

FGP2009.04.14

At a Meeting of the **FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE** of COLEHILL PARISH COUNCIL held at Colehill Memorial Hall on **14 April 2009**.

PRESENT

Cllr John Gooch, Chairman

Cllr KD Johnson, Vice-Chairman

Cllrs Keith Baker, John Bell, Susan Davies, Joe Kingsmill, Dave Mitchell and John Warren.

APOLOGIES

Cllrs Coirin Duff and David Packer.

IN ATTENDANCE

District Cllr Barbara Manuel, Lead Member for Culture, attended the meeting to answer Members' questions regarding The Sting in the Tale application for funding.

PC Steve Brett attended the meeting to update Members on police matters in Colehill.

405.09 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Gooch declared a personal interest in Minute No 410.09(a) - Applications for Grants and Donations Colehill Memorial Hall.

406.09 THE STING IN THE TALE (Minute 308.09 refers)

Proposed by Cllr Warren that £100 be awarded to The Sting in the Tale, seconded by Cllr Gooch. All in favour.

RESOLVED that a donation of £100 be approved under Section 145 of the 1972 Local Government Act.

407.09 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 24 February 2009, having been circulated, were taken as read, confirmed and signed.

408.09 MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

409.09 FOCUSSING ON SPORT INITIATIVE (Minute 212.08 refers)

In October 2008 a grant of £150 had been awarded to the Focussing on Sport Initiative for the purchase of two football goals. However, Dorset Police had advised that the cheque had not been cashed as the amount could not be channelled back to the Initiative.

RESOLVED that the cheque be returned and two goals, to the value of £150, be purchased by the Council and given to the Focussing on Sport Initiative.

410.09 GRANTS AND DONATIONS

The following applications were considered:

(a) COLEHILL MEMORIAL HALL

Proposed by Cllr Warren that £3000 be awarded to Colehill Memorial Hall, seconded by Cllr Mitchell. All in favour. Cllr Gooch abstained.

RESOLVED that a donation of £3000 be approved under Section 133 of the 1972 Local Government Act and that the amount be taken from the 2008/09 financial year.

(b) AGE CONCERN

Proposed by Cllr Warren that £250 be awarded to Age Concern, seconded by Cllr Johnson. All in favour.

RESOLVED that a donation of £250 be approved under Section 137 of the 1972 Local Government Act.

(c) HOLT UNITED YOUTH FOOTBALL CLUB

Proposed by Cllr Warren that £500 be awarded to Holt United Youth Football Club, subject to clarification as to how long the landowner had permitted the Club to rent the land, seconded by Cllr Bell. All in favour.

RESOLVED that a donation of £500, subject to clarification as to how long the landowner had permitted the Club to rent the land, be approved under Section 137 of the 1972 Local Government Act.

(d) LIFE EDUCATION CENTRES

Proposed by Cllr Johnson that £232 be awarded to Life Education Centres, seconded by Cllr Warren. All in favour.

RESOLVED that a donation of £232 be approved under Section 137 of the 1972 Local Government Act.

(e) VICTIM SUPPORT

This organisation had been unable to submit an application within the timescale. A grant application would be submitted at the meeting on 6 October 2009.

411.09 WIMBORNE CEMETERY BUSINESS PLAN

The Chairman of Committee outlined the reasons why the Wimborne Cemetery Management Committee should prepare a three year business plan. Such a plan would assist the Management Committee when reviewing fee rates.

RESOLVED that the Management Committee be asked to arrange for a plan to be prepared to highlight how planned developments would impact on expenditure over the next three years.

412.09 COMMUNITY BARBECUE (Minute 372.09 refers)

Cllr Davies updated Committee on the arrangements for the Community Barbecue on 16 August 2009 and highlighted the approximate costs involved.

Cllr Warren, on behalf of the Council, thanked Cllr Davies for her continued hard work in organising this event.

It was AGREED that this item should be discussed at Council on 21 April 2009.

413.09 FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

Committee was asked to raise the limit of £250 to £500 on the Financial Regulations 11.1 (h) “where the value of the works is below £1000 and above £250 the Clerk shall strive to obtain 3 estimates”. This alteration was requested because small businesses were reluctant to provide estimates on low value work.

Concern was raised as to whether “best value” would still be obtained and it was considered that advice from DAPTC should be sought as to the implications involved with not getting 3 estimates.

RESOLVED that DAPTC be contacted and this item be discussed at Council on 21 April 2009.

414.09 OLIVER’S PARK PLAY AREA

The Government had confirmed that Dorset, excluding Bournemouth and Poole, had been allocated £1,124,614 over a two year period for play equipment.

East Dorset would receive £165,000 and £20,000 would be used to replace the large multi-play unit at Oliver’s Park by 31 March 2010. It was likely that the cost of the play equipment would be in excess of £20,000 so the Council would be required to contribute towards this amount. External funding was being sought to assist with the costs.

NOTED.

415.09 FORESTRY COMMISSION DESIGN PLAN – CANNON HILL AND UDDENS PLANTATIONS

Cllr Kingsmill updated Members on the meeting he had attended on 2 April 2009 to learn about the Forestry Commission’s proposed changes to the Design Plan for Cannon Hill and Uddens Plantations.

It was AGREED that this item be discussed at Council on 21 April 2009.

416.09 EFFECTIVENESS OF INTERNAL AUDIT

As a requirement of the External Auditor the effectiveness of the Council's Internal Audit should be reviewed annually. A copy of the Council's Review is attached at Appendix 1.

RESOLVED that the Review of the Effectiveness of Internal Audit be approved.

417.09 INTERNAL AUDIT

The Internal Auditor would commence the audit on 21 April 2009 and the report letter would be presented to Committee on 12 May or Annual Council on 19 May 2009.

NOTED.

418.09 ACCOUNTS

The Clerk circulated a Financial Statement from 1 April 2008 to 31 March 2009 and is attached at Appendix 2.

RESOLVED that the Financial Statement be received and noted.

The Meeting ended at 21.15 hrs.

CHAIRMAN