



Broadstairs and St. Peter's Town Council Finance & General Purposes Committee Report 16 March 2020

Cllr Rosalind Binks
Chairman of the Finance & General Purposes Committee

The Finance & General Purposes Committee reports to Full Council and has held 6 meetings in the past financial year. The following Sub-Committees report directly to the Finance & General Purposes Committee: Leisure & Tourism, Allotments & Land, Staff Management, Assets & Budget Review, Internal Audit Effectiveness Review.

Leisure & Tourism Sub-Committee: This Committee discusses the annual allocation of Town Council grants both to promote the town's tourism and also to enhance the quality of life for residents. Part of the precept for the Town Council helps to finance individual events held in the town as well as support civic and other organisations both large and small that make a real difference to various sectors of the community. Thanet District Council discontinued additional finance for town events several years ago.

All applications are carefully considered with recommendations being made to the Finance & General Purposes Committee. For the financial year 2019-2020, the following grants were awarded: Events £35,450, Support for Organisations including Friends of Mockett's Wood and the Tourist Information Kiosk £14,845 – a total of £50,295. For the 2020-2021 financial year, the Council has awarded £34,600 for events and a further £ 15,450 for organisations, totalling £ 50,050.

With the current health crisis, it is clear that some of the events may be seriously curtailed or not go ahead at all.

Allotments & Land Sub-Committee:

The Town Council has two allotment sites, Norman Road and Prospect Road, as well as Mockett's Wood in St. Peter's, land in the area of Pierremont Park immediately surrounding Pierremont Hall and its ancillary buildings. The Town Council also has a long lease on Culmers Amenity Land which is owned by CT10 Parochial Charities. The land at Pierremont Park and Culmers is currently maintained by Box Green Horticulture Limited and overseen by the Council.

Other Projects and Activities:

Whilst the Pierremont Hall and Retort House projects take centre stage, the Council continues to manage and fund summer entertainment which includes various bands and Punch & Judy on Viking Bay beach, November 5th fireworks, extended opening hours for the toilets and the beach lift, the

bandstand, kiosk and its arena (leased from Thanet District Council), Broadstairs in Bloom, decorative lighting, Town Trail notice boards and other street furniture, including new benches in Reading Street, as well as year-round security in Pierremont Park to help protect the town's assets. In the past year, the Council also commissioned an extensive survey of all toilets within Broadstairs & St. Peter's.

The next financial year has a budget for several environmental improvements in the town.

On behalf of the Members of the Finance & General Purposes Committee I would like to thank the Town Clerk and all her Staff for their invaluable work over the past year. They have continued to work untiringly for the residents of Broadstairs & St Peter's in spite of enormous inconveniences caused by the building works carrying on around them.