

MADELEY PARISH COUNCIL

FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee, held on Monday, February 12th 2007 at Jubilee House, 74 High Street, Madeley, commencing at 6.30pm.

PRESENT: Councillors: J Jones (Chair), D Davies, G Green, A MacKenzie, C Muddiman, M Swift
Clerk, Deputy Clerk

F06/40. Apologies for Absence

Cllr D Edwards	-	Ill Health	-	Approved
Cllr DP Taylor	-	Work commitment	-	Approved

F06/41. Declarations of Interest

There were none

F06/42. Remarks from the Chair

There were none

F06/43. Public Discussion

There were no members of the public present

F06/44. Minutes

Resolved:

that the minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting held on December 11th 2006 be confirmed and approved

F06/45. Committee Reports

to receive Committee reports for information and consideration of referred items

45.1 Leisure and Community Committee

Councillor J Jones presented the report of the Leisure & Community Committee meeting held on January 22nd 2007 for information.
Noted

45.2 Personnel Committee

Councillor D Davies presented the report of the Personnel Committee meeting held on January 29th 2007 for information.
Noted

F06/46. Budget & Finance

to effectively monitor and control the council's budget to ensure best value for the community.

Business Plan Report

The Business Plan was presented for Councillors information.

Noted

46.1 Expenditure Approval List

The Responsible Finance Officer presented the Expenditure Transactions Approval List report for period to February 2007

Noted

Resolved:

that the expenditure transactions recorded be confirmed and approved for payment

46.2 Financial Budget Comparison

to note actual monies received and spent compared to 2006/07 budget

The Responsible Finance Officer presented the Financial Comparison Report for the period to February 2007

Noted.

46.3 Reserves – Policy, Schedule and Risk Assessment

The Responsible Finance Officer presented a draft policy on Reserves and Balances for consideration.

Councillors requested that the Policy should include Audit Commission parameters on minimum/maximum levels and it was considered beneficial to invite scrutiny by auditor

Re-draft for presentation to Full Council in February 2007.

F06/47. Assets

to continuously improve all Council owned and managed properties and to provide facilities that are safe, well maintained and welcoming. To publicise these facilities effectively and to deliver an efficient, value for money service.

Business Plan Report

The Business Plan was presented for Councillors information.

Noted

• **Jubilee House**

Request from tenant (Energy Efficiency Advice Centre) to extend office space together with introduction of commercial rates for rental has prompted a review of accommodation. Adequacy of MPC office environment for staff was queried and sufficiency of storage space was questionable. Options to be considered and presented to April 2007 meeting

• **Public Conveniences**

Ongoing problem with graffiti will require redecoration and building condition is deteriorating

• **Coach House**

Architectural survey complete and structure approved sound. Stonham Housing Association evaluation delayed

- **Allotments**
Excessive increase in water consumption at Sutton Hill allotments under examination for demand or leakage
- **War Memorial**
Public request for submission of additional names to be included on engraved marble plaque will be published in February 2007.
Response will determine options – action not considered time-sensitive

F06/48. Partnerships

to develop effective working partnerships with other agencies and organisations to ensure a co-ordinated approach towards the achievement of common goals. To consider and evaluate more major projects requiring funding.

Business Plan Report

The Business Plan was presented for Councillors information.
Noted

48.1 Broadband and VoIP Telephony System

The Responsible Finance Officer presented partnership proposals for integration of Broadband and Telephone communications systems with Telford & Wrekin Council - Officers had held preliminary discussions with ICT Business Transformation
Integration would incur Capital costs but engender long-term Revenue savings. Costings for circuit connection, digital telephones, line rental, web-hosting, and maintenance charges would be provided for comparison with current charges.
Councillors approved the partnership initiative which, if adopted as a successful pilot, could be extended to all Parish/Town Councils
Costed presentation to be submitted to Full Council in February 2007.

F06/49. Correspondence

There was none

F06/50. Information

There was none

F06/51. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee is scheduled to take place on Monday, April 23rd 2007, commencing at 6.30pm.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.30pm.

Signed..... Dated.....
(Chair)