

**BRIDGWATER TOWN COUNCIL**  
**FINANCE COMMITTEE**  
**CHAIRMAN'S ROOM TOWN HALL BRIDGWATER**  
**HELD ON WEDNESDAY 21 JULY 2010 AT 2.15PM**

PRESENT: Cllrs. Cresswell, Downes, Granter, Parker, Preece, Richards,  
Mrs Slocombe and Turner.

**Decisions and recommendations:**

1. **ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN:** Cllr Turner elected

2. **MINUTES of 18/02/10:** Approved

3. **MATTERS ARISING:**

i. **Min 26 – Future funding** – update inc. Xmas Lights examine contract and follow-up North Street, St Mary Street and Cornhill additions and report back; Street Cleaning – contribution equates to one cleaner in town centre

ii. **Min 31 – BGFCC Regional Centre** – not pursuing purchase of St Mary's Hall

iii. **Min 33 – Town Clerk** – extra hours – Recommend approval of report from Chairman

4. **AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS 2009/10 and OUTTURN:** End of year completed through RBS now with Internal Auditor – Refer to Chairman and Mayor for sign off to External Auditor.

5. **NEW STANDING ORDERS and REVIEW of FINANCIAL REGULATIONS:** Refer to Chairman for two/three members to assist review once new model obtained

6. **TOWN HALL – BUILDINGS and MANAGEMENT and CULTURAL PARTNERS:**

**RESOLVED:** Report approved and in principle to consider:

I. Support for Cultural Partnership with possibility of BTC taking on a lease of the Town Hall (theatre) and Charter Hall and associated areas with management control for day to day operation through a board consisting of representatives of BTC and the main user groups and to consider best organisation model ie Trust

II. Increasing the income and thereby reducing the deficit - the premises occupied on the THIS (to include the former bookshop) would have to be transferred to the Cultural Partnership to provide a 'basic' annual income

III. Sourcing the remaining deficit via SDC and/or BTC

IV. Seeking out grant aid to meet part/all the annual deficit and

V. to authorise the Town Clerk to continue discussions with Partners and SDC

7. **MUSEUM** – Progress noted as per Report of Museum Sub-Committee

8. **CEMETERIES** - Update on operation of SLAG; commendation of work of Val Colwill and Cemetery staff with condition of Cemetery at Quantock Road including programme of levelling etc to be followed up at meeting; Also Bristol Road to take up to consider works / improvements as identified - seats / planting

9. **GRANTS 2010/11:**

Old Mill (from BHRP budget) - £3k approved for works to interior and £1.5k for rendering

Town Council Meeting Room (from BHRP budget) – up to £1k for carpet / floor boards approved in lieu of light fitting

Land adjoining 13 Friarn Avenue - £3890 + VAT approved for fencing of community garden

Friends of Wembdon Road Cemetery (Mayor accepted Presidency) - £250 start-up approved (to be matched by Cllr David Preece)  
Sydenham Community Centre – facility funding of £20k approved (without prejudice to future funding)  
BGFCC – rental grant of £1192.90 for year 5 of 5 approved with £290 to be paid for BATA (rental to be reviewed in year)  
Bridgwater Flower Show – £500 approved  
Home-Start Bridgwater - £2500 approved  
Hamp Action Group – not approved  
ACTS - £2500 approved  
Unitarian Chapel – kitchen improvements - £1000 approved  
Bridgwater Sea Cadet Unit (and Royal Marine Cadet Detachment) – further information to be obtained  
The Italian Experience – further information to be obtained (BTC area)  
World Scout Jamboree 2011 - further information to be obtained (BTC area)  
Twinning Organisations – administration funding - 4 x £300 approved  
Empty shop initiative (Eastover) (from Town Centre budget) – up to £2000 approved subject to cost and matched funding

**10. WARD GRANTS 2010/11:**

Hamp Ward – Hamp Action Group – fun day support - £500 approved  
Sydenham Ward – Sports centre fund raising - £500 approved  
Bower Ward – to check previous contribution to bench and bin – location

Reminder to all members – Ward budgets cease as at end of financial year 2010/11

**11. RLT 2 accumulated funding** – schedule for Bridgwater wards - noted

**12. TRINITY HALL: Agreed** Town Clerk to agree 'charitable discount' as per existing practice of SDC for 2010/11

*(Declarations of interest – personal and/or prejudicial as advised taking no part in consideration and vote and leaving meeting as appropriate -*

*Cllr Mrs Slocombe – BGFCC and Robsons Electrics and Arts Centre*

*Cllr Parker – Arts Centre*

*Cllr Preece - Robsons Electrics and Wembdon Road Cemetery*

*Cllr Cresswell – Wembdon Road Cemetery*

*Cllr Turner – Hamp Association*

*Cllr Granter - Sydenham Community Association*

*Cllr Richards – Bridgwater Flower Show)*

The meeting finished at 4.25pm

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Signed  
Chairman