

OLD CATTON PARISH COUNCIL,
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND POLICY
COMMITTEE HELD ON THURSDAY 8TH NOVEMBER, 2007,
AT 7.30 P.M., AT THE PAVILION, CHURCH STREET

PRESENT: Mrs G Masdin - Chairman
Mrs A Chandler Mr B Palmer Mrs A Riches
Mr D Thompson Miss P Wilkin Mrs J Williams

APOLOGIES: Mr B Sabberton-Coe Mr M Vincent

The Chairman welcomed everybody to the meeting.

37. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

38. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 11.10.2007

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

39. MATTERS ARISING

Minute 36. Cemetery. The complainant had not responded to the letter sent. The bill for installation of the seat had not been paid.

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

40.1. The attached list of vouchers numbered 325 to 377, with payments totalling £16,976.65 and receipts of £4,173.54 were approved. The comparison with the budget was noted. The bank reconciliation was noted.

40.2. Insurance. Zurich Municipal had offered a 10% discount if the insurance contract would continue for 5 years. It was AGREED to accept this offer. It was noted that the increase in cover required by the new play equipment would increase the premium by about £1,000.

40.3. Pay Award for Clerk and Groundsman. The pay award, which was backdated to 1.4.2007, had been agreed by NALC and SLCC. It was AGREED to implement the award, as from 1.4.2007.

41. BUDGET FOR 2008/9

A draft budget was considered. It was PROPOSED by Mrs A Chandler that the Council should give some financial assistance to the Catton Park Trust to buy equipment that was needed and for which other funds were not available.

Mr D Thompson declared his interest as Chairman of the Catton Park Trust and took no part in the discussion of this proposal.

Each member gave their view and it was PROPOSED by Miss P Wilkin that a sum of £1,500 be made available to the Trust to buy a second hand ride on mower which was suitable for the Warden's use and in consultation with the Warden.

Both proposals were AGREED.

It was further AGREED that the mower should be purchased in the current financial year from balances held; the balances would then be replaced in the budget for 2008/9.

It was AGREED that the precept to be levied should be £151,000; this represented an increase of 2% on the current year's budget.

The Budget was AGREED.

The scale of fees and charges for 2008/9 was AGREED.

42. THE INSTITUTE OF LOCAL COUNCIL MANAGEMENT

This body had recently been created as a means of increasing the professionalism of local council clerks and the reputation of the local council sector. It required specified standards for acceptance and an ongoing commitment to Continuing Professional Development (CPD). The Clerk hoped to enter at Principal level, the fee for which was £80.00. For founder members an administration fee of £15.00 would be waived. It was PROPOSED by Mr D Thompson that the Clerk should apply for membership and conform to the CPD requirements with the Council's support. AGREED.

It was AGREED that new letter headed paper should be printed; incorporating the logo used on the identity badges, and showing membership of the Institute.

There being no further business the Chairman thanked everybody for attending and closed the meeting at 8.45 p.m.

Chairman,