

CHARITY COMMITTEE

16 JANUARY 2023

Present: Councillors Cannan (Chair), Batsford, and Rogers. James Cook (The Protector)

In attendance: Mary Kilner (Chief Legal Officer), Kevin Boorman (Marketing and Major Projects Manager), Paul Cosson (Enforcement Manager), Natasha Tewksbury (Customer Services, Communications and Emergency Planning Manager), and Rita O'Mahoney (Senior Corporate Accountant)

18. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None received.

19. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor	Item	Interest
Rogers	20. Response to proposed Dog Control Public Space Protection Order	Personal – Will be leading on this work as Cabinet Portfolio Holder

20. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS CHARITY COMMITTEE 29.09.22

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Charity Committee Meeting held on 29th September 2022 be approved as a true record.

21. MINUTES OF COASTAL USERS GROUP

The Marketing and Major Projects Manager informed the Committee that a number of issues were discussed at the Coastal Users' Group meeting in December. The group noted that the previous Dog Control PSPO had brought about beneficial change, particularly in tackling and reducing dog fouling.

The Protector noted that the Coastal Users' Group hadn't seen all of the reports and they were therefore unable to comment on all the items coming to the Charity Committee.

22. FORESHORE TRUST FINANCE REPORT

The Senior Corporate Accountant presented a report to advise the Committee of the current year's financial position (2022/23).

Income is currently projected to be £82,000 under budget. Car Parking income is expected to be under budget by £95,000 and rental Income over budget by £13,000 due to rental reviews. Quarter 3 finances will be reviewed with the protector in the next

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ten days.

The Committee discussed the opportunities for having permeable paving installed in Foreshore car parks when they next require maintenance and asked officers to look into the potential costs for this.

RESOLVED:

1. To agree the current financial position for 2022/23.

2. To agree Fees and Charges are kept in line with Hastings Borough Council's Fees and Charges Strategy.

Reasons:

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

The Trust is reporting a surplus for the 2022/23 financial year in respect of operating income and expenses of £234,000. However, once Grant and project costs are taken into account this figure becomes a deficit of £83,000.

23. RESPONSE TO PROPOSED DOG CONTROL PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDER (DC PSPO)

The Enforcement Manager presented a report to inform the Committee of the proposed Dog Control Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs) and advise them of the consultation results, providing the Committee an opportunity to feedback on the proposals for the PSPOs on Foreshore Trust land.

The last Dog Control PSPO expired on the 12 June 2020. As a result of the Council's Covid-19 response there wasn't sufficient officer capacity to review the existing order and go out to consultation at that time.

In the last quarter prior to the Covid-19 pandemic 42 fixed penalty notices were issued for dog offences, mostly in council parks and gardens.

The Committee discussed the proposals for the new Dog Control PSPO and agreed that the order should be kept as it was previously, although extended to Rock-a-Nore beach in the west. It was also agreed that the PSPO should be enforced from 1st April as tourists begin to visit the town from Easter. It was noted that the consultation responses showed strong support for the previous Dog Control PSPO.

(The Chair declared the meeting closed at 6.25pm)