

Abbots Langley Parish Council

Minutes of the Finance & Administration Committee Meeting held at 7.35 p.m. on Monday 26th January 2009 in the Council Offices, Langley Road, Abbots Langley.

Those Present:

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| Chairman | Councillor K D Williams |
| Councillors | Councillor G W Emery Councillor Mrs D J Lay Councillor Ms. B Phipps Councillor M T Morton Councillor O W Roe Councillor D J Major (Ex Officio) Councillor Miss I V Young (Ex Officio) |
| Officers: | Mr T Perkins - Clerk to the Council Mrs C Byrne - Finance Officer |

The meeting opened at 7:35pm.

421. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received, accepted and recorded from Councillor Daily.

422. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Emery declared an interest in Item 4 (minute 424) the grant application for 2009/10 from the Bedmond Women's Institute.

Councillor Mrs Jane Lay declared an interest in Item 4 (minute 424) the grant application for 2009/10 from the Abbots Langley Cricket Club.

Councillor Miss Young declared an interest in Item 4 (minute 424) the grant application for 2009/10 from the Royal British Legion.

423. To confirm the Minutes of the previous meeting

It was proposed by Councillor Miss Young, seconded by Councillor Emery and **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 17th December 2008, copies of which had been sent to all Members of the Parish Council and which had been adopted by the Council, be taken as read and were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

424. Grants

It was proposed by Councillor Morton, seconded by Councillor Ms Phipps and **RESOLVED** that the following grants should be awarded:

- i. **St Paul's Church Langleybury**
£2000 under the Local Government Act 1972 s215 (6) for the purpose of maintaining the churchyard.
- ii. **St Lawrence's Church**
£2750 under the Local Government Act 1972 s215 (6) for the purpose of maintaining the churchyard.
- iii. **St Lawrence's Church**
£2500 under the Local Government Act 1972 s137 for the purpose of resurfacing two footpaths within the church grounds.
- iv. **Lions Club of Watford**
£2000 under the Local Government Act 1972 s145 for the purpose of the Abbots Langley Carnival and Firework Display.

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- v. **Abbots Langley Cricket Club**
£500 under the Local Government Act 1972 s137 for the purpose of maintaining the cricket square.
- vi. **Royal British Legion**
£250 under the Local Government Act 1972 s137 for the purpose of subsidising their hall hire costs.
- vii. **Royal Air Forces Association**
£250 under the Local Government Act 1972 s137 for the purpose of subsidising their hall hire costs. This is to be made on the condition that they move their bookings from Friday night to another night between Monday and Thursday.
- viii. **Bedmond Women's Institute**
£200 under the Local Government Act 1972 s137 for the purpose of subsidising their hall hire costs.
- ix. **Abbots Langley Women's Institute**
£200 under the Local Government Act 1972 s137 for the purpose of subsidising their hall hire costs.
- x. **Abbots Langley Players**
£300 under the Local Government Act 1972 s137 for the purpose of meeting their increased production costs. Members suggested that the Abbots Langley Players should discuss with the Henderson Trustees about purchasing the side curtains for the stage, which was also included in their grant application.
- xi. **Abbots Youth Football Club**
£500 under the Local Government Act 1972 s137 for the purpose of subsidising their pitch hire costs.
- xii. **Abbots Langley Local History Society**
£50 under the Local Government Act 1972 s137 for the purpose of publishing a local history booklet.

Members discussed putting aside £500 for Langleybury Cricket Club to maintain their cricket square.

The Ark and the Citizens Advice Service in Three Rivers were unsuccessful in their 2009/10 grant application.

A decision on the grant application from the Bedmond Sports and Social Club was deferred by members until the Leisure Committee is satisfied that the club is sustainable and under good governance. The Clerk suggested that a decision should be made in the April or July Finance & Administration Committee meeting when the committee will have more information on the expected outcome for 2008/9.

Members requested that the clerk should draw attention to the section in the Grant pack, which says 'Grants for assistance in the running (revenue) costs of an organisation will be considered but will normally be limited to three years and may be reduced by one third each year', in his letter to the successful organisations this year.

425. **Strategy**

Members discussed the motion put forward by Councillor Ms Phipps about the council developing a 3 to 5 year strategy. Members felt that the council needs to decide on the process for developing the strategy first.

Councillor Ms Phipps suggested that the strategy should be developed from a resident's point of view.

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The process is going to be developed over the next three months. The Clerk suggested a meeting between himself, Councillor Williams and Councillor Ms Phipps to take this forward.

426. Budget Monitoring Report

Members considered the budget monitoring report to the end of Q3 2008.

The Finance Officer and Clerk highlighted that the results for the full year are expected to be within budget.

427. Insurance Policy Renewal

Members received an update from the Clerk regarding the insurance policy renewal. He expects to have 4 alternative quotes by the end of February and informed members that we may need an extraordinary Finance and Administration Committee meeting to review the quotes.

428. Banking Arrangements

The Clerk and Finance Officer gave members an update regarding:

- a. Bank Mandate - the new mandate had been sent off to Lloyds TSB.
- b. Complaint Resolution- the complaint is now closed and the council received compensation of £50.
- c. Internet banking - it was proposed by Councillor Mrs Lay, seconded by Councillor Morton and **RESOLVED** that internet banking should be introduced initially just to track balances and view statements. The Clerk informed members that there are ongoing discussions on the governance issues involved with undertaking transactions via internet banking.

The meeting closed at 10:08pm

Signed: _____

Dated: _____