

**REPORT OF THE FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON 17th APRIL 2007 AT OLD MILL HALL, GROVE**

Present: Cllr W Evans (Chairman)
Cllr W R Ackers
Cllr K R Clarke
Cllr P L Hadcroft
Cllr J M Stock

In attendance: Cllr D Hadcroft
Cllr M Mellersh
Cllr J Nunn-Price

Clerk: Mr G M Mundy

1 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs F D Parnell and R Hicks-Greene.

2 Declarations of Personal and Prejudicial Interests in respect of items on the agenda for this meeting.

There were no declarations of interest.

3 Sign report of committee meeting held 27th February 2007

It was **MOVED** the chairman and **RESOLVED** unanimously....

“...that the report be signed as a true record of the meeting”.

4 Matters arising from the report of the meeting held on 27th February 2007

- a) Item 4 b) – Parish grants – The clerk informed the committee that he had been unable to submit an application for a parish grant by the deadline of 1st April 2007.
- b) Item 4 c) – GRFC Floodlights – The clerk informed the committee that he had informed GRFC that the parish council would not support an application for new floodlights until the route of the southern access road had been decided. Cllr W Ackers informed the committee that although GRFC were not happy with the decision, they did understand the council’s position. They also stated that they would be speaking with the RFU to ensure funding would still be available when the route of the road is known.
- c) Item 9 – Post Office Network response – The clerk informed the committee that the agreed response from council had been submitted.
- d) Item 10 – Thames Water consultation response – The clerk informed the committee that the agreed council response had been submitted by the due date.

5 Reports from representatives of the following outside bodies

- a) Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils – The minutes of the meeting held on 20th November 2006 were noted.
- b) Grove Village Hall Management Committee – The notes prepared by Cllr B Williamson of the meeting held on 21st March 2007 were noted.

c) Wantage, Grove & District Twinning Association –

(i) The minutes of the French group meeting held on 14th March 2007 were noted.

(ii) Cllr J Nunn-Price stated that the recent twinning visit to Mably (31st March – 7th April) went very well.

(iii) Cllr J Nunn-Price spoke about honours recognition for twinning members.

(iv) Cllr J Nunn-Price stated that the AGM is to be held on 23rd May commencing at 7pm in Wantage Civic Hall.

6 Old Mill Hall matters

a) The minutes of the meeting held on 17th January 2007 were noted. Cllr D Hadcroft submitted the Hall Management Committee's wish list for the hall to the clerk. The clerk then read out the list to the committee. Cllr D Hadcroft also mentioned that the smell from within the ladies toilets is apparent again. A discussion took place in which the options were discussed. The clerk said that he would use a detergent solution in the sinks to try and get rid of the smell before getting someone in again to look at the problem.

Clerk

b) Quotation for hand driers – The clerk informed the meeting that he had received two quotations for hand dryers. It was decided that because the quotations were not specific enough in detail, the clerk was asked to obtain more information and bring back to the next meeting.

Clerk

7 Millbrook School Car Park

There was nothing to report.

8 Subscription to the OALC for 2007/08

It was **MOVED** Cllr W Ackers **SECONDED** Cllr J Stock and **RESOLVED** unanimously

Clerk

“to continue subscription to the OALC for 2007/08 at a cost of £1,300.45 inc VAT.”

9 Subscription to the SLCC for 2007/08

It was **MOVED** Cllr K Clarke **SECONDED** Cllr W Ackers and **RESOLVED** unanimously

Clerk

“to continue subscription to the SLCC for 2007/08 at a cost of £170.00.”

10 Renewal of council insurance (general policy)

It was **MOVED** Cllr P Hadcroft **SECONDED** Cllr J Stock and **RESOLVED** unanimously

Clerk

“to accept the quotation from Allianz-Cornhill for council insurance at a cost of £8,025.75 for 2007/08.”

11 Finance and General Purposes Committee invitation to the 2007 parish council reception

The invitation list as amended was accepted.

12 Retrospective grant to the Parish Newsletter

It was **MOVED** Cllr W Ackers **SECONDED** Cllr K Clarke and **RESOLVED** unanimously

Clerk

“to grant retrospective approval for the annual grant to the Parish Newsletter for 2006/07 for the sum of £900.”

13 Purchase of a UPS for the office computers

The clerk informed the meeting that the council chairman requested that this item is deferred until the next Finance and General Purposes meeting when the full specifications are known. This was agreed.

14 Policy for future civic visits

The chairman informed the committee that a letter had been received from Wantage Town Council notifying a recently adopted policy relating to civic visits. It was generally agreed to recommend to Full Council that Grove Parish Council adopt the policy as follows:

- Parties should consist of at least six, and no more than ten, participants.
- Parties should be made up from councillors and community representatives.
- That there is a need for reasonable notice to be given concerning whether the visit should proceed or not in order to enable the host town to make arrangements.
- That hosts should offer dates for a visit, visitors should not select their own dates.

Clerk

The clerk is to bring this item to the next Full Council.

15 Health and Safety Officers report

The report was noted and accepted.

16 Chairman’s urgent communications

There were no urgent communications.

17 General Correspondence

A letter from Postwatch was noted.

15 Confidential items

There were no confidential matters for discussion.

The meeting closed at 8.38pm

Confirmed 8th May 2007

Chairman