

PULBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL
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MINUTES OF THE FINANCE & POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

HELD ON THURSDAY 8th November 2007 AT THE SPORTS PAVILION

PRESENT: Cllr. Kiverstein (Chairman), Cllrs. Mrs Barnett, Mrs Botting, Ellis, Noble, Quested and Mrs Roberts.

IN ATTENDANCE: Lesley Hoff (Clerk)

The meeting opened at 7.30pm

47. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. Mrs Black

48. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest

49. MINUTES

The Committee RESOLVED to agree and approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 11th October 2007 as a true and accurate record of the proceedings and the Chairman signed them.

50. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES WHICH ARE NOT SEPARATE AGENDA ITEMS

The Clerk reported that Howard Collins had replied to the request that s106 funds from Barnhouse Surgery should be earmarked for new playground equipment for the Recreation Ground play area. He had advised that the s106 monies for this planning obligation had not yet been received. He stated the Parish Council would be eligible to apply for this money towards the project but apart from making a note of the interest it was not normal practice to "earmark" agreements in advance. He also informed the Clerk it was not possible to stop other eligible groups from apply for s106 money.

The Clerk informed members that one quotation had been received with regard to the emergency lighting work that was needed on the Sports and Social Club. Another electrician had carried out a site visit that day. A further electrician, who had an appointment to visit the Sports and Social Club that afternoon, had not turned up. Cllr Kiverstein advised members that three quotations were required.

51. ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC SPEAKING

There were no members of the public who had given notice of wishing to speak.

52. PARISH COUNCIL DISCRETIONARY GRANTS

Cllrs Ellis and Noble reported back to the Committee on their recommendations for the discretionary grants the parish council were to award for 2007.

The Clerk was instructed to ascertain whether the Purple Bus had visited Pulborough that year. Matched funding for a girls' cricket team and also for the Guides was agreed and the Clerk was instructed to put funding for the Pulborough Football Club lighting at Cousins Way Recreation Ground on the agenda for the next Recreation and Open Spaces Committee.

The Committee were in agreement and it was RESOLVED to recommend the payments of the 2007 grants to full Council. This motion was proposed by Cllr Noble and seconded by Cllr Mrs Botting.

53. EARMARKING FUNDS TO RESERVES FOR SPECIFIC ITEMS

Cllr Kiverstein advised members the only specific items that could be earmarked for such things as the MSF resurfacing, as this needed doing every ten years and was very expensive. He was informed that this agenda item had been requested by the Recreation and Open Spaces Committee, which was worried about expenditure on such items as playground equipment and the upkeep of Pocket Park.

Cllr Kiverstein reported these items could be added to the budget.

It was then mentioned that the Pocket Park Association might not continue, following the death of the Chairman, John Garrett, who organised working parties to clear Pocket Park twice a year. The Clerk was instructed to place an article in the forthcoming Parish Council newsletter, asking for volunteers.

54. BUDGET 2008/2009

Cllr Kiverstein presented the draft budget for 2007/2008 to the Committee.

A Councillor asked whether the 350 new houses either recently completed or in the process of being erected would have any effect on the precept. It was noted the Parish Council could ask for a further £20000 to take these residences into account. A lengthy discussion followed and the budget figures were amended accordingly.

Cllr Kiverstein proposed the amended figures should go to full Council for ratification and this was seconded by Cllr Noble and AGREED by the Committee.

The Committee advised that the new figures would be ready by 12th November 2007 and the Clerk was instructed to distribute them to all Councillors prior to the meeting of full Council on 15 November 2007.

55. PRECEPT

It was RESOLVED the precept should be set at 5% and it was agreed this should be recommended to full Council for ratification.

56. CORRESPONDENCE

The Correspondence is attached to these Minutes as Appendix 1.

57. URGENT MATTERS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS

A Councillor, who was absent from the meeting, sent a message asking that lighting in Church Place between the Catholic Church and the cinder path could be included in the budget. Cllr Kiverstein made calculations and it was agreed this should be incorporated. The Clerk was instructed to obtain a quotation from EDF ENERGY for the installation.

The Clerk was also instructed to ask the village Tree Wardens to give their opinion on the safety of a dead oak tree at Butlers Farm, Pickhurst Lane.

58. PAYMENTS

RESOLVED: that the following payments be made and cheques drawn:

Burgess & Randall	£56.45
EDF Energy	£166.00
Stocker & Sons	£315.84
Arnold Martin	£148.00
Pulborough Social Centre	£60.00
JR Sports & Turf Contractors	£450.03

The meeting closed at 9.25pm

.....CHAIRMAN

.....DATE