

17 DECEMBER 2009

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE MILDENHALL PARISH COUNCIL held in the DAVID ROGERS` MEETING ROOM, JUBILEE CENTRE, RECREATION WAY, MILDENHALL on Thursday, 17 December 2009 at 7.00pm

Present: Cllr B J Sulman (Chairman) Cllr G A Hayes
Cllr J W McGhee (Vice Chairman) Cllr H T Hitt
Cllr J Barker Cllr A F J Peachey
Cllr J M Bloodworth Cllr N A Roman
Cllr D W Bowman Cllr M K Smith
Cllr A J Wheble

Also present were: County Councillor C Noble (arrived 7.45pm), one member of the press, Mrs C Steggles (Chief Executive Officer), Mrs V Shrimpton (Deputy Chief Executive Officer) and Mrs R Buckingham (Minute Clerk).

The Chairman informed members that Cllr J Barker has been appointed as the representative for SALC on NALC.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs M J Ball, Mrs T A Gooch-Taylor-Balls and G H Taylor-Balls, County Councillor S Frost and Sqn Ldr R Fryer.

2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Members were reminded of their responsibility to declare any personal or prejudicial interest which they had in any item of business on the agenda no later than when that item was reached and to leave the meeting prior to discussion and voting on the item.

4. RECEIPT AND EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

a. Police information

There was no police information

It was resolved to write thanking the police for their help with the Christmas tree lighting up and the late-night shopping evening in Mildenhall.

b. Base information

There was no Base information.

5. MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING

The minutes of the Council Meeting held on 26 November were confirmed with one amendment. Cllr G H Taylor-Balls' name was added as a signatory at item 15.

6. MINUTES OF THE ESTABLISHMENT & POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

The minutes of the Establishment & Policy Committee Meeting held on 19 November 2009 were confirmed.

It was resolved that the Financial Risk Management Assessment document be accepted with the following minor change: At para 3a no xiv, to replace the phrase "in place and up to date" with "reviewed annually in December.

It was resolved that the Financial Regulations document be accepted with no changes.

It was resolved that the Standing Orders with Regard to Contracts document be accepted with no changes.

It was resolved that the Standing Orders document be accepted with the following minor changes: At para 36a, the number 5 be inserted. At para 73 2) change "y" to "by".
It was resolved that MPC enter into a licence with SCC regarding the bench at the bus station following the proposed dedication of land to SCC.
It was resolved to discuss the future of the Mildenhall Messenger at the next QPS meeting.
It was resolved to look further into the possibility of payment to Mildenhall Parish Councillors.
It was resolved to accept the quote from Inviron for the maintenance of the hot water and heating systems in the Jubilee Centre in the sum of £2, 111.55.
It was resolved to grant £74.50 to Ormiston Children and Young People's Service.
It was resolved to draw up a protocol for public participation in Council meetings stating what MPC currently does and to review this protocol at a future meeting.
It was resolved that Clubs & Organisations Day should be an annual event, held in the precinct and organised by the Vice Chairman of Council. It was resolved that Clubs & Organisations Day 2010 should be held on Saturday 4 September.
It was resolved that MPC does not renew its' membership of the Zurich LCAS Service in the sum of £145 as the service has not been used.

7. MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

The minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on 8 December were confirmed with thanks to Cllr M J Ball for his report on item 7.

8. CHAIRMAN'S ITINERARY & REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

a) Itinerary

Royal British Legion Remembrance Ceremony –11 November 2009.

RAF Mildenhall Christmas Reception – 4 December 2009.

St Mary's Church Festival of Light Service – 6 December 2009.

It was resolved to write to the Royal British Legion to pass on councillors' and parishioners' comments that the Remembrance Ceremony began before 11am.

b) Reports

The Chairman gave a verbal report on a successful meeting with Mildenhall College of Technology students on the forming of a Youth Council in 2010. It was noted that Councillors working with the Youth Council will need to be CRB checked.

Parking plans at St Mary's School – CEO. **It was resolved to send a letter of support for the plans to the Head teacher.**

9. PRECEPT PAYMENT DATES

The precept payment dates for the financial year 2010/11 were noted.

10. ESTIMATES & PRECEPT VOTING PROVISION 2010/11

The document was noted.

11. 2010/11 BUDGET PROPOSALS

It was resolved to approve the following budgets for the financial year 2010/11:

- a) **General Purposes Committee: An expenditure of £123, 576.00 less income of £7, 550.00 equalling a net requirement of £116,016.00**
- b) **Recreational Management Committee: An expenditure of £132, 085.00 less income of £56, 979.00 equalling a net requirement of £75, 106.00**
- c) **Establishment & Policy Committee: An expenditure and net requirement of £82, 561.00.**

After taking into account reduced interest on investment and allocating £6,500 from reserve monies, it was resolved that the precept requirement for the financial year 2010/11 is therefore a sum of £266,793.00. This represents an approximate D band property Council Tax charge of £94.57, an increase of 0.6%.

The Chairman thanked the office staff for their work on the budgets. Cllr A J Wheble passed on his thanks for the extra work done on budget preparation whilst he was ill.

12. SALARIES

It was resolved to accept the advice from NALC that the agreement with the National Joint Council for Local Government Services is for a 1% salary increase.

13. MEET YOUR COUNCILLOR

Members agreed to staff Mildenhall Meet Your Councillor sessions as follows:
February: Cllrs Ball and Sulman; March: Cllrs Bloodworth and Smith; April: Cllrs Barker and Wheble.

14. SOCIETY OF LOCAL COUNCIL CLERKS

It was resolved to pay the CEO's annual membership of the Society of Local Council Clerks in the sum of £168.

The Chairman suspended Standing Orders

4 c) County Council Information

County Councillor C Noble apologised for his late arrival and informed members of the following:

- Consideration of work required on yellow lines in West Row.
- Setup of Suffolk Flexicare – a scheme to bring together private care providers and district councils to look at the needs for housing provision and care for the elderly.
- The restarting of the LDF process.

Standing orders were reinstated.

15. BOUNDARY COMMITTEE

Following the latest advice from the Boundary Committee favouring a unity authority for Suffolk, members were informed that FHDC are applying to the Supreme Court for an injunction to stop the process.

It was resolved to write to the Minister strongly re-affirming MPC's original opinion on local government in Suffolk, with copies to Cllr N Roman, Cllr G Jaggard and Mr D Burnip.

16. ACCOUNTS

Accounts for December 2009 totalling £35,534.38 including telepay salaries were authorised. Cllrs M J Ball and G H Taylor-Balls signed the relevant cheques.

17. CORRESPONDENCE

The CEO informed members of the following items of correspondence:

Neighbourhood Watch Newsletter

- Suffolk County Council Mobile Library Timetable.
- Suffolk LINK Newsletter.
- Unlockdemocracy.org – Empowering Parish & Town Councils by getting the Sustainable Communities Act Amendment Bill adopted in Parliament.
- FHDC re website link to Core Strategy Examination.
- FHDC re Home grown arts development scheme.
- RAF Mildenhall re cemetery clear up.
- Sea Cadets – thanks for work done on their driveway.
- FHDC re Destination Gold for Suffolk.
- Grant Thornton pre-Budget headlines.
- SCC & FHDC re open weekend in July 2010 Olympic celebration.
- Christmas card to all at MPC from Mildenhall College of Technology.

18. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

None

The Chairman and CEO wished all members and staff a happy and peaceful Christmas. The Chairman passed on Christmas greetings from Cllr G H Taylor-Balls.

The meeting closed at 8.05 pm.