

**REPORT OF THE FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD ON 26<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2008 AT OLD MILL HALL, GROVE**

Present: Cllr F D Parnell (Chairman) Cllr P L Hadcroft  
Cllr W Evans (Vice-Chairman) Cllr J E Nunn-Price  
Cllr W R Ackers Cllr J M Stock  
Cllr S K Dexter

Clerk: Mr G M Mundy

**1 Apologies for absence**

There were no apologies for absence.

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

No declarations were given. The chairman suggested and it was agreed that declarations could be given at an appropriate time.

**3 Sign report of committee meeting held 15<sup>th</sup> January 2008**

The Clerk informed the committee that the page numbering on page 1 was incorrect and was therefore amended to read 'Page 1 of 3'.

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

**"...that the report as amended be signed as a true record of the meeting".**

**4 Matters arising from the reports of previous meetings**

Minutes of the meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> November 2007

(a) Item 4 (a) – Grove Cricket Club account – The Clerk informed the committee that the Grove Cricket Club account had now been closed. The closing balance of £577.80 has been received from the bank and placed into the Grants reserve fund. The Clerk also informed the committee that he was still pursuing signatories to the Millennium Building Fund and it would be closed in due course.

Clerk

Minutes of the meeting held 15<sup>th</sup> January 2008

(b) Item 6 – Old Mill Hall matters – The Clerk informed the committee that he had written to the Old Mill Hall Management Committee and informed them of the councils' stance on free sessions. The Old Mill Hall Management Committee has now agreed with the Council.

Clerk

(c) Item 7 – Millbrook School car park – The Clerk informed the committee that the drains located around the car park had been cleared over the weekend 16<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup> February 2008 but debris had been left in the drain gullies, the Clerk has asked the school to clear them.

Clerk

(d) Item 8 – Unpaid work in the community – The Clerk informed the committee that the council will have to apply again to the Probation Service to request further new tasks. The Clerk said that he would re-apply.

Clerk

(e) Item 11 – Health & Safety – The Clerk informed the committee that he had not yet sourced the DVD on 'Working with Ladders'. The Clerk also informed the committee that he will arrange a First Aid course for Phil Wilson.

**5 Reports from representatives of the following outside bodies**

(a) Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils – The chairman informed the committee that no meeting had been held recently. The next meeting is scheduled for June 2008.

Clerk

- (b) Wantage, Grove & District Twinning Association – Cllr Nunn-Price had nothing to report.

(i) Twinning visit from Mably 20<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> April 2008 – Cllr Nunn-Price informed the committee that because of a change of arrival date of the French group it was no longer possible to hold the reception in Old Mill Hall. Cllr Nunn-Price informed the committee that the Adult Learning Centre is happy to hold the event on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> April at approximately 1 pm.

Cllr Evans asked who would pay for the reception. Cllr Nunn-Price said that the Council would pay as it decided to hold the reception. Cllr Nunn-Price said that there would be 34 guests from Mably and approximately 30 hosts.

It was generally agreed that a vote take place to decide if the Parish Council will pay for the refreshments. There were 4 votes in favour and 2 votes against paying for the refreshments. It was generally agreed that expenditure for the reception should not exceed £60.

It was also generally agreed that this item be placed on the agenda for the next full council meeting.

Clerk

## 6 Old Mill Hall matters

- (a) Minutes of the meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> January 2008 – The minutes were noted. Cllr Evans informed the committee that Angie Glover would be taking over from Mary Whiting as Hall Manager and licence holder with effect from the middle of March 2008.
- (b) Smoking outside Old Mill Hall – The Clerk informed the committee that following a function in the hall on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2008 there had been complaints regarding the amount of cigarette ends left on the floor on the outside of the hall. The Clerk had requested that the hall caretaker place a receptacle outside at future events to which the Hall Manager has agreed.

## 7 Millbrook School car park

There was nothing to report.

## 8 Matters for discussion

- (a) Annual Parish Meeting arrangements – The chairman reminded the committee that the Annual Parish Meeting is to take place on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> May commencing at 7.30 pm in Old Mill Hall. Following a discussion it was generally agreed recommend to Full Council the following agenda items:

Clerk

- A brief history into the Grove Airfield Development and the Parish Councils' role in the process
- An update from the Council on the Grove Airfield plans to-date
- An update on the Thames Water Reservoir project
- Questions from the public
- Council Chairman and Committee Chairman reports

It was also agreed that tea & coffee will be provided in a scheduled interval. The Clerk was asked and invite the WI to provide the refreshments.

Clerk

Cllr Hadcroft suggested and it was generally agreed that an item be submitted to the Parish Newsletter informing residents of the meeting and its agenda. The Clerk is asked to inform the local press accordingly.

Clerk

- (b) Council Reception 2008 – The chairman asked the committee if there was a requirement for a council reception in 2008. Cllr Dexter said that, as a newly elected Councillor he found last year's reception very useful.

It was therefore generally agreed to recommend to full council that the Parish Council reception for 2008 be held on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2008 in Old Mill Hall.

Clerk

- Nunn-Price
- (c) Health Check steering group – The chairman informed the committee that both he and Cllr Nunn-Price had attended the inaugural steering group meeting on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2008. The chairman also informed the committee that the steering group had been set up to draft an action plan including aspirations from Grove, Wantage and surrounding villages. Following a short discussion it was generally agreed that Cllr Nunn-Price be appointed as the representative from Grove Parish Council.

**9 Health & Safety Officer's report**

- (a) Change of fire/intruder alarm contractor – The Clerk informed the committee that he had appointed Executive Alarms Ltd to undertake the service contract for the fire and intruder alarms for council property. This will result in a saving to the Council of approximately £300 a year.

It was **PROPOSED** Cllr Stock and **SECONDED** Cllr Ackers and **RESOLVED** unanimously

**“to retrospectively approve the appointment of Executive Alarms Ltd as the Council’s service contractor for fire and intruder alarms”**

**10 Chairman's urgent communications**

- (a) Council chairman invitation – The chairman informed the committee that he had received and accepted an invitation to the AGM of the Wantage Counselling Service on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2008.

**11 General Correspondence**

- (a) Correspondence from Mr Cottrell re Village Green – The correspondence was noted.

The meeting closed at 8.30 pm

Confirmed 8<sup>th</sup> April 2008

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman