance Statement.**
- III) The Chair and Clerk to sign Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Return.**
- IV) The Finance Working Group to investigate alternative options for securing a better rate of return on its investments with a recommendation being prepared for a future P&R Committee.**

The Chair thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 7.35pm.