

**CHARITY COMMITTEE
26 MARCH 2012**

Present: Councillors Barlow (in the Chair), Cooke and Kramer.
Also in attendance Mr Chris May, Protector.

37. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made at this meeting.

38. MINUTES

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the meeting held on 9 January 2012 be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record subject to the substitution of the words, “500 year lease signed in 1881” for the word, “lease” in the third line of paragraph five to minute 35.

39. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED – that the public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the items of business listed below because it is likely that, if members of the public were present, there would be disclosure to them of “exempt” information as defined in the paragraphs of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972.

Minute No.	Subject Matter	Paragraph No.
42 (E)	Audit and Accountancy Fees	3

40 CULTURAL PROGRAMME

The Public Art Officer presented the report of the Head of Regeneration and Community Services on the proposed arts and performance programme for the Stade Open Space for 2012 and 2013.

The Arts Council England had made a grant of £150,000 to supplement investment of £161,000 by HBC in an Arts programme of performances and events in the Stade Open Space over 2012 and 2013. The aim of the programme was to attract new visitors to Hastings, to provide high quality entertainment and cultural events for local people, to provide a platform for local performers and artists as well as opportunities for professional development from visiting companies.

The report contained details of the programme of events and the management and delivery of the programme. It also detailed involvement in the London 2012 Festival, the London Olympic period and Coastal Currents 2012.

The Protector asked if any funding would be required from the Foreshore Trust. The Public Art Officer confirmed that no costs would fall on the Trust.

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Councillor Kramer moved approval of the recommendations to the report, which was seconded by Councillor Cooke.

RESOLVED (unanimously) – that: -

- (1) the Stade Open Space arts and performance programme be endorsed for 2012 and 2013; and**
- (2) grant funding of £150,000 from the Arts Council England for this programme be noted.**

Reason for the decision: -

The programme for the Stade Open Space was a key objective of the Cultural Regeneration Strategy and Implementation Plan and was the subject of a successful funding bid to Arts Council England. It was approved by the Council's Cabinet on 6th February 2012.

41 FORESHORE TRUST - FINANCIAL REPORT (2011/12 POSITION AND 2012/13 BUDGET)

The Head of Financial Services presented a report on the current year's financial position (2011/12), and submitted a budget for 2012/13. The report also outlined arrangements regarding the use of surpluses and of financial monitoring and accounting. A statement of financial activities and a draft Foreshore Trust spending plan were appended to the report.

It was proposed that an allocation of £50,000 be made in respect of the 2012/13 budget for community purposes, in light of the estimated surplus and the need for certainty.

Councillor Kramer moved approval of the recommendations to the report with an addition as set out in resolution (1) below, which was seconded by Councillor Cooke. The Protector commented that the proposed changes in the budget would result in a large amount of expenditure in one year.

RESOLVED (unanimously) – that: -

- (1) a report be submitted to the next meeting to consider the possibility of bringing forward to 2012-2013 the proposed works to Rock-a-Nore and Pelham Place car parks;**
- (2) the current financial position for 2011/12 be noted;**
- (3) the allocation for grants in 2012/13 to be set at £50,000;**
- (4) the proposed expenditure on schemes funded from Reserves be approved;**
- (5) there be no increase in parking charges for 2012/13;**
- (6) the budget for 2012/13 be approved; and**
- (7) financial monitoring reports continue to be presented to each meeting of the Charity Committee.**

Reason for the decision: -

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The Council had responsibility for the proper management of the financial affairs of the Trust. In doing so it complied with Accounting Codes of Practice and the high standards required for the accounting of Public money.

A surplus was expected in 2011/12 and 2012/13 in respect of ongoing operations. This enabled the Committee to establish a prudent level of grants allocations that could be distributed as part of the 2012/13 budget process.

The programmed use of reserves had been determined in accordance with the agreed business plan.

42(E) AUDIT AND ACCOUNTANCY FEES

The Head of Financial Services presented a report containing confidential information regarding the selection of the organisation to provide audit and accountancy services for the Foreshore Trust for a period of three years.

Councillor Kramer moved approval of the recommendation to the report, which was seconded by Councillor Cooke.

RESOLVED (unanimously) – that Manningtons Chartered accountants be awarded the contract to provide audit and accountancy services for the Foreshore Trust for a period of three years.

Reason for the decision: -

Recommendation based on obtaining best value for the Trust.

(The Chair declared the meeting closed at 6.45 pm)