

**MINUTES OF THE POLICY, RESOURCES AND FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD ON MONDAY 11<sup>th</sup> MAY 2009 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL,  
EAST STREET, WAREHAM, DORSET BH20 4NS**

Present: Councillors Mrs P Bowyer-Davis, D Budd, K Critchley (Chairman),  
Mrs S Elmes, K Green, E Osmond, M. Russell (from 7.55 pm), Mrs  
C Turner

Officers Present: Mr R M Curtis, Town Clerk  
Mr R Jones, Finance Assistant

**161. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There were no members of the public present.

**162. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Councillor L Burns.

**163. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Nil

**164. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE POLICY, RESOURCES AND FINANCE  
COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> MARCH 2009**

The minutes of the meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2009 were accepted as a correct  
record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.

**165. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MEETING OF THE POLICY, RESOURCES  
AND FINANCE COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> MARCH 2009**

- Notice board, Bere Road (Carey) – to be taken down by caretaker,  
pending purchase of new board in near future, due to its precarious state.
- Noted that the £1300 allocated for the notice board at Carey allocated to  
the sports pavilion had now been returned to balances at the end of the  
last financial year and it was **RESOLVED** that up to £1300 now be  
allocated on this item from the Council's reserves.
- Air conditioning unit in Admin office: has been serviced but noted that it  
had been more expensive than anticipated, half as much again, due to  
time taken, and that it needed to be serviced every year to remain  
efficient.

**166. BUDGET REPORT AND AGREEMENT OF ACCOUNTS TO BE PAID**

The committee considered a budget report dated 7<sup>th</sup> May 2009 (copy attached to  
these minutes). During the ensuing discussion, the Town Clerk referred to  
damage caused to the Council's van right hand wing mirror by a hit and run  
vehicle whilst it had been parked (Day Book: Supplier Credits Tran. No. 7713  
£36.90). A replacement mirror had been ordered on the internet, paid for by the  
Clerk on a reimbursement basis, however it had been due to the wrong type  
having been supplied, and another mirror had been ordered.

Following detailed scrutiny of the budget report, it was proposed by Councillor K  
Green, seconded by Councillor E Osmond and

**RESOLVED** that the budget report dated 7<sup>th</sup> May 2009 be approved and Accounts for Payment in the sum of £20,589.29 as detailed on the enclosed schedule be accepted and approved for payment.

167. **WAREHAM TOWN GUIDE**

A Wareham Chamber of Trade representative had been expected at the meeting, however he did not attend. In discussion, the Chairman referred to the Chamber's recent liaison meeting with representatives of the Council and the Chamber's view that the next edition of the Wareham Town Guide – currently produced by a Town Council working party in conjunction with the Purbeck Heritage and Information Centre - could be printed locally, and that advertising revenue could accrue to the town, possibly through the Town Council or the Chamber .

The Town Clerk clarified that the Town Council was currently tied in to a six year contract with a specialist publisher of town guides, and that the Wareham Guide was produced biennially with the next edition being due in the summer of 2010. The Council did not profit from the advertising scheme, which was organised by the publisher's advertising sales team and not a job that could be undertaken with present Council staff resources. In return for providing photographs and editorial content, however, the Council received 10,000 free copies for distribution locally to tourist and other outlets. The Chamber of Trade was always consulted on the content of the Guide and the Council had no control over advertising rates which lasted for the two year life of the publication. The Chamber was very welcome to nominate a representative to join the Town Guide Working party, he suggested, when it was formed later in the year to work on the next edition for 2010/2011.

It was proposed by Councillor K Critchley, seconded by Councillor Mrs Turner and

**RESOLVED** that this item be deferred until the matter of the next Town Guide appeared as an agenda item later in the year, within the Council's normal cycle of meetings.

168. **HAUSES FIELD – EXTENSION OF BMX FACILITY**

The Chairman gave a briefing on this item, following a site meeting of Councillors/Town Clerk/young people at Hauses Field on 27<sup>th</sup> April 2009 to consider the young peoples' ideas for an extension of the BMX facility with new jump features. PC Connolly from Wareham Police had also attended. Reference was made to there being no allocated funding for the young people's ideas and it had been placed on the agenda because there was no Amenities Committee meeting until 10<sup>th</sup> June.

Councillor Budd, Chairman of the Amenities Committee, referred to a plan he had drawn up to explain the explain the young people's ideas and that it involved the fence line at two ends of the BMX facility being extended, as on the plan attached to these minutes. The Committee may wish to support young people's views, he stated, however, it was a sensitive matter to move the BMX area closer

to local housing and the Committee would also need to be mindful of local residents' views.

The Town Clerk reported that he had obtained one estimate of costs so far and this was for a sum of around £1300 including VAT for the whole project to move the fence lines.

***(Councillor M Russell joined the meeting at this point at 7.55 pm).***

In the following discussion, the pros and cons of the young peoples' ideas was debated, including a possible adverse reaction by some local residents. It was generally agreed that if the scheme was to be supported, then it should be contained within the BMX fenced area, rather than outside on the field area as originally suggested by the young people. Funding was possible, according to the Finance Assistant, since the Council's balances were higher by £10,000 than had been anticipated during the setting of the Council's budget for the current financial year. The ramifications, including safety factors and insurance cover if young people constructed their own BMX jumps using donated topsoil - under supervision of two local BMX champions who were willing to help - were not, however, clear.

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs Elmes, seconded by Councillor Mrs Turner and

**RESOLVED** that the matter be deferred until the next meeting of the Amenities Committee on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2009 in order that advice be sought on the need for, and cost of, any extra insurance cover at the BMX area in Hauses Field.

169. **FUNFAIR AT RECREATION GROUND**

The committee discussed a request for a funfair at the Recreation Ground by Herberts Funfair of Dorchester, which had visited the Recreation Ground for the last two years as part of Wareham Carnival week. It was noted that the Wareham Carnival would not be using the Recreation Ground in 2009, however the funfair proprietor was willing to make a donation to the Carnival, in addition to paying £500 to the Council for use of the northern area of the playing fields.

It was proposed by Councillor M Russell, seconded by Councillor Mrs C Turner and

**RESOLVED** that

- (a) Herberts Funfair of Dorchester be granted permission to set up a funfair at Wareham Recreation Ground from Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> July to Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2009 for the sum of £500 and that;
- (b) a £500 deposit be paid to the Town Council, refundable should the playing fields be left in a satisfactory condition following inspection, and that;
- (c) the permission granted be subject to provision of an appropriate number of portable toilets by the fairground proprietor and;
- (d) that no performing animals, or goldfish, be part of the public entertainment or prizes offered by the funfair and that;

(e) the Council's current policy and conditions on entry of vehicles to the site be rigidly adhered to.

170. **REGISTRATION OF TITLE TO COUNCIL OWNED LAND**

The Town Clerk gave an update on this matter, following consultation with the Land Registry at Weymouth on costs, and outlined a suggested scale to keep down these costs to the minimum necessary - a possible sum of £450 for all 8 unregistered titles. The land suggested for voluntary registration was noted as the following:

- Mistover Road Play Area
- Drax Avenue Play Area
- Hauses Field - Play Area /Open Space and other recreational facilities including BMX area/picnic tables/planter boxes
- Wareham Recreation Ground
- Swanage and Wareham Rugby Club, Bestwall Road – land, rather than Rugby Clubhouse
- Premises at 2, Mill Lane
- Howards Lane car Park
- Allotments at Bestwall Road

In discussion, the Town Clerk's estimates were further reduced from £450 to £285.00.

**RESOLVED** that the Council delegate to the Town Clerk the voluntary registration with the Land Registry of all unregistered titles to Town Council land and that the costs be deducted from the budget for legal fees and sundries.

171. **WAREHAM IN BLOOM – TERMS OF REFERENCE**

Following a review and amendments, it was proposed by Councillor D Budd, seconded by Councillor K Green and unanimously

**RESOLVED** that Wareham in Bloom Committee draft Terms of Reference as attached to these minutes be approved and that they be referred to the Wareham in Bloom Committee for any comments.

172. **VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR SCHEME**

Following a review and amendments, it was proposed by Councillor Mrs S Elmes, seconded by Councillor P Bowyer-Davis and

**RECOMMENDED** to Council that draft Volunteer of the Year Scheme Terms of Reference as attached to these minutes be approved.

173. **WAREHAM BURIALS JOINT COMMITTEE**

Following discussion, it was

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meeting of the Wareham Burials Joint Committee of 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2009 be noted.

174. **SAINSBURY'S STORE, WAREHAM – ALTERATION OF CAR PARK TICKET MACHINES, HOWARDS LANE CAR PARK (Supplementary Agenda Item)**

The committee considered a request from Sainsbury's advertising agents that two car park ticket machines at Howards Lane car park be converted, at the company's cost, to issue two tickets at once, one ticket being an advertising scheme voucher for use in this new store.

Following discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Russell, proposed by Councillor Mrs S Elmes and unanimously

**RESOLVED:**

- (a) That agreement be given to a request to convert two car park ticket machines at Howards Lane Car Park to issue two tickets at once - subject to a commitment by Sainsbury's management to convert the machines back to a single ticket issue facility should the advertising voucher scheme cease in the future and;
- (b) that the Town Clerk enquire if the advertising voucher on the tickets could be reduced to a £5 minimum spend rather than a £10 minimum spend, similar to Sainsbury's stores in Poole and Bournemouth.

175. **ITEMS CONSIDERED URGENT BY THE CHAIRMAN (for report or for the next agenda)**

Nil.

176. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Noted that the date of the next meeting will be **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2009**.

Meeting closed at 9.24 pm

.....Chairman