

FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE10<sup>th</sup> November 2009

PRESENT Councillors: B.Mortimer (Chairman)  
Mrs.G.Belcher  
Mrs.L.Clark  
M.W.Dolan  
Mrs.L.Dedden  
Mrs.J.Hazel  
V.Redpath  
Ms.J.Russell  
M.Simper

Apologies were received from Cllrs: M.V.Daymond, S.Gibson & P.Richardson

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

Public: 0

177/09 Declarations of Interest.

None

178/09 Policing.

Sgt. Partridge had sent a written report which included information on: - Crime figures for the month; anti social behaviour and speed checks that had been carried out. PC Robertson gave a report on the Flameburst firework event that had taken place which had been a success. Members asked questions regarding ASBOs, vehicle crime and assessments of offenders.

179/09 Clerk's Report

- a) **Minute 148/09** The Clerk has arranged for two estimates to be sought to replace the Town Council Boiler. This was noted.
- b) **New Forest District** Council wrote regarding the adoption of New Forest District (Outside the National Park) Core Strategy on 26<sup>th</sup> October. All relevant documents can be viewed at [www.newforest.gov.uk](http://www.newforest.gov.uk). This was noted.
- c) **Southern Car Club Ltd** wrote to inform the Town Council that the Rallye Sunseeker 2010 will take place on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2010. This was noted.
- d) **Internal Audit.** The Clerk reported that the Internal Auditor had completed the Interim Audit and the information was copied to all Members. This was noted.

180/09 Monthly Budgets

The monthly budget report for October was circulated to all members. They had been examined and no issues were raised.

181/09 Access & Disability Audit

No report.

182/09 Community Engagement Statement of Intent regarding the Power of Well-Being.

A draft Community Engagement Statement of Intent regarding the Power of Well-Being had been copied to all Members. Discussion took place after which it was proposed, seconded and RECOMMENDED that the Community Engagement Statement of Intent be accepted after the following amendments have been made to:

1. **Aims and Objectives.** Delete - 'Also with the permission and at the discretion of the Mayor or Chairmen of Committees to allow any member of the public to comment on an issue being debated by the Council or committee, in order to provide information or clarification of items relevant to the matter being debated.'

**3. Provision of Information to the Community.** Add to the end of the paragraph – ‘Town Council’s agendas and minutes can be viewed on the Town Council website.

183/09 Grounds Maintenance Contract.

Information was given to Members about the quotations which had been received for the Grounds Maintenance Contract for the next three years. The total cost of each contract is as follows:

Banyards	£13,706.56
Continental Landscapes Ltd.	£13,893.56
Dorset Works	£13,123.01

After much discussion it was proposed, seconded and RECOMMENDED that Dorset Works be awarded the Grounds Maintenance Contract for the next three years.

184/09 Reports on Health & Safety aspects from the Amenities Committee members and the Verwood Community Association.

The report from the Verwood Community Association regarding Potterne Park had been received. The inspections of the Verwood Cemetery and the Verwood Recreation Ground and Open Spaces had been carried out. The Clerk will arrange for any necessary work.

185/09 Other reports and items for future agendas.

a) A request was made for the Lengthsman Scheme to be discussed again by the Town Council. Information was given that the Town Council were awaiting a report from the District Council, minute 69/09 (b), refers before discussing the matter again. Much discussion took place and it was agreed that the Clerk would contact local Parish and Town Clerks to ask their thoughts on the scheme.

186/09 Confidential.

It was proposed, seconded and agreed that in view of the nature of the business to be transacted it is likely that if a member of the public were present during the following item there would be a disclosure of ‘Confidential Information’ involving staff and they therefore be excluded from the meeting in accordance with Section 1(2) Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.

RECOMMENDED that the report attached in the minute book, regarding staff wages be accepted.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.32 p.m.

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Chairman