

MINUTES of a meeting of the FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE held at 8.07pm on Wednesday 25th October 2017 in the Council Offices, 72 Chapel Hill, Stansted Mountfitchet, Essex

PRESENT Cllr P Jones (Chairman), Cllrs M Jessup, J O'Brien and D Wallace-Jarvis

ATTENDING Mrs Ruth Clifford - Clerk
Mrs Emma Philbrick - Admin Assistant
Cllrs C Dean, J Kavanagh and G Sell
1 member of the public

260 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs M Caton, F Richards and J Salmon

261 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST - None

262 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 19th July 2017 were approved

263 MATTERS ARISING

157 - All resolved

264 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Stop Stansted Expansion has made a request for financial support out of 2018 budget. This will be considered at the meeting in December.

265 PAYMENTS FOR AUTHORISATION - Approved

266 LIGHTING

(a) OUTAGE REPORT

2 lights in Lower Street are out.

New lanterns have been ordered for lights in Norman's Way and Park Road.

UKPN are looking into problem in Woodfields - Fuse keeps blowing in station

Woodfields – the light outside house number 13 is out of lighting again despite a number of visits having been made by UKPN for a blown fuse at the sub-station. Church Road - 6 lights in a row are out and this has been reported to UKPN - these lights do not belong to us.

(b) UPDATE ON CROASDAILE ROAD AND MILLFIELDS

We have replaced the missing column but have been waiting months for a quote from UKPN to quote for reconnection. This has now been received at a net cost of £4,500. We have queried this as they are stating that the supply needs to come across from the other side of the road even though this is not far from where the previous light was before the gas leak.

UKPN are re-quoting and are also arranging a site visit.

The height of all the columns in Croasdaile Road is to be increased by adding extensions.

Millfields - As previously discussed, we obtained a quote for moving the column in Millfields and asked the resident concerned to pay 50% towards this. The resident was not happy but it was agreed that as the column was there before they purchased the property that the

Parish Council will not pay all the cost of getting this done. We will however arrange for the broken lantern to be replaced.

267 WINDMILL

There is a Trustee meeting next week. A report from Richard Thomas will be circulated. There is an issue with the redecoration work that has been completed on the Windmill but this has already been flagged up and the final bill will not be paid until this has been resolved.

Cllr Sell suggested a plaque in the Windmill in memory of Ted Pretty as a mark of recognition from the Parish Council and Millers. Cllr O'Brien confirmed this will be mentioned to the Millers for consideration at the next meeting.

268 YOUTH CENTRE

Cllrs Caton and Jones, along with Trevor Lloyd, held a meeting with Linda Barnes two weeks ago. Youth Centre numbers are good and on the whole everything is ok but help is needed to improve the admin side of the operation. Cllrs Caton and Jones along with Linda Barnes will be meeting with Clive Emmett of Uttlesford Council for Voluntary Service to get advice on sorting out what needs to be done and how to do the reporting. The Youth Centre is getting lots of youths from Foresthall Park and there is a suggestion that a social club may be set up at the Forest Hall School to get in amongst the younger community there. It was agreed that the Clerk would find out if the security system in St Mary's Primary school had now be modified to allow the school to be used for community events if we were to ask permission.

269 BONFIRE NIGHT AND REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

Bonfire night will be held at Forest Hall School this year. There will be no bonfire but there will be fireworks, music plus burgers and hotdogs. An email has been sent but if any Councillors can help on the gates it would be appreciated. A fee has been paid to the school for hire for the event but Cllr Sell is going to speak to the Headteacher and see if this can be refunded as it's a community event.

Remembrance Sunday will hopefully happen as usual. District Chairman Cllr Geoffrey Sell, accompanied by Chief Executive Dawn French, will be laying a wreath and then holding tea in the Day centre afterwards for all organisations involved in the service. Speedwatch have been asked to get involved in policing the roads.

270 BUDGETS

The draft budget for 2018/19 and 19/20 had been circulated prior to the meeting. Cllr Jones highlighted various amendments to the current year budget and explained the rationale for the 18/19 and 19/20 budgets. His written report was tabled. The Open Spaces Committee will be asked to consider its section of the budget at their next meeting and a further draft will be presented at the Finance Committee in early December prior to approval by the Full Council, hopefully later that month.

Meeting closed 9.35pm