

MINUTES of the Pencoed Town Council General Policy Committee Meeting held on 6 August 2003.

PRESENT: Councillor Mrs. L. Davies [Chair]

Councillors: E. Alford, J. Butcher, C.J. Davies, D.R. Gregory, C.F. Hewlett, G. Jordan, G. Oram, T. Williams

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE : Councillors: Mrs. S. Jewell, D. John, K.F. King, V.L. Thomas

There were no declarations of interest.

1. BCBC AGENCY AGREEMENT RIGHTS-OF-WAY

This draft Agreement was discussed at length. The following issues were raised and need clarification.

Repairs to stiles and kissing-gates

- How many stiles and kissing-gates are there and who would be responsible for repairs/replacements?

Off-road Way Marking

- Are these all up-to-date and if not will BCBC be attending to this?

Land Owners Responsibilities

- Could there be greater clarification as to the responsibilities of the land owners in relation to Pencoed Town Council should we accept the Agreement.

RESOLVED: That this Committee recommend to the Town Council that -

- They enter into an Agency Agreement for Rights-of-Way with BCBC subject to a satisfactory response to the foregoing issues.
- That this be subject to the appointment of a full-time Countryside Maintenance Person.
- That the Agreement should operate from 1 April 2004.

2. REPLACEMENT OF THE CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

A full discussion took place based on the information provided by the Clerk from a number of companies and a quote from BCBC. Taking into account all the financial implications it was decided that further discussions take place with BCBC with a view to agreeing a Contract with them for full replacement of our current system with individual street lighting column festive features. Price per feature is quoted at £320.10 that incorporates all electrical fittings, installation and removal. The supply of 25 features is valued at £8,002.50. The Clerk advised Members that there was a substantial sum in balance. Consequently it was agreed that an extension of the scheme would be feasible. It was also agreed that Delegated Powers be given to the Mayor and the Clerk to discuss broadening the scheme with BCBC.

RESOLVED: That this Committee recommend to the Town Council accept the quote of BCBC for replacement of our current system with individual street lighting column festive features and that the Mayor and Clerk be given delegated powers to discuss broadening the scheme.

3. APPOINTMENT OF A FULL-TIME COUNTRYSIDE MAINTENANCE PERSON

The Committee discussed the report submitted by the Clerk that also incorporated the comparative financial costs of vehicle leasing as opposed to direct purchase of a pick-up truck. After a comprehensive discussion, taking into account all the costs involved, it was agreed that a full-time Countryside Maintenance Person be appointed and the option of vehicle leasing would be the most economic method for the Town Council.

RESOLVED: That –

- The Appointment Sub-Committee meet to prepare a job specification for the post and this be available for discussion at the next Town Council Meeting on 10 September 2003.
- A Countryside Maintenance Person be employed from 1 January 2004.
- The Clerk pursue the contract leasing of an appropriate vehicle.