

FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE7th December 2010

PRESENT Councillors:

B.Mortimer (Chairman)
Mrs.G.Belcher
Mrs.L.Clark
Mrs.A.Daymond
M.V.Daymond
Mrs.L.Dedden
M.W.Dolan
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: 0

221/10 Declarations of Interest.

Councillor Mrs. L. Clark declared a personal interest under Agenda Item 4 as she is a member of the East Dorset District Council Community Engagement Committee.

Councillor M.W. Dolan declared a personal interest under Agenda Item 4 as he is a Trustee of Verwood Community Association and Verwood Hub Community Association.

Councillor B. Mortimer declared a personal interest under Agenda Item 4 as he is Trustee of the Verwood Community Association.

Councillor P. Richardson declared a personal interest under Agenda Item 4 as he is a member of the East Dorset District Council Community Engagement Committee.

Councillor M. Simper declared a personal interest under Agenda Item 4 as he is a Trustee of Verwood Community Association.

222/10 Policing.

Sgt. Partridge sent a written report which included information on crime figures, anti-social behaviour, and speed checks. A request was made for an update on two previous incidents in the Civil Parish.

223/10 Clerk's Report

a) **Minute 204/10(b) refers.** The Clerk obtained information regarding the cost of a grit bin, which is £165 from one company. Information regarding the 1 tonne dumpy bags of salt available from Dorset County Council had been obtained but was still very confusing therefore the Clerk will continue to make further enquiries. Discussion took place regarding; which roads had been gritted around the Civil Parish by Dorset County Council; the purchase of grit bins for the Town; that no bins would be purchased for any particular roads; purchasing of grit bins for commercial areas. It was proposed, seconded and

RECOMMENDED that Verwood Town Council purchase three grit bins for the commercial areas of the Town and that the Town Clerk contact Dorset County Council regarding the positioning and filling of the grit bins.

b) **Trinity First School** would like to bring their school council reps, 10 children, to the Town Council to meet some Councillors to see what they do. The school will be sending some dates in January 2011. Members agreed to the request and the Clerk will inform councillors when a date has been set.

c) **A resident** has made a request for a grit bin in Howe Lane as it so near to the school and as the road is not being gritted it is dangerous. The Headteacher is aware of the problem and there have been many cars skidding again this year. It was agreed that no grit bins would be purchased for any particular roads in the Civil Parish.

d) **The Family Church** wrote asking permission to hold a non stop reading of the bible, for 70 hours, in either May or June on Ferrett Green. The event is to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the King James Bible and they are hoping it will be a Churches Together in Verwood initiative. Discussion took place after which members agreed to the request with the following conditions: that a maximum of three to four people are on Ferrett Green at any one time, no P.A. equipment is used and that the Town Council is kept up to date with the discussions the Family Church have with Churches Together.

e) **The Family Church** sent an email on behalf of Churches Together in Verwood to ask if it would be possible to attend the next Full Town Council meeting to briefly give details about the Week of Prayer for the Town which will be held on January 18th - 25th 2011. The Clerk was asked to inform the Family Church that they were most welcome to attend the next Full Town Council meeting on 21st December to speak during the public participation session.

224/10 Monthly Budgets

The monthly budget reports for November were circulated and no issues were raised.

225/10 Service Level Agreements.

The draft Service Level Agreements (SLA's) for the Verwood Community Association (VCA) and the Verwood Hub Community Association (VHCA) were copied to all members. After discussion regarding the removal of Annex 1 Management point 2.8 for VCA and 2.7 for VHCA and Annex 1 point 3.10, it was proposed, seconded and

RECOMMENDED that the draft Service Level Agreements be approved subject to the removal of Annex 1 2.8 VCA, 2.7 VHCA and 3.10 VCA and VHCA.

226/10 'Broadband Deliver UK'

This item was brought to the Committee with a request that the Town Council register their concerns with their MP as Dorset has not been successful in applying for the Broadband Delivery UK (BDUK) pilot funding from the Government. One resultant comment made was "*On market lead basis, Dorset is a high-risk area of not acquiring Superfast broadband, based on rurality and cost of deploying fibre. Analysis work shows that without intervention 57.3% of Dorset in 2017 would still be a red priority area at risk of no coverage*". After discussion the Clerk was asked to write to the MP to register their concerns regarding the comment above in italics and request that he follow up on the possibility of the potential extra funding that may be available as a result of the Comprehensive Spending Review.

227/10 Partner Contractors.

Minute 196/10 refers. Information was given to members, regarding costs, for hedge cutting and weed killing from one of the Town Council's contractors. Discussion took place on: the work carried out by the County Council, District Council and Housing authorities; Power of Wellbeing; partnership working with the County, District and Housing Association regarding hedge cutting; weed killing; budgets for 2011/2012. Following the discussion the Clerk was asked to contact the relevant authorities to enquire as to whether, if they were unable to carry out hedge cutting within a certain time frame, they would agree to the Town Council contractors carrying out the work and reimburse the Town Council. The Clerk was also asked to look into putting monies into a fund for 2011/2012.

228/10 Reports on Health & Safety aspects from the Amenities Committee members and the Verwood Community Association.

The report from the Verwood Community Association for November had been received and 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.

229/10 Other Reports and Items for Future Agendas

- a) Information was given that the Town Plan questionnaires were with the Post Office and would be delivered next week,
- b) Planning permission had been approved by the District Council for the MUGA on the Verwood Recreation Ground.

230/10 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 agreed Action Plan be carried out.

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

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Chairman