

## **Report of the Organisation, Methods and Personnel Committee**

The Committee met at 7.30 pm on **Monday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2014** in Committee Room 1 at the Parish Hall, Great Baddow. Councillor Mrs J Sosin chaired the meeting.

Present: Councillors Mrs J Sosin, Mrs C Shaw, A Sosin, T Miller, K Ronaldson, Mrs D Ronaldson, Mrs S Young and G Jarvis

In attendance: The Clerk of the Council

### **421/14 Apologies for Absence**

There were no apologies for absence as all members of the committee were present.

### **422/14 Declarations of Interests**

There were no declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests, Other Pecuniary Interests or Registered Non Pecuniary Interests.

### **423/14 Public Question Time**

There were no members of the public present.

### **424/14 Minutes**

The minutes of the last meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> August 2014, which were signed by the Council on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2014, were agreed and signed.

### **425/14 Car Mileage Rates**

The Clerk told the meeting that she had undertaken further research into the mileage rates and had found that a large number of organisations now pay the HMRC approved rate. It had been very difficult to find the current NJC approved rates. There was discussion about the tax implications for mileage payable over the HMRC approved rate and the need to avoid a breach of the law on the part of the Council. It was proposed by Cllr Mrs S Young and seconded by Cllr Mrs C Shaw that the HMRC approved mileage rate should take effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015.

### **426/14 Matters for Information**

- Cllr Mrs C Shaw reported that she had attended the Essex Playing Fields Association awards ceremony and had collected two gold certificates of merit for the Council's Recreation Ground and play area. She also had a catalogue and wall chart for the Grounds Manager. Congratulations were given to the Grounds Staff.
- Cllrs Mrs J Sosin, A Sosin and Mrs S Young gave their apologies for the pre-meet and surgery on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2014.
- Cllr Mrs S Young told the meeting that she had been telephoned by the tenant from allotment plot VL82 about the upholding of the Notice to Quit by the full Council. It was agreed that the tenant will be given until after the next weekend to clear the plot and Cllr Mrs S Young said that she would communicate this information.
- The Clerk told the meeting that information had been received from the NJC about the proposed new pay scales, which have been published for consultation. If approved, the figures would make a small difference to the current financial year budgets but would have a larger impact on the 2015/2016 budget. The Clerk said that a report would be prepared and

the matter would be on the agenda for the Finance and General Purposes committee to discuss in more detail on 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2014. Cllr A Sosin asked whether any information had been forthcoming about whether rate capping would be introduced for parish and town councils this year. The Clerk said that she had not received any information about this. Cllr A Sosin also told the meeting that he will produce an updated budget figure, which will include items that the committees requested be added to the budget.

**427/14 Staff Review**

The Clerk told the meeting that she has spoken to Vine HR and has sent the information that they requested. They are now arranging interviews with the staff.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.17 pm.

Signed.....Chairman..... Date