

FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held at 7.00 on Thursday, 9th June 2009. Councillors Auger, Shinkins and Stevens attended with the Clerk Mrs S Kostyrka.

01/09 To elect a Chairman

It was confirmed that Cllr Pelling was happy to remain Chairman of the committee if proposed. Cllr Wallis also supported this.

It was proposed by Cllr Auger, seconded by Cllr Stephens and accepted that Cllr Pelling remain Chairman of the Finance and General Purposes Committee, and Cllr Wallis be Vice Chairman. It was agreed that Cllr Dilks be asked to attend whenever possible as his experience would be a valuable addition to the group.

Cllr Auger Chaired the meeting.

02/09 To receive apologies for absence.

Cllrs Pelling and Wallis (Holiday)

03/09 To receive declarations of interest, if any.

None

04/08 To adopt the Minutes of the previous meeting held on 9th May 2009.

The minutes were adopted and signed by Cllr Auger.

05/09 To receive the report of progress in relation to matters arising from these Minutes not dealt with elsewhere on the agenda.

The Clerk confirmed that there were no matters outstanding and that the new Insurance cover was in place. The Annual Accounts had been passed by the External Auditor and the Notice of Conclusion of Audit had been posted as legally required.

06/09 To report on the financial situation

The statement of accounts for the first quarter was reviewed. Cllr Stevens queried the £1000 allocated for the CAB. The Clerk was asked to enquire on the visitor statistics for both The Institute and the Community Centre prior to the funds being allocated.

The £10,000 allocated for PCSO Support was also queried. Cllr Stevens confirmed that as we were one of two Parishes in Lincolnshire who allocated money for PCSO Funding, it was time for our funds to be channelled to meet our own parish requirements. **It was therefore recommended to Council that the £10,000 allocated this year is offset against the extra security we have had to organise.** Serious consideration needs to be given to future funding, especially as patrolling is not taking place after 10pm, and it was agreed that this will be an agenda item prior to precept setting. Cllr Stevens also clarified that SKDC were spending money in Grantham and had organised a full activity programme during the school holidays, whilst withdrawing the small amount of funding we had previously been allocated for the Play Scheme. This was not a fair distribution of the money our tax payer's had to pay.

The Clerk will obtain a full breakdown of all the individual budgets.

07/09 To appoint the Internal Auditor for the forthcoming year and make recommendations to Council.

It was proposed by Cllr Stevens, seconded by Cllr Shinkins and agreed to recommend to Council that Mrs Carol Precey continues to conduct the annual Internal Audit as required by the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2003 (amended 2006).

08/09 To consider staff matters and make recommendations to Council.

It was confirmed that staff appraisals had now taken place and a Private and Confidential report is attached at Appendix 2 to this document.

09/09 To consider a new broadband provider.

Zetnet have been taken over and as this is continuing to cause endless problems with no support, it is recommended to Council that a new broadband provider is considered, together with a wireless facility as soon as possible.

10/09 Date of next meeting

The next scheduled meeting will take place on 8th October at 7pm to plan and consider the forthcoming precept requirements.

