

FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE14th September 2010

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

Apologies were received from Cllr's: Mrs.G.Belcher, Mrs.A.Daymond, M.V.Daymond, Mrs.J.Hazel, P.Richardson & M.Simper.

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

Public: 0

122/10 Declarations of Interest.

None.

123/10 Policing.

Sgt. Partridge had sent a written report which included information on: crime figures for July and August; anti social behaviour and speed checks carried out in the Civil Parish. Questions were raised by members regarding: the effectiveness of SIDs; criminal damage; information on a break-in at Three Legged Cross; anti social behaviour figures from the monthly report; staffing.

124/10 Clerk's Report

a) **Dorset Association of Parish & Town Councils, Chief Executives Circular 07/10**, includes information regarding: Local (Parish and Town) Council Payments; Gypsies, Travellers – Development Plan; Creative Census – A Week in Our World; Government Review of Public Sector Pensions; Dorset Supports Local Enterprise Partnerships; Development Trusts Association – Conference; Training Opportunity from Gloucestershire Association. This was noted.

b) **Dorset Association of Parish & Town Councils, Chief Executives Circular 08/10**, includes information regarding: Local referendums to veto excessive Council tax increases; The Community Right to Build; Provision of BT Procedure with regard to provision of telephone service to parish, town and community councils; HMRC related scam examples; Local (Parish and Town) Council elections 2011; Primary Care Trust – Consultations; Ordnance Survey (OS); Climate Week; Important information for those who work with Parish Plans; Affordable Housing – Keeping Villages Alive; Qualification Opportunity – Community Engagement and Governance; A Musical Opportunity; Training Events. This was noted.

c) **East Dorset District Council** sent a copy of their 'Review of the Year 2009/2010. This can be viewed at the Town Council Offices. This was noted. Concern had been raised, by a resident, about the paper used to produce the booklet being of an unnecessarily high quality.

d) **Rotary Club of Verwood** wrote with information about the Rotary International End Polio Now Campaign. Part of the campaign is to raise awareness around the time of the Thanks for Life Day by planting crocus bulbs in early/mid October 2010. Would the Town Council agree for the crocus bulbs to be planted on Ferrett Green, Champtoceaux and Liederbach Green and perhaps on some of the roundabouts? Members agreed to the planting of crocus bulbs in the Civil Parish and discussion took place regarding the suggested areas for planting. It was agreed that the Chairman of the Amenities Committee and the Clerk would decide where the planting should take place.

e) **Fly Posting**. A resident has complained about fly posting by the Hub on lamp standards and other street furniture. Following a discussion the Clerk was asked to write to the Hub stating that, whilst supporting the advertising of events at the Hub, fly posting on was not an acceptable method and it would only encourage other organisations to do the same. Cllr. Dolan also agreed to speak to the Hub regarding this matter. The Clerk was also asked to write to East Dorset District Council to ask them to enforce their policy on fly posting.

f) **East Dorset District Council** sent an email regarding the Christchurch and East Dorset Core Strategy Options for Consideration consultation which will run from 4th October to 24th December and will offer a number of options concerning the future planning policy for East Dorset. Parish and Town Councils will be invited to a meeting on 26th October to discuss general issues of the Core Strategy. East Dorset would like to organise a further meeting with the Town Council to discuss the particular views of the proposals for the Town between 4th October and 24th December 2010. The Clerk would inform the District of four suitable dates for the meeting to be held.

125/10 Monthly Budgets

The monthly budget reports for July & August were circulated to all Members and no issues were raised. The Clerk informed members that the Review of the Effectiveness of the System of Internal Audit had not been carried out in the financial year 2009/2010 which may affect the report from the external auditor.

126/10 Access & Disability Audit

Nothing to report.

127/10 Speed Indicator Device.

Minutes 59/10(i) & 85/10 refers. This item was referred back to this committee following further investigation. Discussion took place regarding funding and the effectiveness of SIDs after which it was proposed, seconded and RECOMMENDED that, after considering their effectiveness and questioning the cost of maintenance, the Council should not purchase a SID.

128/10 Application for Grant Aid.

Members were asked to review the Council's application form for Grant Aid a copy of which was copied to all members. After a short discussion it was agreed that no changes needed to be made to the present application form.

129/10 Standing Orders.

The Standing Order Working Party has now completed their amendments to the Standing Orders of the Verwood Town Council, a copy of which was sent to all Members. After discussion it was proposed, seconded and RECOMMENDED that the amended Standing Orders of the Verwood Town Council be accepted.

130/10 Reports on Health & Safety aspects from the Amenities Committee members and the Verwood Community Association.

The reports from the Verwood Community Association for August and September had been received. The inspections of the Cemetery and Recreation Grounds and Open Spaces had been carried out. The Clerk will arrange for any necessary work to be done.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.12 p.m.

.....
Chairman