

**OLD CATTON PARISH COUNCIL,**  
**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND POLICY**  
**COMMITTEE HELD ON THURSDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2008,**  
**AT 7.30 P.M., AT THE PAVILION, CHURCH STREET**

**PRESENT:** Mrs G Masdin - Chairman  
Mrs A Chandler                      Mr B Palmer                      Mrs A Riches  
Miss P Wilkin

**APOLOGIES:** Mr B Sabberton-Coe              Mr D Thompson              Mrs J Williams

The Chairman welcomed everybody to the meeting.

**54. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**55. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 10.01.2008**

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

**56. FINANCE, CHEQUES, PAYMENTS AND RECEIPTS, COMPARISON WITH BUDGET**

56.1. The attached list of vouchers numbered 469 to 516, with payments totalling £44,336.84 and receipts of £27,377.87 were approved. The comparison with the budget was noted.

**57. REVIEW OF FINANCIAL REGULATIONS**

It was AGREED to change regulation 11.1.(b) and (g) by increasing the size of contract that required competitive quotations from £1,000 to £2,000. It was AGREED to review the regulations again in 2010 or before then if a need was identified.

**58. BANKING ARRANGEMENTS**

As a result of a personal contact a written reply had been received from Barclays that addressed some of the issues raised. The matter of the Clerk using her personal VISA card and PIN had been resolved by the Clerk closing her personal account at Barclays and an Authentication card for Council use had been promised.

It was AGREED to continue to bank with Barclays for the time being and to look into placing earmarked reserves into an account bearing higher interest. It was AGREED to continue to look into the benefits offered by other banks and to keep the matter under review.

## **59. PAYMENT OF TELEPHONE BILL BY DIRECT DEBIT**

It was AGREED to pay the telephone bill by direct debit.

## **60. PENSIONS FORUM AND ACTUARIAL VALUATION**

The attached report was noted.

## **61. AFFORDABLE HOUSING, CONSULTATION FOR SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT**

This was discussed in detail and it was AGREED to inform Broadland District Council that the figure of 35% for affordable housing suggested by the East of England Plan and draft Regional Spatial Strategy was preferred, rather than the 40% expected by Broadland District Council. It was not felt that the need for affordable homes in Broadland was greater than in other areas in the East of England.

## **62. HIGHWAYS MATTERS**

It was noted that the Planning and Property Committee would be meeting an officer of Norfolk County Council, informally, before its next meeting. Members should give the Clerk specific details of areas in need of attention before the meeting. It was AGREED that concerns about the narrowness of the road and path at the bends at St Faiths Road (near The Elms) should be raised, also the lack of footpath on the Western side of St Faiths Road.

## **63. CORRESPONDENCE**

The list of correspondence was received.

A letter from the providers of the Village website asking for the Council's financial support was considered. Members considered the Village website to be of great value to the community and, as it included all Parish Council information, and a link to the Council, it saved the Council the expense of providing its own site. It was unanimously AGREED to recommend that the Council contribute £500.00 a year to the costs of the website.

It was AGREED to make a donation of £50.00 to the Norwich Fringe Project.

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

Chairman, 13.3.2008