

TENTERDEN TOWN COUNCIL – FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING SUB-COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF A MEETING ON 25th February 2016

Councillors Present: Mrs Curteis, Mrs Ferguson, Dr Lovelidge, Lusty, Mulholland & Nelson.

The Town Clerk, Phil Burgess was present and took notes.

1. Apologies for absence: Cllr Carter

2. Minutes of the meeting 28th January 2016. Agreed.

3. Matters Arising.

Item 4 Eligibility Criteria –schemes would be encouraged which would provide an income for the council or the community.

Cllrs Dr. Lovelidge, Lusty and Thorpe had been elected as task group members.

Cllr Ferguson, although not as task group member, would attend task group meetings to arrange publicity.

4. Public Consultation. A recent visit had been made to a meeting of the recreation ground re-ordering committee by representatives of the Lipton Group. Their view on public consultations was that it should be driven by the requirements of funders and therefore target groups should be consulted rather than having an open public meeting which would not be representative of the population. Following this process maximises the funding available and makes the project community-led rather than design-led. Many design-led projects fail to attract funding and are a failure in the eyes of the community. With a strong community backing it would also strengthen our case for funding with KCC and ABC. This is a different approach from the one suggested in the Participatory budgeting guidance and a different “front end” to the process may need to be used if the Lipton’s methodology is adopted by the council. An informal meeting of council is scheduled for 1st March to meet Lipton’s.

5. Task Group and Publicity.

a) The name “Tenterden Community Chest” should be adopted in place of participatory budgeting as a more marketing friendly name for the scheme.

b) The task group should elect its own chair and a non-councillor should be chosen. If engaged, Lipton’s would be consulted regarding eligibility criteria for the chairman.

6. Expressions of interest. Expressions of interest would be invited for potential projects. We may receive more than 1 application for funding for cinema projects for instance, and an expression of interest would allow applicants to consider pooling resources. If this is not the case the task group could select the best of the ideas.

7. Recommendations to Council. None at this stage.

8. AOB. None

9. Next Meeting. Wednesday 9th March at 6pm.

Meeting Closed at 6.48p.m.