

OLD CATTON PARISH COUNCIL,
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND POLICY
COMMITTEE HELD ON THURSDAY 12TH OCTOBER, 2006,
AT 7.30 P.M., AT THE PAVILION, CHURCH STREET

PRESENT: Mrs G Masdin – Chairman
Mrs A Riches Mr D Thompson Mr B Sabberton-Coe
Mr M Vincent Miss P Wilkin Mrs J Williams

APOLOGIES: Mrs A Chandler

The Chairman welcomed everybody to the meeting.

27. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

28. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 10.8.2006

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

29. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Minute 24. Launch of Broadland Life. Details of the contributions made by Village organisations for the MUGA, totalling £309.90, were circulated.

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

30.1. The attached list of vouchers numbered 271 to 340, with payments totalling £13,870.85 and receipts of £63,024.32 were approved and the comparison with the budget for 2006/7 noted, also the bank reconciliation as at 5.10.2006.

30.2. Electricity charges. E-on Energy had issued a new contract for the supply of electricity to the two pavilions, effective as from 1st October, for one year; there was a 50% increase. The new charge for the power for the street lights had not yet been notified. It was noted that the hire charge for the meeting room had been increased by £2 per session when the heat was in use.

31. BUDGET FOR 2007/8

Members were reminded that they would need to begin to prepare a budget at the next meeting. Reserves were already depleted and any increased expenditure on projects, like the disabled toilet, would involve a large increase in the precept or financing by way of loan. It was AGREED to consider this further with information about current loans and interest rates.

32. EMPLOYMENT OF SUPERVISORS AND CONTRACT OF EMPLOYMENT

It was AGREED to confirm the employment of Mr M Brown and Mr M Wilkin as Recreation Ground Supervisors and to issue all the supervisors with contracts of employment. Members had been circulated with the suggested model contract and it was AGREED this contract should be used.

33. HIGHWAYS MATTERS

The puffin crossing was almost complete. The contractors had used the Recreation Ground car park to store their equipment and had expressed their appreciation by repairing the car park, smoothing the chevron at the entrance to the Recreation Ground and clearing the site for the Junior Football Club's storage container.

26. CORRESPONDENCE

The attached list was received and discussed.

Members would let the Clerk know if they wished to attend the AGM of the NCAPTC on 4th November. John Findley, the Chief Executive of the National Association of Local Councils, would be the guest speaker and, hopefully, give details of the government's white paper on the future of local government.

27. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Regional Conference. The Clerk gave brief details of the conference she and Miss Wilkin had attended; the conference had been very interesting and stimulating.

Code of Conduct. Mr M Vincent wished to clarify aspects of the code that required members to declare personal or prejudicial interests in planning applications and whether or not those interests were prejudicial. There were no firm rules but generally a good test was how a member's interest might be perceived by a parishioner, and possibly bring the Council into disrepute. There were various publications that gave advice to members.

There being no further business the Chairman thanked everybody for attending and closed the meeting at 8.40 p.m.

Chairman, 9.12.2006