

Cllr Lawton took up Cllr Pilkington's point with regard to the existing repeater network and said this would be investigated. He agreed, having studied the documentation from the four companies that Redhand were the cheapest and suggested if it was the Committee's decision to appoint them, to go ahead with the detailed survey and also to look at what they have undertaken elsewhere.

Cllr Blick reminded Members that a camera was required to the rear of the Market House. Cllr Lawton advised that all of the companies had included the cost of additional cameras – both fixed and pan, tilt and zoom types and that a wireless system allowed additional cameras to be added at a later date relatively easily, unlike the present hard-wired type.

Cllr Blick requested a recorded vote on this matter.

Cllr Lawton proposed the Committee appoint Redhand of Stonehouse to undertake a full survey for the installation of a system in the town that will incorporate both fixed and pan, tilt and zoom cameras. He suggested that additional cameras could be affixed at a later date as and when funding allowed.

A vote was taken on the matter resulting in 6 in favour – Cllrs Lawton, Celino, Mrs Bevan, Pilkington, Clissold & Mrs Duncan and 2 against – Cllrs Blick and Wellington.

Cllr Lawton proposed that a site meeting be set up in Wotton-under-Edge to look at a similar system already in place. In addition to Cllr Lawton, Cllrs Pilkington, Wellington and Clissold expressed an interest in attending.

This concluded the business of the meeting and it was declared closed at 8.15 pm.

4.2.4 Any Other Business

There were no items of any other business.

It was proposed by Cllr Lawton that the following item of business be heard in Committee under Standing Order 66:-

4.2.5 Quotation for CCTV

Cllr Blick spoke against the matter being discussed in Committee under Standing Order 66. He said that one quotation had been received and the figure figures received were estimates and also the Council needed to establish where it wanted to see CCTV cameras in the town. He believed the matter did not need to be discussed under Standing Order 66.

Cllr Lawton explained that the request from the Council to the Contractors formed the specification and the same request had been sent to everyone. The Contractors had responded to the Clerk. He advised that it is a very technical system and all of the figures are subject to survey. He believed the responses were all very similar and the Contractors had responded to the request for six cameras and for the recording equipment to be housed at Cemetery Lodge – the being the only known venue at the present time available for it. Cllr Lawton advised it was now the Committee's decision based on the estimates and technical information these companies had supplied as to which one it wished to now carry out a full survey of the town which will then detail the position of the equipment.

It was agreed at this point to continue the discussion in Open Council and not to go into Committee under Standing Order 66.

Cllr Lawton answered in response to Cllr Blick's concern that he believed the new cameras would be position in the same place as the existing cameras as this is where the power supply will be. He added that with regard to the power supply for the repeater equipment bearing in mind this was a wireless system, the Clerk had been in contact with Street Lighting at Gloucestershire County Council and established that the Council may use the power supply from the street lights to power the camera equipment.

Cllr Pilkington said he had studied the information from the four companies and believed it to be all very similar. He reminded Members that the town already had a network of repeater stations in Newent owned by Loop Scorpio and questioned if these could be used in conjunction with the wireless CCTV system, much of the cost could be mitigated if this was the case. He added that he had looked at several DIY websites to ascertain what was available and had concluded all of these systems were of a wired nature and he believed there didn't seem to be any cheaper options available to what is on offer at the present time, and that Redhand seemed to be offering the best option at the best price.

NEWENT TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on Monday 25 July 2011 at the Market House, Newent at 7.30 pm.

Present: Cllr L Lawton (Chairman), Cllr E Wood, Cllr D Blick, Cllr R Pilkington, Cllr Mrs J Bevan, Cllr Mrs M Duncan, Cllr J Celino, Cllr J Clissold

Apologies: -

4.00 Chairman's announcements

There were no Chairman's announcements

4.1 Correspondence

4.1.1 Lloyds TSB – interest rates

Members were furnished with interest rates from Lloyds TSB for deposits of varying amounts and periods, the Clerk having asked if a better rate could be achieved on the Council's balances deposited with them. Members were unimpressed with the poor rates offered and it was agreed to look further afield to see if better rates could be achieved elsewhere.

4.2 Business

4.2.1 To give consideration to monthly accounts

Cllr Lawton proposed acceptance of the monthly accounts which was unanimously agreed.

4.2.2 To give consideration to revised draft Financial regulations as approved by the National Association of Local Councils

The Clerk put forward a draft list of Financial regulations as approved by the NALC and recommended by the Council's Auditors. Following minor amendments/exclusions it was agreed by the Committee to adopt the Regulations and to put them forward for approval by the full Council at its next meeting.

4.2.3 Staff training

The Clerk advised that at the previous meeting, the Committee had sanctioned the Foreman to undertake an HABC Level 3 Health and Safety three day training course in the sum of £395.00. It has now transpired that the local company offering this course was unable to do so, due to insufficient numbers of candidates available to undertake the Course. The Clerk advised that the Foreman had sought alternative companies who would undertake the Course but those that did, were at significantly greater cost.