

**BARTON-UPON-HUMBER TOWN COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF A FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**held on MONDAY 18 APRIL 2011 at 7.40 p.m. in**  
**THE ASSEMBLY ROOMS, QUEEN STREET, BARTON-UPON-HUMBER**

**Present** Councillor Mrs W Witter (Chairman)  
Councillors Mrs J Oxley, Mr J Oxley, P Shearer, J P Vickers and K Vickers.

**Also Present** Ms S Richards (Town Clerk).

464. **Apologies for Absence**

None.

465. **Declarations of Interest**

Barton Civic Society and Barton Lions Club – Councillor Mrs J Oxley (Personal interest)

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St Mary's Church – Councillor Mrs W Witter (Personal interest)

466. **Minutes of Meeting held on the 18 January 2011**

It was noted that these minutes had been signed as a correct record, for action as necessary, at a meeting of the Town Council held on 2 February 2011.

467. **Matters Arising**

There were no matters of report discussed at this meeting.

468. **Requests for Financial Assistance**

Members considered the following received requests for financial support:

(a) **Barton-upon-Humber Civic Society** (Min Ref: 374(4)/130 – BTC 02/02/11)

Members agreed and

**Resolved** that a donation of £100.00 be given to Barton Civic Society towards the proposed Victorian Day to be held on 31 July 2011. To be taken from the Town Council's 2011/2012 Community Regeneration budget 'Donations/Grants (empowered: Tourism) Local Government Act 1972, s.144.

(b) **Barton-upon-Humber Lions Club** (Min Ref: 449(1)(i)/158 – BTC 06/04/11)

Members agreed and

**Resolved** that the Town Council have supported the forthcoming 15<sup>th</sup> Barton Beer Festival by way of allowing a free advertisement feature in the April 2011 edition of "The Bartonian". It was felt, in the current economical climate that further financial support could not be made on this occasion.

469. **St. Mary's Church Clock** (Min Ref: 449(2)(ii)/158 – BTC 06/04/11)

The contractor who undertakes the annual maintenance and service of the clock, was contacted regarding the feasibility of installing an automated clock system, as requested by the Tower Captain at the Church, Mr R Lord. Whilst it appeared feasible to undertake this procedure, the contractor pointed out it was an expensive operation, probably between £8,000-£13,000. It was stated the clock

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had extreme historical value having been made by a descendent of the late John Harrison, local clockmaker of Barrow-upon-Humber. In light of this, it was felt that any alteration to the clock would have to be done sympathetically and the existing parts requiring removal would have to be stored for safe keeping, if, at a future date the clock was returned to a manual winding system. 3 mechanisms would also have to be changed – the clock, chime and strike. The contractor pointed that it was not common to change an historical manual wind up clock to an automated one, as this sometimes can alter the delicate day to day operation of the clock itself. The beauty of someone winding the clock on a regular basis is that any change or problems with the clock, generally was spotted by doing this. If an automated system was to be installed, this regular overview and inspection of the clock discontinued, which could mean if a problem did occur, it could go unnoticed for several months, leading to a major problem. With regard to health and safety issues flagged up by Mr Lord, the contractor was rather surprised by this, as, in his experience, access to the clock tower was one of the safest he had come across. He thought there maybe some issue for modification/improvement to the ladder, which may be a way forward, to address the access to the clock, rather than alter the clock itself as an option. Should an automated system be installed to the clock, the annual service and maintenance charge would increase slightly. Discussion took place regarding this matter, and it was agreed and

**Resolved** that the town council office write to Mr Lord, asking if it would be possible for members of the town council to undertake a site visit to discuss the church clock with him

470. **Town Council Grant Scheme 2011/2012 Application Form & Guidelines**

Review and assessment of the existing application form and guidelines was discussed. This system is used universally throughout town and parish councils to adopt, making the basic requirements for applications a system with equal set criteria for everyone. Having being trialled during the last financial year, it was felt it gave useful background information for groups requesting financial assistance, allowing the town council to decision make and also a clear audit trail. In light of this, it was agreed and

**Resolved** that when outside organisations apply to the town council for financial assistance, they are sent a copy of the ‘Town Grant Scheme 2011/2012 Application Form’ and ‘Guidelines for Applicants’. This information to be submitted to the town council accordingly, to be addressed at the next available Finance & General Purposes Committee Meeting.

471. **2010/2011 Budget – Quarterly Summary of Income/Expenditure**

Members present were each handed a copy of the latest quarterly statement showing income/expenditure of the Town Council budget for the period January to March 2011. It was reported this reflected income/expenditure for the last three months of the previous financial year. The Clerk explained the figures shown was not the actual year end outturn, as there were accounts paid in the current financial year to be written back to last year and any outstanding income and other financial miscellany to be incorporated. Overall, despite some overspending on individual budget lines, the expenditure was within the 2010/2011 budget. Overspending issues were generally related to expenditure taken from budget reserves, as previously agreed by the town council.

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Witter closed the meeting at 8.05 p.m.