



BOROUGHBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

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MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY FINANCE AND HR COMMITTEE MEETING – Wednesday 14th June at 6:15 pm

Present: J. Wilkinson (Chairman), M. Kaczmarczyk, Pauline Phillips. The meeting was quorate.

Clerk Present: J. Nichols.

Meeting opened at: 18:15

1. **Non attendees** – R. Young (interest declared prior to the meeting), P. Taylor
2. **An application for financial support to defray expenses incurred in the organisation of a local celebratory event.**

The Committee considered a retrospective request from a local resident for financial assistance to offset personal expenses incurred in the organisation of a recent Platinum Jubilee Celebration Event.

The Council is empathetic to the effort made to organise the event but are unable to offer support on this occasion. There is an overriding duty of care on the Council when utilising public money. There are several reasons for the Council being unable to help on this occasion.

The Council has powers under Section 137, Local Government Act 1972 to deploy “Free Resource”.

However, the request received does not meet several conditions required within the legislation, for example, the Council has been given no evidence to prove that the specific expenditures incurred (for which financial assistance is sought) are expressly and solely related to the benefits delivered from the event. An invitation to the applicant to meet the Town Clerk and RFO to explain the various expenses incurred was declined by the applicant. The expenses incurred are also not in the sole name of the applicant.

Additionally, the request does not meet the Council’s internal conditions for awarding grants – specifically the fact that the application has been made for expenses already incurred and an application for support was not made prior to any expenditure being incurred.

PROPOSAL – with regret, and in accordance with the conditions of Section 137 of the Local Government Act regarding then use of “Free Resources” the Council is unable to demonstrate compliance with the legislation and is therefore unable to grant the application for financial support toward the expenses incurred in the organisation of the Platinum Jubilee Event. **All in favour.**

ACTION – Town Clerk to write to the applicant with the decision

Meeting Closed: 18:59.

Following the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014, the right to record, film and to broadcast meetings of the Council, Committees and Sub Committees is established, but anyone wishing to do so should advise the Clerk or Chair of the Council to ensure compliance with BTC's adopted policy.

Signed _____
Chair of the Council

Dated _____