

FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE8th January 2008

PRESENT Councillors: Ms.J.Russell (Chairman)
M.V.Daymond
M.W.Dolan
S.Gibson
B.Mortimer
A.R.Nicholls
Mrs.L.A.K.Nicholls
V.Redpath
P.W.Richardson
M.Simper

Apologies were received from Cllrs: Mrs.L.Clark & Mrs.J.Hazel

Apologies were also received from: W.Wells, Mayor's Advisor and Sgt. R.Partridge.

Also in attendance: Mrs.V.Bright, Town Clerk & Mrs J.Gaskell, Assistant to the Town Clerk.

253/07 Declarations of Interest.

Councillor M.V.Daymond declared a personal interest under Agenda Item 4 as he is the Vice-Chairman of Age Concern Verwood, the Town Council's representative on EDCAB and a member of the Verwood Concert Brass Band.

Councillor M.Dolan declared a personal interest under Agenda Item 4 as he is a Trustee of the Verwood Hub.

Councillor V.Redpath declared a personal interest under Agenda Item 4 as he is a member of the Three Legged Cross Village Hall Committee.

Councillor P.W.Richardson declared a personal interest under Agenda Item 4 as he is a volunteer helper with Age Concern Verwood, a member of the NFCAB, a Town Council's representative on the VCA and a volunteer for the Hub.

Councillor Ms.J.Russell declared a personal interest under Agenda Item 4 as she is a member of the Three Legged Cross Village Hall Committee.

254/07 Policing.

A written report was circulated to all members which included information on: crime figures; anti social behaviour; speed checks; staffing. Members were asked to inform the Clerk of any questions they may have which will be passed onto the Police.

255/07 Clerk's Report.

a) **East Dorset District Council** wrote regarding 'Neighbourhood Management in East Dorset'. The letter and information were copied to all Members and was noted.

b) **Dorset Association of Parish & Town Councils** Chief Executive's Circular 14/07 regarding items under the following headings: 'Thank You'; Christmas; New Chief Executive; Area Meetings; Connecting Dorset; GIS map System; Standing Orders; DorBAG – New Action Group name; Funding Opportunities; Dorset County Training Partnership, was copied to all Members.

(Information was given that telephone number for the Big Lottery Fund, Breathing Places Phase 3 was incorrect and that it should have read 0845 4 10 20 30.)

c) **Minute 197/07(i) Footway Dropped (Tactile) Kerb Provision.** The Clerk reported that she had now received a report from the Dorset Association for the Disabled – Verwood Branch and would be copying it to Dorset County Council. After discussion the Clerk was instructed to write thanking the Association for their detailed report which would be forwarded to Dorset County Council.

d) **Allotments.** The Clerk reported that she had now received six letters from residents requesting allotments. After discussion it was agreed that this would be an agenda item at the next Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting where a sub committee/working party would be set up to investigate the provision of allotments.

e) **Blue Haze Landfill site.** Following complaints from residents regarding the odour from the site, information has been received that there had been a split pipe which had now been repaired and that during February more cells would be put in place which would hopefully stop the problem.

256/07 Monthly Budgets

The monthly budget reports for December were circulated to all members. They had been examined and no issues were raised. The Clerk reported that there were some budgets where money would need to be re-allocated.

257/07 Access & Disability Audit

No report.

258/07 Estimates for Expenditure for 2008/2009.

A schedule for the ensuing year had been submitted, the schedule was duly approved and it was proposed, seconded and RECOMMENDED that a precept of £246,760 be levied in accordance with the requirements of the schedule, a copy of which is attached to these minutes. The increase for 2008/2009 for the Band D Council Tax will be £3.36.

259/07 Reports on Health & Safety aspects from the Amenities Committee members and the Verwood Community Association.

A report had been received from the Manager of the Verwood Leisure Centre. Inspections had not been allocated for this year but three members volunteered to carry out the inspections and report back to the Clerk, who will arrange for any necessary work to be carried out. A schedule for the remainder of the Council year will be arranged and copied to members.

260/07 Other items of report or future agenda items.

- a) Information was given that the white lines had been removed from the centre of the road on Romford Bridge for safety reasons. An update was requested on the damaged kerbs in front of Bradfords at Blackhill, where the County Council had stated work would be carried out to prevent lorries parking there. The Clerk would contact the County Council.
- b) Minute 227/07 refers. Information was requested on the meeting between the Town Council and the County Council regarding the access to the Hub from Brock Way/Jenner Close. **It was reported that the County Council felt that the access was not a safety hazard and that it could only be improved if the line of site out of the Hub was angled more towards Jenner Close.** The Clerk was asked to contact the County Council to ask that this be put in writing.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.47p.m.

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Chairman