BRIDGWATER TOWN COUNCIL

FINANCE COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN'S ROOM TOWN HALL BRIDGWATER
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 17 NOVEMBER 2010 AT 2.15PM

PRESENT: Cllr Turner (Chairman), Parker, Preece, Richards and Mrs Slocombe
APOLOGIES: Cllrs Downes & Granter

Decisions and recommendations:

13. MINUTES of 21/07/10: Approved, noting as recorded by the Council that Councillor Parker had left the meeting before the decision on the grant application by the Hamp Action Group (Min 9) had been dealt with.

14. MINUTES OF TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS HELD SINCE 21 JULY 2010 – MATTERS REFERRED: The following were noted to be taken into account where relevant in the decisions and consideration of the principles to be adopted in the preparation of the budget for 2011/12. From 29 July 2010 Min 21/10 Town Hall; 22/10 Cemeteries; from 7 Oct 2010 38/10 i) Ward Grants – Bower. 38/10 iii) Town Hall; Min 40/10 Ward Grants – publicity; 42/10 Allotment Sites – including Kidsbury new site. 43/10 Joint Funding of Local Services; 44/10 Blake Gardens – contribution to refurbishment of plaque; 45/10 1. & 2. Grants 4. Snowflakes & Shopping with Christmas Lights Switch on and 5. Bridgwater Town Centre shops & retail initiatives.

15. GRANTS 2010/11:

Bridgwater Arts Centre - £2,800 approved
Somerset County Guy Fawkes Carnival Association – not able to support this year – await further information for application in 2011/12.
Sedgemoor CAB - £2,500 approved
Friends of Wembdon Road Cemetery & Unitarian Chapel - letters of thanks received

16. WARD GRANTS: Advice of budgets available to 31 March 2011:

Bower £3,000	Hamp £1,720
Eastover £5,000	Quantock £1,000
Sydenham £2,450	Victoria £ 3,000

17. FUNDING REDUCTIONS: Correspondence from SCC & SDC – noted – principles established for support funding to be taken into account in budget finalisation, including culture and arts; Christmas lighting; street cleansing; dog bins; halls and public conveniences and 'sinking funds' and earmarked funds.

18. PRECEPT AND DRAFT ESTIMATES FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2011/12: background information based on 2009/10 & 2010/11; estimated out turn @ 31 March 2011; inflation @ 3% figure and decisions & principles established circulated. Tax base provided @ £10335.13 Band D equivalent & current levels of precept & expenditure noted.

RESOLVED: That taking all these factors into account the Town Clerk prepare draft estimates for submission to the next meeting of the Town Council, using a continuation budget as a base line.

19. NEW MODEL STANDING ORDERS AND FINANCIAL REGULATIONS REVIEW: Agreed that Cllrs Turner & Smeed, together with the Town Clerk carry out the review for the Council's consideration.

(Declarations of interest – personal and/prejudicial as advised taking no part in consideration or vote Cllr Parker-Arts Centre: Cllr Mrs Slocombe- Arts Centre and SCGFCA)

The meeting finished at 4.35pm Signed Chairman ….....