

MINUTES OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE  
HELD AT 7PM TUESDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2009  
IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, VILLAGE WAY, CRANLEIGH

Cllr B Arendell\* (Chairman of Committee)  
Cllr J Bainbridge\* (Vice Chairman of Committee)  
Cllr BH Cheesman\*  
Cllr Mrs J Dodd\*  
Cllr BA Ellis  
Cllr Mrs M Forszewska\*

PRESENT\*

Pauline Whitehead, the Clerk to the Committee, was in attendance.

1. MINUTES OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE HELD 4<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2009.

The Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> November 2009 were APPROVED and signed by the Chairman of the Committee as a correct record.  
Cllr Mrs Dodd apologised for omitting to declare a personal and prejudicial interest at the F&GP meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> November, when the Glebelands sponsorship award was discussed.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

There was an apology for absence from Cllr B Ellis.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Committee Chairman reported that the internal auditor had confirmed the precept calculation method for the current year and agreed that the predicted general reserve for the end of 2010/11 was expected to be in the region of £25,000.

The internal auditor had clarified the situation on VAT partial exemption and explained that by having opted to tax the Village Hall and Snoxhall pavilion, VAT could be reclaimed on the expenses incurred on those halls. In addition to this, it was highly likely that the total exempt input tax incurred over the course of the financial year would be less than £7,500. The result of this was that partial exemption will not apply.

The Parish Council had considered the agreement and adoption of the external audit 2008/9 at the November PCM.

5. REVIEW OF FINANCES TO 31<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER 2009

The Committee noted the financial report to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2009.

6. PRECEPT

Members AGREED to recommend a precept of £240,364 (Two hundred and forty thousand, three hundred and sixty four pounds) to the December Parish Council Meeting. The proposed precept figure represents an increase on the 2009/10 funding of just below 6% and increases the Band D tax payment from £43.17 per annum, to £45.76 per annum. Reductions in bank interest on reserves, the necessity of putting £10,000 aside over the next five years to replace the Village Hall roof and the freezing of the compensatory grant from Waverley Borough Council have contributed to the increase. The precept for 2010/11 will allow the Parish Council to make investigations into a composting system, give greater support to the Cranleigh co-ordinator and create six more plots at Elmbridge allotments in addition to maintaining current services and making provision for the replacement of existing assets.

7 GRANTS/ DONATIONS/MEMBERSHIPS

a. Cranleigh School

The Committee in pursuance of the power conferred by Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended by the Local Government and Housing Act 1989), AGREED to incur expenditure of £100 in respect of a project to provide Christmas food hampers to senior citizens in Cranleigh proposed by Cranleigh School, as in the opinion of the Committee the expenditure is in the interests of its area or part of its area or in the interests of all or some of the inhabitants of that area and would benefit them. The donation would be towards bags to hold the food. Members reached this decision after considerable debate which had not been helped by the lack of information on the grant application form. This would be communicated back to the School for consideration should they approach the Parish Council for a similar grant in the future.

8. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

It was resolved that the Press & Public be excluded from the Meeting during item 9 in accordance with section 100A (2) and (4) of the L.G.A. 1972 and Standing Orders 55(c) and 55(d).

9. CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE HELD 4<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2009.

The Confidential Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> November 2009 were APPROVED and signed by the Chairman of the Committee as a correct record.

CONCLUSION

There being no further business the Committee Chairman closed the meeting at 7.50 pm. The next meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee is provisionally scheduled for Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2009 at 7pm, but if that is not required, the next meeting will be on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2010.