

**MINUTES OF THE CROSSWAYS PARISH COUNCIL FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 10TH OCTOBER 2007 IN THE SPORTS PAVILION, DICK O' TH' BANKS ROAD
AT 7PM**

GENERAL AGENDA

Prior to the meeting Cllr Smy advised the meeting that the next phase of the consultation to bring a Skate Bowl and MUGA to Crossways will take the form of a public consultation on Saturday 24th November from 11.00 – 1.30pm consisting of one hour set aside, from 11.30 to 12.30, for a debate/workshop chaired by Inspector Fry and facilitated by Kris Hallett. Cllr Smy encouraged all members to attend.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

a. Mr Barton, a resident of Oaklands Park questioned what is happening on the land abutting Oaklands Park, the B3390 and the Link Road. (Hippy Field). It was noted that following full public consultation with the Agents, Pegasus, and the proposed developer, Ravine Lifestyle, there is now a for sale board on the land. Mr Barton expressed great concern over the recent events advising the Council that he now has a view of concrete and he feels that damage has been done to his property, and others, due to the vibration of the equipment used to demolish the buildings on the field. Mr Barton was reminded that the Council has met with the agent and developer and expressed deep concern of events to date. Cllr Scard informed Councillors that she had rung Goadsby and was informed that the developer had a change of heart and would no longer be going ahead with the proposal for a mixed scheme and has reverted to a scheme with only industrial units. Cllr Smy offered to meet with Mr Barton accompanied by Cllr Smith, Chairman Planning for further discussion if required. The Clerk was instructed to write to Mr Jim Tarzey to enquire as to what the up to date situation is from his point of view.

ACTION: CLERK

b. Mr Derek Turtle spoke regarding his previous correspondence with the Council with the proposal to install a running track on the sports field stating that the cost of white lining such a track would be in the region of £90.00. Cllr Smy invited Mr Turtle to visit the consultation on November 24th in the matter of the proposed MUGA/Skate Bowl as this might infringe on the provision of a running track and Mr Turtle could offer his thoughts then. Cllr Smy asked Mr Turtle if he felt that a running track would be used enough. Mr Turtle replied he felt it would and a petition is available showing a need. It was agreed to put the matter of the November Amenities Committee agenda.

c. Mr David Croft stating an ACAS directive on effective governance stated that Minutes of meetings should be produced within 7 days. The Clerk replied that Minutes have to be given a priority against other tasks and the Council if they wish, could make a mandate for minutes to be produced in a given time scale and if they did she would comply but other issues would slide down a scale of priority. Cllr Smy advised those present that the Clerk is meticulous is dealing with other items and makes every effort to prioritise her work.

ITEM 1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Apologies were received from Cllr Andrew Brewer, Cllr Caroline Round and Cllr Elaine Stenning

ITEM 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST There were no Declarations of Interest.

ITEM 3 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – WEDNESDAY 14th NOVEMBER 2007 Confirmed

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Chair: Cllr (Mrs) T Smith

ITEM 1 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (5th September 2007) The Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as a true record and duly signed.

ITEM 2 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES There were no matters arising.

ITEM 3 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT Cllr (Mrs) Smith had nothing to report not already covered by the agenda.

ITEM 4 CONSIDER DONATION TO THE FIRST DORSET CREDIT UNION Cllr Smy advised members of what a Credit Union does; offering loans and encouraging small savers. Cllr Smy said that the Dorset Credit Union was supported by WDDC and possibly DCC. Cllr Smy proposed that the Council do not donate, the proposal was seconded by Cllr Rhodes and agreed. Three Councillors abstained.

AGREED

ITEM 5 TO HAVE FIRST SIGHT OF BUDGET AND BUDGET FORECAST AND CONSIDER PRECEPT REQUIREMENTS FOR THE YEAR 08-09 TO BE TAKEN TO FULL COUNCIL OCTOBER OR NOVEMBER FOR APPROVAL AND PRESENTATION

Cllr Smy thanked the Clerk, Cllr Bache and Cllr (Mrs) Smith for their work on the start of the budget setting process. Councillors were each supplied with a copy of the first draft of the precept requirement for the year 2008/2009. Cllr Smy explained the headings showing how each figure was reached. Cllr Smy highlighted increases to the Clerks Salary, the cost of the Pavilion and Field and a reduction in the Insurance. Whilst some budget requirements were brought down others had necessarily been increased. Cllr (Mrs) Smith informed Councillors that provision would be required to allow for a new boiler and heating system in the Pavilion, this would be taken over two years. Cllr Smy stated that the Council would like to undertake some planting and beautifying around the Village this would be considered within the proposed budget. Cllr Smith asked if increased fees for the football clubs will be discussed. Cllr Smy said this could be placed on the January Amenities Committee but would have no significant impact on budget setting. Cllr Smy stated that a lower underspend figure than the 07/08 budget would be taken forward and if there was any significant underspend the Council will consider further expenditure to use this underspend. Cllr Northcote was asked to consider any expenditure he thinks will be needed for printing the Village Design Statement. It was noted that final printing cost of the VDS would come from Dorset Community Action funds. It was agreed the Clerk will liaise with Cllr Northcote to bring any proposed expenditure to the budget setting process. Cllr Connor advised consideration of the bark surfaces on the play areas. It was felt that the play areas are in generally good order. It was agreed to accept the budget proposals as stated in principle but subject to fine tuning the proposals will be brought to the November Committee meetings for final approval and recommendation to full council. It was agreed as has been done in previous years the precept presentation will be open to public participation. The Clerk was instructed to send the budget proposal spreadsheet to absent Councillors. Cllr Smy noted that the proposed increase (subject to confirmation) is 8.38% a rise of £27.30 per year per household.

PENDING

ITEM 6 REPORT/UPDATE PROGRESS DATE/TIME FOR MEMBERS OF CROSSWAYS PARISH COUNCIL TO HAVE EXCLUSIVE CODE OF CONDUCT TRAINING AS REQUESTED BY CLLR SMITH

Cllr Smy advised Councillors that he and the Clerk would be meeting with David Webb (DAPTC) and Alan Muir Legal Services WDDC to discuss issues arising within the Council over the previous few months. Cllr Smy stated he will report on the progress for this training following this meeting.

ACTION: CLLR SMY/CLERK

ITEM 7 TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER MONTHLY BUDGET REPORTS FOR THE AMENITIES AND FINANCIAL & ADMINISTRATION BUDGETS AND APPROVE EXPENDITURE The following expenditure was approved:

	£
Salary Clerk	813.80
Inland Revenue	442.30
SLCC Conference	323.12
Internal Auditor	120.00
F C Bearman & Son	215.00
Cleaners Pavilion	80.00
Venue Council Mtg	15.00
Shrub and Tree Maintenance	500.00
Expenses Internal Auditor	48.40
Office Expenses Clerk	100.00
Goulds Garden Centre Plants	160.00

Proposed: Cllr Smy, Seconded Cllr Rhodes

AGREED

ITEM 8 ANY LATE URGENT ITEMS Cllr Dave Smith thanked the Clerk and Committee Chairman for their work on the budget the previous evening.

There being no other business the meeting closed.

Signed (Chairman) 2007