

**REPORT OF THE FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON 19th NOVEMBER 2007 AT OLD MILL HALL, GROVE**

Present: Cllr F D Parnell (Chairman)
Cllr W Evans (Vice-Chairman)
Cllr W R Ackers
Cllr P L Hadcroft (part meeting)
Cllr J M Stock

Clerk: Mr G M Mundy

1 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs S K Dexter, D M Hadcroft and J E Nunn-Price.

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 9th October 2007

The minutes sent previously to Councillors contained the wrong date and several other minor errors, however these had been corrected on the minutes presented at the meeting, therefore, 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 9th October 2007

- a) Item 4 a) – Millennium Building Fund and Grove Cricket Club accounts – The clerk informed the committee that the former account signatories had been written to and he was still awaiting replies.
- b) Item 7 - Millbrook School car park – No reply had been received from either the school or Mr Chris Miles.
- c) Item 9 – Unpaid work in the community – probation service – The clerk informed the committee that the work group from the probation service will be attending to the area by the kickabout on Wednesday 21st November 2007. The clerk agreed to report at the next Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting.

Clerk

5 Reports from representatives of the following outside bodies

- a) Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils – the winter AGM is to be held on Monday 26th November at Stratfield Brake Kidlington. The vice-chairman said he cannot attend this meeting. The chairman said he may be able to attend

Chairman

Cllr Hadcroft arrived

- b) Wantage, Grove & District Twinning Association – The clerk read out an e-mail received from Cllr Nunn-Price on twinning events:

School exchange 14th - 27th November 2007
Dickensian Evening stall – 7th December
Twinning visit from Mably 19th - 26th April 2008 (offer to parish council to host an event)

Clerk

The clerk was asked to find out what sort of event the Twinning Association would like the council to host with times/dates costs and location etc.

6 Old Mill Hall matters

The vice-chairman reported that at a recent management committee meeting it was discussed if the JET for Grove should pay for the use of the Mervyn J Shaw room for their meetings. It was generally agreed that this was a matter for the Hall Management Committee to take up with JET for Grove.

Hall
Manager

7 Millbrook School car park

There was nothing to report.

8 Plaque in memory of Roland Bashford

It was generally agreed that the wording for the plaque to be placed on the memorial bench should read "In memory of Councillor Roland Bashford 1935 – 2007".

9 Cheque and Postal Arrangements

The clerk explained that on occasion cheques sent through the post were going missing and on the advice of the internal auditor a stop process was being applied amounting to an additional cost to the council of £12 per cheque. The clerk proposed a policy where cheques to the value of £100 or more would now be sent by recorded post, also at an additional cost to the council of 70 pence per item. The proposal was rejected by the committee who asked for the situation should be monitored. The clerk was asked to investigate paying on line or by BACS through the bank.

Clerk

10 Income and Expenditure to date and budget estimate for 2008/09

The income and expenditure to date was noted. The clerk was asked to amend the form so column headings are in the correct order.

Clerk

Following discussion

It was **MOVED** the chairman **SECONDED** Cllr P Hadcroft and **RESOLVED** unanimously

“to recommend to Full Council that the initial budget statement for the Finance and General Purposes Committee be set at £181,163 and also a specific reserve is established for the Planning Consultant.”

The clerk was asked to check the precept calculation with the OALC and produce an idiots guide to the precept for the councillors.

Clerk

11 Health & Safety Officer’s report

The clerk informed the committee that no progress had been made on current issues. It was generally agreed that the Health and Safety Officer produces a report regardless of any progress made or not made.

H&S
Officer

12 Chairman’s urgent communications

There were no urgent communications.

13 General Correspondence

There were no general correspondence.

14 Confidential matters

It was **PROPOSED** the chairman and **RESOLVED** in accordance with Section 1 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, as amended by Section 100 of the Local Government Act 1972 ...

“that the press and public be excluded from the meeting to permit the committee to consider the confidential items.”

The meeting closed at 7.01 pm

Confirmed 15th January 2008

Chairman