

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE
HELD AT LYNDHURST COMMUNITY CENTRE ON TUESDAY 18 NOVEMBER 2008 AT 7.15 PM

Present: Mr G Bisson (Chairman), Mr M Abbott, Mr F Alexander, Mr M Böckle, Mr P Boyes, Mrs A Butcher, Mr J Charlesworth, Mr I Clark, Miss H Palmer, Mr M Rollé, Mrs A Trend and Mrs P Wyeth.

In Attendance: Mrs M Weston (Clerk to the Council), two members of the public.

Apologies for Absence: None (all present)

Declarations of Interest

Declarations of interest were noted as follows:

Mrs P Wyeth declared a prejudicial interest in Agenda item 7 as she was a member of the Community Association together with membership of two associations that regularly held meetings at the Community Centre

Mrs P Wyeth declared a personal interest which she did not believe to be a prejudicial interest in Agenda item 6 as she had a relative that owned land abutting Great Mead and this would be discussed in the Amenities Committee budget request.

Mr G Bisson declared a prejudicial interest in Agenda item No 7 as he was a member of the Community Association

Mr G Bisson declared a prejudicial interest in Agenda item 6 as he owned land abutting Great Mead and this would be discussed in the Amenities Committee budget request.

Mr M Abbott declared a prejudicial interest in Agenda item No 7 as he was a member of the Community Association.

Mr M Abbott declared a prejudicial interest in Agenda item 6 as he owned land abutting Great Mead and this would be discussed in the Amenities Committee budget request.

Mr P Boyes declared a prejudicial interest in Agenda item 7 as he was a member of the Community Association

Mr J Charlesworth declared a prejudicial interest in Agenda item 7 as he was Manager of the Community Association.

Mrs A Butcher declared a prejudicial interest in Agenda item 7 as she was Chairman of the Community Association.

Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting dated 18 November 2007 had been circulated to all members

RESOLVED: That the minutes be approved with the following addition: Mr Charlesworth and Mrs Butcher declared prejudicial interests in this item. Mr Charlesworth asked that the Committee consider

an application from Lyndhurst and District Community Centre that an allowance under Section 137 be added to the budget in the sum of £15,000.00 to be given in three equal amounts over a three year period to help finance improvements. Mr Charlesworth and Mrs Butcher retired from the meeting and discussion took place.

RESOLVED: That this item be brought to the public's attention at the 2008 Annual Parish Meeting to gauge public support.

Matters Arising

Mrs Trend asked that it be minuted that she felt that budget requests should be sub divided into what was essential and what the respective Committees would like if financial constraints allowed.

Accounts

Copies of accounts to today's date together with projected accounts for the financial year ending 31 March 2009 were circulated to all Councillors. It was noted that there was unlikely to be any surplus funds available for distribution at financial year end.

Clerk's Salary

The Clerk, together with members of the public, withdrew from the meeting and discussion took place.

RESOLVED: That the sum of 2.45% plus £100, as recommended by NALC, be paid to the Clerk as from 1st April 2008 and that the Clerk's working hours be increased to 25 per week from 1st April 2009.

Estimates 2009/2010

Estimates for the financial year 1st April 2009 to 31 March 2010 were presented.

Allotments Committee	£4,000.00 reduced to	£3241.50
Amenities Committee		£6740.00
Cemetery Committee		£6400.00
Planning Committee		£300.00
Recreation Committee		£12700.00
Administration		£22671.00
Total		£52052.50

It was agreed that the Allotments Committee budget could be reduced as it would not longer be necessary to fund possible legal costs (£1000.00) and drainage work (£258.50) had already been undertaken within this year's budget.

RESOLVED: That the estimates for the financial year 2009/2010 be accepted. Mr Abbott, Mr Alexander and Mrs Wyeth asked that it be minuted that they could not agree to the budget requested by the Amenities Committee.

Any Other Items Requiring Budget Consideration

Discussion took place regard possible Section 137 allocation for the financial year 2009/2010.

It was noted that a written application had been received from Lyndhurst and District Community Association and Mr Bisson reported that a verbal application, to be backed up by a written application, had also been received from the Scouts.

Mr Bisson proposed that, due to the requirements of the Parish Council itself, no allocation be made for Section 137 in 2009/2010.

Mr Böckle proposed that a non specific allocation of £5,000 be made for Section 137 in 2009/2010.

Mr Rollé proposed, seconded by Mr Clark, that a non specific allocation of £8,000 be made for Section 137 in 2009/2010.

No further proposals were received.

RESOLVED: That a non specific allocation of £8,000 be made for Section 137 for the financial year April 2009 to March 2010. Mr Böckle, Mr Boyes, Mrs Butcher, Mr Charlesworth, Mr Clark, Miss Palmer, Mr Rollé and Mrs Trend voted in favour of the resolution. Mr Abbott, Mr Bisson, and Mrs Wyeth voted against the resolution. Mr Alexander abstained from the vote.

Precept Resolution

RESOLVED: To recommend that a Precept of £60,053 should be requested from NFDC for the financial year 2009/2010. Mr Böckle, Mr Boyes, Mr Charlesworth, Mr Clark, Miss Palmer, Mr Rollé and Mrs Trend voted in favour of the resolution. Mr Abbott, Mr Bisson, Mrs Butcher and Mrs Wyeth voted against the resolution. Mr Alexander abstained from the vote.

Financial Regulations

RESOLVED: That due to time constraints this matter be held in abeyance until the January 2009 meeting.

Parish Council Assets Register

RESOLVED: That due to time constraints this matter be held in abeyance until the January 2009 meeting.

In the absence of any other business the Chairman thanked those present for attending and closed the meeting at 9.45 pm.

_____ Chairman

_____ Date