

Holme Valley Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY 05 NOVEMBER 2007 -

Those present :

Chairman : Cllr R P Dixon

Vice-Chairman : Cllr Mrs B E Smith

Councillors : Cllr M Bower, Cllr T Dearnley, Cllr T W Dixon, Cllr C M Kaye, Cllr R Oldfield, Cllr A R Otterburn, Cllr P Robinson

Officers : Mrs MA Bewick

Apologies for Absence

An apology for absence was accepted from Cllr. K. Smith.

It was also reported that neither the Chairman nor the Vice Chairman of the Committee would be able to attend the next meeting of the Finance and Management Committee. Members were asked to make every effort to attend this meeting, and it was resolved that it should be chaired by the Chairman of the Council in the absence of the Chairman and Vice Chairman.

07 28 Disclosure of Interests

Cllr. Mrs. B. Smith declared a personal interest in that her husband would benefit from any grant awarded to Wooldale Old Folks Treat.

07 29 Admission of the Public

RESOLVED: That, if it proves necessary owing to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed, item 12 of the Agenda (Awarded Quarries) be taken in private session.

07 30 Notes of Meeting

RESOLVED: That the notes of the inquorate Meeting held on 24 September 2007 be received as a true record of the meeting.

07 31 Correspondence arising from the Minutes

There was no correspondence to report under this item.

07 32 Investment of Income

RESOLVED: That the Clerk's action in the investment and withdrawal of the Council's funds be approved and the current rates of interest applying to the Council's accounts be noted.

07 33 Financial Statement

RESOLVED: That the Financial Summary, Comparison and Income as at 4 October 2007 be approved.

07 34 Audit of Accounts

Information from the Internal Auditor relating to an increase in his charges had been circulated to Members. The Internal Auditor was expected to carry out all tests and investigations as outlined in the Practitioners' Guide, issued by NALC and SLCC, in respect of Local Councils' Governance and Accountability Guidance, and to report thereon to the Council by completing the Internal Audit effectiveness report and the appropriate section of the Annual Return.

Members agreed that the service he offered was effective, efficient and thorough and met all the relevant requirements.

RESOLVED: That the increase in the internal audit fee be accepted, and that Torevell Dent Ltd. be appointed as the Internal Auditor for the 2007-08 audit, on the terms of reference listed above, following the Practitioner's Guide, and the internal audit checks as previously approved.

Holme Valley Parish Council

07 35 Applications for Grant

Wooldale Old Folks Treat - assistance was sought from the Council with this Centenary event.

RESOLVED: That a special grant of £200, under the Council's section 137 powers, be awarded towards this event, to mark this special occasion, of its centenary, and that it be pointed out to the organisers that this is a one-off grant.

07 36 Administrative Matters

(1) EU Leader Partnership - Although the Council had been approached by a Penistone and District Community Partnership regarding a possible bid for Leader status, the group had since learned that another EU Leader bid was to be submitted by a partnership covering parts of Kirklees, Bradford and Calderdale which would include the Holme Valley South area. The Clerk had made contact with this group and asked for further information. It was felt by Members that contact should be maintained and a place on the Stakeholder group sought for the Council, as there might be potential benefit for the Council.

RESOLVED: (1) That the Clerk maintains contact with this group over the Leader Bid
(2) That an item be placed on the agenda for the Council meeting to seek a volunteer to serve on this partnership, should this be possible.

(2) Information Commissioner - Data Protection checklist:

RESOLVED: That the above information be noted.

(3) Budget considerations - Members had been circulated with information received from Kirklees MC relating to the advisability of replacing the current computer equipment when the warranty expired in 2008.

RESOLVED: That appropriate budget provision be made in the budget for 2008-09 for replacement computer equipment as advised by Kirklees MC.

(4) To consider attendance at YRCC AGM and Conference - 3 November 2007 - Regen Centre, Riccall - owing to the deferral of this meeting by one week, this item was no longer relevant.

(5) Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Bill - Members considered information from YLCA relating to an enabling power likely to be included in the above bill which will enable the Secretary of State to make regulations for an appointed councillor process. NALC had lobbied strongly against this proposal in that it appeared to contradict the principle of local democracy. YLCA intended to continue lobbying on this proposal and was seeking the support of member Councils.

RESOLVED: That Holme Valley Parish Council should write to the Secretary of State expressing its concern about the proposed appointed councillor process and that copies be sent to the local Member of Parliament and to YLCA.

07 37 Awarded Quarries

(1) Members discussed correspondence received from the Charity Commission relating to the establishment of a Charitable Scheme to cover the awarded quarry sites which dated from some years ago; Members were circulated with further background information which had been previously supplied to the Charity Commission in this respect. In view of the time delay since this correspondence and the progress which had been made in relation to registration of these plots of land, it was

RESOLVED: (1) That a meeting be requested with the Charity Commission as a matter of urgency to update the Commission on the present position and to seek advice as to the way forward

(2) That the Council be represented at such a meeting by the Chairman of the Council, the Chairman of the Finance and Management Committee, Cllr. P. Robinson and the Clerk.

(2) White Wells, Chippings Dump, Scholes - no further information in this respect had been received, and it was, therefore,

RESOLVED: That this item be deferred until further information has been supplied to the Clerk.

Holme Valley Parish Council

(3) Hanging ground - Jackson Bridge: after further discussion,

RESOLVED: That the resident in contact with the Council be offered a twelve month tenancy for this area, at the normal garage site rental, and that his interest in any future sale of this land be noted, with an explanation of the Council's position in relation to the charitable nature of this land, and of the need to take cognisance of the Charity Commission's advice.

07 38 Freedom of Information Act 2000

RESOLVED: That, under the Council's Publication Scheme, supporting papers for any item within the public session of the meeting be made available, if requested, after approval of the minutes by the full Council.

.....
Chairman