MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE STRATEGY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
HELD ON TUESDAY 2ND APRIL 2013 AT 7.00 PM
IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, NORTH LODGE, CROMER

Present:-
Chairman – Cllr. D. Pritchard, Vice-Chairman – Cllr. G. Smith,
Cllr. T. Bartlett, Cllr. S. Eastwood, Cllr. P. Harris and Cllr. M. Saunders.

Julie Chance – Town Clerk.

1. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 26TH FEBRUARY, 2013

The Minutes of the meeting held on 26th February 2013, having been **AGREED** by Full Council on Monday 11th March 2013, were signed by the Chairman.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

Declarations of interest were received from Cllr. T. Bartlett in respect of any Cromer Preservation Society, COAST and Norfolk Community Law matters.
Declarations of interest were received from Cllr. S. Eastwood in respect of any About with Friends matters.
Declarations of interest were received from Cllr. P. Harris in respect of any Bittern Line and Norfolk Community Law matters.
Declarations of interest were received from Cllr. D. Pritchard in respect of any Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal matters.

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. T. Nash.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No members of the public attended the meeting.

5. NORTH LODGE PARK

Cllr. Harris gave an update on the situation following the stakeholders meeting held last month. The Consultants are on leave at present and no further meeting of the working group has been arranged. It was confirmed that no commitment for funding of North Lodge Park has been made by Cromer Town Council. Cllr. Harris reported that the income achievable under the current arrangements is poor. It was **AGREED** that the Clerk would liaise with North Norfolk District Council and request another working group meeting as soon as reasonably possible following receipt of the report from the Consultants which is due at the end of April.

6. PARISH PLAN

Cllr. Bartlett reported that this matter is progressing and information concerning the Parish Plan will be available to the public at the Annual Town Open Day with the intention of publishing and circulating the Parish Plan following the Norfolk County Council elections.

7. FINANCE

7.1 **Monthly Accounts:-** The Accounts for the month of February were **AGREED.**

7.2 **Insurance:-** The Clerk reported that one quotation has been received and the quotation from Aon is imminent. It was **AGREED** that the Clerk will action the cheapest quotation. It was **AGREED** that the Clerk would negotiate to remain with our current insurers, Aon if possible.

7.3 **Grants:-** The following Grants were **AGREED** for recommendation to Full Council:-

	£
Community Rail Norfolk – The Bittern Line	500.00
Citizens Advice North Norfolk	1,500.00
Cromer Christmas Lights	2,600.00
Cromer and North Norfolk Festival of Music Drama and Dance	250.00
Ambulance First Responders	250.00
Norfolk Community Law Service	500.00
Age UK Norfolk	250.00
About with Friends	500.00
Suffield Park Infant School	500.00
The Norfolk and Norwich Association for the Blind	500.00
Fireworks	2,000.00

	£9,350.00
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7.4 **Business Rates:-** The Clerk reported that insufficient allowance was made in the budget to cover the business rates for the financial year 2013/14. It was **AGREED** that the shortfall will be met by General Reserves.

7.5 **Economic Development:-** It was **AGREED** that Cllr. Harris will write a paper to be considered at the next Strategy and Finance Committee meeting.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

8.1 **SLCC AGM:-** It was **AGREED** that the office will be closed on Friday 19th April in order to allow the Clerk and Deputy Clerk to attend the SLCC AGM. The issues being discussed at the AGM are very important for Cromer Town Council going forward and are mainly concerning financial matters.

8.2 **Poppy Appeal:-** It was **AGREED** that the Clerk would write to Poppy Appeal and grant permission for The Royal British Legion Street Collection 2013 Appeal.

8.3 **My High Street:-** The Clerk reported that this is a new initiative which is being worked on in conjunction with The Cromer Chamber of Trade. Noted.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting was noted as Tuesday 30th April, 2013.

10. RESOLUTION UNDER THE PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS ACT 1960) TO EXCLUDE MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

It was **AGREED** that in view of the nature of the matters to be discussed, the public and press be excluded from the meeting.

11. **Phoenix – Basement Flat:-** It was reported that all Members have received a letter at their home addresses from Pheonix Independent Advisers Limited in reply to our solicitor's recent letter. It was **AGREED** that the Clerk would pass the letter to our solicitor for advice and request that the solicitor sends a holding reply as a matter of urgency.

There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.16 pm.

……. **…….**

Chairman **Date**