

FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

11<sup>th</sup> May 2010

PRESENT Councillors:

- B.Mortimer (Chairman)
- Mrs.G.Belcher
- Mrs.L.Clark
- M.V.Daymond
- Mrs.L.Dedden
- M.W.Dolan
- S.Gibson
- V.Redpath
- P.Richardson
- Ms.J.Russell
- M.Simper

Apologies were received from Cllr: Mrs.J.Hazel

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

Public: 1

374/09 Declarations of Interest.

None

375/09 Policing.

Sgt. Partridge had sent a written report which included information on: crime figures; anti-social behaviour; speed checks. Information was given on an incident in Montrose Drive.

376/09 Clerk's Report

a) Minute 343/09(a) refers Information had been received that an Operations Response Plan for Flooding for the River Crane will be produced later this year. This was noted.

b) Minute 345/09 The Clerk is still investigating the land ownership. This was noted.

c) Zurich Municipal sent the Insurance Schedule for 2010/2011. This was noted.

377/09 Monthly Budgets

The monthly budget report for April will be circulated to all Members at a later date.

378/09 Access & Disability Audit

No report.

379/09 Trussell Trust Foodbank Scheme.

Min 343/09(f) refers. The Chairman welcomed Mr.Mark Ward, Salisbury Foodbank Manager of the Trussell Trust and asked him to address the committee on the work of the Trust, some information had already been copied to all Members. Mr.Ward gave information on: how the foodbank was born; collection and storage; supply; funding; how they would like to start up a foodbank here in Verwood. Discussion took place regarding: distribution outlets in Verwood; agencies who would be responsible for handing out vouchers; the support that the Town Council could give. Mr.Ward was thanked for attending the meeting which gave an insight into the workings of the Trussell Trust. After further discussion it was proposed, seconded and RECOMMENDED that the Town Council support the work of the Trussell Trust by helping to publicise this project.

380/09 Service Level Agreements.

Min. 277/09 (c) refers. Examples had been copied to all members on two types of Service Level Agreements (SLA's) that had been drawn up by the District Council with local organisations. Discussion took place on, government policy, which is advocating SLA's, the advantages of them financially, that the timescale of receiving grant aid applications would need to be changed and which applications would be considered for SLA's. Members felt, that for the next financial year 2011/2012, that the two largest recipients of Grant Aid would be subject to SLA's and that if agreed by the Full Town Council a working party be set up to meet with the two associations to agree the SLA.

It was proposed, seconded and

RECOMMENDED that Service Level Agreements would be part of the Grant Aid Policy of the Town Council and that the Verwood Community Association and the Verwood Hub grants would be subject to SLA's in the next financial year.

381/09 Lengthsman Working Party Report.

The report had been circulated to all Members and five options had been proposed by the Working Party. Discussion took place regarding the five options which were:-

- i) Promote existing contractors advertising that they are 'Working Together' with the Town Council by advertising on their fluorescent vests.  
*This could be trialed for a year. Dorset County Council have stated with regard to the lengthsman that they would consider contributing to the funding if the Town Council increase the remit of their existing contractors. They would need to be assured that a reasonable proportion of time is spent on highway works. As a start point they would need to know what hours are currently worked, the proposed additional hours and the proposed duties for those extra hours. The additional duties would need to be based on the lengthsman guidance.*
- ii) Investigate the use of a Contract Cleaning Service to take on the work of the Lengthsman, which would mean no NI, pension, training, or the purchasing of equipment or the need for the storage of equipment.  
*This could have a minimum contract liability. Knowledge of the area will be essential.*
- iii) Adopt a similar Scheme to Lytchett Minster, which means it would include NI, pension, training etc. The purchasing of a suitable vehicle and the relevant equipment. Finding a site for storage of the equipment.  
*A formal contract would be necessary.*
- iv) Adopt the Lengthsman Scheme, which would mean allocating funds for the employment of a Lengthsman, which would include NI, pension, training etc. The purchasing of a suitable vehicle and the relevant equipment. Finding a site for storage of the equipment.  
*A formal contract would be necessary.*
- v) The devolving of work from the County Council and District Council with the appropriate funding from both Councils.  
*This would not seem a realistic option.*

It was proposed, seconded and

RECOMMENDED to put the preferred option, option 1, to promote existing contractors advertising that they are 'Working Together' with the Town Council by advertising on their fluorescent vests, to the Full Town Council.

382/09 Reports on Health & Safety aspects from the Amenities Committee members and the Verwood Community Association.

The inspection of the Verwood Cemetery had been carried out. The report from the Verwood Community Association on Potterne Park had not been received to date and the inspections of the Recreation Grounds and open spaces had also not been received. The Clerk will arrange for any necessary work to be carried out.

383/09 Other Reports and Items for Future Agendas.

- a) The Clerk was asked to find out the cost of a seal, for the sealing of Town Council documents.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.46 p.m.

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Chairman