

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WAREHAM TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY, 23<sup>RD</sup> JUNE, 2009 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, WEST STREET, WAREHAM AT 7.00 P.M.**

**Present: Councillor Mrs. A. Tighe (Town Mayor); Councillor E.L. Osmond (Deputy Town Mayor); Councillors D.A. Budd; Mrs. D.R. Cleaton; D. Critchley; K. Critchley; K. Green; Mrs. M.A. Selby and Mrs. M. Wainwright.**

**Officers in attendance – Mr. R. Curtis, Town Clerk; Mr. R. Jones, Finance Assistant and Mrs. A.C. Dominy, Admin Assistant.**

**17. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors L. Burns, Miss M. Cotton, M. Russell, Mrs. C. Turner and T. Williams.

**18. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

**19. ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 2008/09**

Members had been circulated with copies of the Annual Accounts for the financial year 2008/09 as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009. It was a legal requirement for these documents to be approved by 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2009 in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations as amended in 2006. The accounts had already been considered at the Policy, Resources and Finance Committee meeting of 15<sup>th</sup> June 2009. Councillors were requested to give their acceptance of the Statement of Accounts.

Following a discussion, and page by page perusal, it was proposed by Councillor K Critchley, seconded by Councillor Green and:

**RESOLVED** that the Statement of Accounts for the financial year 2008/09 be approved and accepted.

With reference to the current financial estimates of the Town Council, Councillor Budd, Chairman of Amenities Committee, drew to the attention of Councillors the need to investigate the updating of the heating system in the Town Hall. Quotations for the work had recently been gathered by the Finance Assistant. Councillor Budd had subsequently met with Councillor K Critchley and the Town Clerk (as members of the Premises Working Party) and a central heating engineer to discuss the way forward to improve the heating system both efficiently and economically. A report by the Town Clerk was distributed to Members.

Various options to finance the works had been discussed including the option of taking out a loan from the Public Works Loan Board (PWLB). £5,000 had been earmarked for central heating in the current financial year. If the system was to be replaced completely, however, it would need the replacement of two x 20 year old obsolescent boilers in addition to other work to upgrade the outdated main control panel and to provide separate thermostatic control for 3 working areas (Offices, Corn Exchange and Museum), and the sum of £5000 was clearly not adequate. It was recommended that a more efficient system would give cost savings over many years and the Premises Working Party were seeking advice and guidance on the matter from Council.

At the present time, Councillor Budd stated that the PWLB interest rates were very favourable, and the Premises Working Party felt that this might possibly be the best way forward to carry out the work involved in its entirety and to ease the Council's budget for other current projects.

Following discussion, it was proposed by Councillor K Critchley, seconded by Councillor Green and:

**RESOLVED** that (a) the Town Council support in principle the Premises Working Party being delegated the authority to investigate the financial options for the provision of a new heating system for the Town Hall, including further advice on the provision of a loan from the Public Works Loan Board and (b) to report back on this matter to the Amenities Committee at their meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2009.

## **20. ANNUAL STATEMENT OF GOVERNANCE 2008/09**

Members had been circulated with the Annual Statement of Governance for the year 2008/09 as at 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2009. It was a legal requirement for this document to be approved by 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2009 in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations as amended in 2006. Following a proposal by Councillor Budd, seconded by Councillor Green, it was

**RESOLVED** that the Annual Statement of Governance 2008/09 be approved and accepted.

## **21. ASSET REGISTER**

Members had been circulated with a copy of the Town Council's Asset Register for 2008/09.

A query arose on the deposit, several years previously, of a number of Saxon coins and a silver salver at the Council's bank for safe keeping. It was requested that the Town Clerk investigate these items and report back at a later date.

Following a discussion on nominal values, it was proposed by Councillor Green, seconded by Councillor K Critchley and:

**RESOLVED** that the contents of the Asset Register 2008/09 be noted and accepted.

**22. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

To note the date of the next Council meeting – **Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> July, 2009 at 7.00 pm.**

The meeting closed at 8.09 p.m.

Town Mayor.....