

FGP2009.05.12

At a Meeting of the **FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE** of COLEHILL PARISH COUNCIL held at Colehill Memorial Hall on **12 May 2009**.

PRESENT

Cllr John Gooch, Chairman

Cllr KD Johnson, Vice-Chairman

Cllrs Keith Baker, Mike Bartlett (R), Susan Davies, Joe Kingsmill and John Warren.

APOLOGIES

Cllrs John Bell, Coirin Duff, Dave Mitchell and David Packer.

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr T Edwards of Lacy Close attended to observe the meeting.

466.09 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Johnson declared an interest in Minute No 471.09 Internal Audit – Year End March 2009.

467.09 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 14 April 2009, having been circulated, were taken as read, confirmed and signed.

468.09 MATTERS ARISING

406.09 The Sting in the Tale – As a result of the £100 grant a storytelling event would take place at Colehill Memorial Hall on 24 August.

410.09 Grants and Donations Age Concern – The Advice and Information Centre in Wimborne opened on 1 April 2009. The Colehill Day Centre was held on Fridays, from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm, at the Colehill Sports and Social Club.

469.09 GRANTS AND DONATIONS

The following application was considered:

EAST DORSET CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAUX

Proposed by Cllr Johnson that £1000 be awarded to East Dorset Citizens Advice Bureaux, seconded by Cllr Baker. All in favour.

RESOLVED that a donation of £1000 be approved under Section 137 of the 1972 Local Government Act.

470.09 FURZEHILL WOOD

Correspondence had been received from the Woodland Trust inviting the Parish Council or a local community group to manage Furzehill Wood.

Cllr Baker had contacted three neighbours living close to Furzehill Wood and they were keen to be involved in maintaining the wood, subject to further negotiations.

Cllrs Gooch, Kingsmill and Johnson had each visited Furzehill Wood. Cllr Kingsmill considered that the Parish Council should not take on the management as it was likely the Parish Council would be required to pay the maintenance costs.

RESOLVED not to manage Furzehill Wood, but to request that the Woodland Trust contact Cllr Baker who would advise them of the interest of the neighbours.

471.09 INTERNAL AUDIT – YEAR END MARCH 2009

The report letter from the Internal Auditor, dated 28 April 2009, had been circulated to all Members. The Auditor had observed that Cllr Johnson provided a service to the Council in respect of IT support and advised that, in the interests of transparency, cost comparisons should be provided to demonstrate that best value had been obtained.

The Auditor had advised that from May she would be leaving EDDC to work with the South West Audit Partnership.

RESOLVED that cost comparisons be made on future IT services and that the Auditor be asked to continue as the Council's Internal Auditor.

472.09 ANNUAL RETURN – YEAR END MARCH 2009

The Clerk had circulated a copy of the relevant sections of the Annual Return for the year ended 31 March 2009 (attached as Appendix 1) and the Income and Expenditure and Balance Sheet (attached as Appendix 2).

RESOLVED that:

- (a) the Statement of Accounts and Annual Governance Statement be approved and signed by the Chairman of Council;
- (b) the accounts be received and noted.

473.09 TRAVEL EXPENSES

Cllr Johnson explained that he and Cllr Baker travelled throughout the Parish installing the SID and he considered that they should be able to claim for the mileage on these journeys. The Chairman of Committee advised that, at present, mileage could only be claimed for journeys outside the Parish. The Clerk to contact DAPTC for advice and the matter discussed at a future Council meeting.

474.09 BMX TRAIL

Cllr Kingsmill requested that the BMX Trail be discussed at the next Finance and General Purposes committee meeting.

The Meeting ended at 20.30 hrs.

CHAIRMAN