Minutes of the meeting of the Sandwich Toll Bridge Fund Finance Committee, held on 16th November 2016 at the Guildhall, following the meeting of Sandwich Town Council Finance Committee.

Present:	**Councillors:**	**The Mayor, Cllr Graeme (in the Chair)**
		HJ Bragg
		PI Carter
		Mrs VA Liote
Officer:		**Miss L Fidler**

01.11.16 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Carter due to a work commitment. No apologies were received from Cllr Moorhouse or Cllr Wood.

02.11.16 DECLARATION OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND OTHER SIGNIFICANT INTERESTS.

No disclosable pecuniary interests or other significant interests were declared.

03.11.16 GRANT APPLICATIONS 2016/17

(i) White Mill Rural Heritage Centre: grant application for £11,992 for "creating new attractive, information signage, displays and visitor literature".

RESOLUTION: The White Mill Rural Heritage Centre Trustees should make contact with Rachel Collins, Community Development Manager – DDC, and try to obtain funding from outside of the town in the first instance. Once this has been tried the Trustees can report back and request funding again from Sandwich Toll Bridge Fund, if required, in the 2017/18 financial year when further grant money will be available.

(ii) Sandwich Technology School: grant application for £1,000 for a new school library.

RESOLUTION: Due to the general grants budget already having an overspend of £900, this grant cannot be offered in the current financial year.

(iii) To consider a proposal from Cllr Wood for Sandwich Toll Bridge Fund to investigate setting up a family crisis fund allowing residents of the town to access financial support if exceptional circumstances are such that this support may be necessary.

RESOLUTION: Funding for a debt/benefit specialist (£120 per day) at the Citizens Advice Bureau will be considered in the 2017/18 budget.

(iv) To consider a proposal from Cllr Wood for Sandwich Toll Bridge Fund to investigate setting up a Youth Opportunity Fund allowing young people or their families in the town to apply for grants to support study or skill acquisition where circumstances are such that this provision would otherwise not be met.

RESOLUTION: This matter will be deferred until more information is available, for example who and how are young people denied access to education, how would someone apply, how would the fund be monitored and administered?

04.11.16 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

A budget setting meeting in December 2016 is to be arranged.