

OLD CATTON PARISH COUNCIL,
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE
HELD ON THURSDAY 9TH DECEMBER, 2004,
AT 7.30 P.M., AT THE PAVILION, CHURCH STREET

PRESENT: Mrs G Masdin – Chairman
Mrs A Riches Mr B Sabberton-Coe
Mr D Thompson Mrs J Williams

APOLOGIES: Mrs A Chandler , Mr S Dunn, Miss P Wilkin

The Chairman welcomed everybody to the meeting.

50. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Mr B Sabberton-Coe and Mr D Thompson declared their interests as Trustees of the Catton Park Trust.

51. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 11.11.2004

The minutes had been confirmed and adopted by the Council, and were signed by the Chairman.

52. FINANCE, CHEQUES, PAYMENTS AND RECEIPTS, COMPARISON WITH BUDGET

52.1. The attached lists of vouchers numbered 373 to 430, with payments totalling £15,372.92 and receipts of £4,481.72, were approved and the comparison with the budget and bank reconciliation noted. The very large account for water was discussed; the plumber had checked for leaks and found that the urinal had been using unreasonable amounts of water; he had adjusted it. The groundsman had confirmed that frequently he had found the control on the water input to have been interfered with. It was AGREED to write to users asking them not to tamper with this control.

It was also AGREED that the Chairman would write to the Junior Football Club about their lack of care for the security of the building and grounds.

53. BUDGET FOR 2005/6

The draft budget was considered.

The option of taking a loan to cover the cost of replacing the remaining concrete columns and upgrading the standard of lighting at St Faiths Road was discussed. This would release the earmarked balance of £21,000 that had been saved for this purpose into general balances. The interest rate for a 10 year loan was currently 4.75%; it was felt that this would be offset by a potential increase in the cost of the work if it was delayed. Mrs G Masdin felt strongly that Norfolk County Council had let the Council down by withdrawing its implied support for a scheme to light St Faiths Road.

It was PROPOSED by Mrs G Masdin and SECONDED by Mr D Thompson that a loan be taken to finance the replacement of all the remaining concrete street lighting

columns and to upgrade the standard of lighting at St Faiths Road. AGREED.

It was also AGREED to make a grant to the Old Catton Twinning Association of £50.00 under Section 137 of the Local Government Act.

The Planning and Property Committee had asked that unbudgeted for additional income from burials in the current financial year be used to complete the scheme to improve the entrance to the Cemetery rather than budget for it in 2005/6. This was AGREED.

The draft budget was AGREED, with a precept of £115,000, and would be recommended to the Council on 27th January 2005. It was understood that adjustments would be made within budget headings to take account of an expected dramatic increase in the cost of electricity, and to allow for the items mentioned above.

The fees and charges were discussed and AGREED as per the budget documents.

It was AGREED to allow the Catton Park Trust and the Twinning Committee free use of the Pavilion for their meetings.

54. QUALITY PARISH STATUS

The working group had met and its suggestions, as attached, were discussed and AGREED. It was AGREED to ensure that the proposed surgeries should not be political, or capable of being perceived to be political.

55. CATTON PARK

Mr D Thompson reported on the appointment of the consultant for the next stage.

56. CORRESPONDENCE

The attached list was received and discussed as follows:

Item 4. Offer by NCAPTC to meet to discuss renewal of membership. This was not accepted.

Item 5. Oak Lane. It was AGREED that the resident's suggestion of making Oak Lane subject to 'no right turn' was a good idea and should be pursued. It was also AGREED to ask Norfolk County Council to add Oak Lane to its gritting schedule.

There being no further business the Chairman thanked everybody for attending and closed the meeting at 8.50 p.m.

Chairman, 13.1.2005