

TWYFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held at The Loddon Hall, Twyford on Tuesday 11th May 2004, at 7.45pm.

Present: - Mr R Mantel (Chairman) Mrs L Dane, Mr N Crush, Mr D Hymers, Mr M Stillman.

In attendance-Clerk Mr J March, Mrs G Wright

1. **Apologies-** none
2. **Declarations of interest in items on the agenda-** none
3. **Minutes of the meeting held on 13th April 2004-** Proposed by Mrs L Dane seconded by Mr N Crush, agreed unanimously.
4. **Matters arising and action points**
 - 4.1 The Clerk to check the monthly expenditure on Tax/NI, the annual payment to BALC and one section 137 payment. Figures checked and details provided to the meeting.
 - 4.2 The Clerk to circulate the Chairman's annual report to committee members. Completed.
 - 4.3 The Clerk to write to W.E.B. Buckland and request more information on the grant request. Completed and reply received. Proposed by Mr R Mantel, seconded by Mr D Hymers to **RECOMMEND** to the Full Council to make a Section 137 grant to W.E.B. Buckland of £100 towards the cost of her daughter attending a National Choir event. Carried unanimously.
- 5 **Clerks Report**

- Bank balances as at end of April 2004
Current account- £7342.44 Deposit account- £29,809.07 including £27,250 precept received. Income bonds- £60,000, National Savings account-£697.89. The Clerk to review the current banking arrangements to see if they can be improved.
- VAT return for April 04 £21.84
- Dividends received- ICI £31.50. Interest on Income Bonds for March and April £340.99.
- Councillors' allowances. Advice obtained from BALC provided to the meeting. Following discussion it was proposed by Mr D Hymers, seconded by Mrs L Dane to **RECOMMEND** to the Full Council to pay reasonable childcare and dependent carers allowances to reimburse costs incurred by councillors in performance of their duties. Carried unanimously. The following guidelines to apply. (1) The allowance to be claimed only by the person with direct caring responsibilities. (2) The carer engaged must not be a member of the claimants family i.e. spouse of partner, other children of the councillor or councillor's spouse or any member of the councillor's family living at the same address as the councillor. (3) Claims to be made within two months of the date of the event,
- It was further proposed by Mr D Hymers, seconded by Mrs L Dane to **RECOMMEND** to the Full Council to reimburse councillors for reasonable travelling expenses necessarily incurred carrying out their duty as a councillor. Carried unanimously. The following guidelines to apply. (1) This only applies to meetings within the parish boundary. Outside the boundary normal statutory allowances apply. (2) The payment of claims for meetings within the parish boundary will be on the basis of using the cheapest means of transport. (3) Claims to be made within two months of the date of the event,

- Renewal of insurance policy. Details of the renewal costs were discussed. The Clerk to investigate the cost of insuring with an alternative company. The decision regarding whether to change to another company was delegated to Mr R Mantel and Mr N Crush.

6. Resolution 1/04 raised by Mrs G Wright

“ That the Council will make a financial contribution to the TVCMI for their costs associated with the Christmas Village Event”

Mrs Wright was asked to explain the details of her resolution to the meeting. Following a discussion on the costs of the event and the benefit to the village it was agreed that the Clerk write to TVCMI asking for a copy of their balance sheet for 2003/4 together with the balance sheet for the 2003 Christmas event.

7. Correspondence:

7.1 WDC Meeting of the Personnel Board 28.04.04 – noted.

7.2 Home Office – Changes to the law on preventing illegal working – noted.

7.3 Henderson Global –Investment Fund Statement – noted.

7.4 Age Concern – letter regarding withdrawal of funding for Readibus.

The Council chairman has replied explaining that funding has not been withdrawn. The Clerk to write to Readibus to find out more information.

8. Grant requests:

8.1 Twyford and District Play Association. Proposed by Mr D Hymers, seconded by Mrs L Dane to **RECOMMEND** to the Full Council to make a section 137 grant of £550. Agreed unanimously.

8.2 Youth Service – additional funding requested towards the cost of the mobile provision associated with the street worker for which funding has already been approved. The Clerk explained the reason for the request as detailed in the original submission received. After discussion it was proposed by Mr D Hymers, seconded by Mr N Crush to **RECOMMEND** to the Full Council not to make any additional grant. Carried unanimously.

9. Items to be considered from other Committees

9.1 Planning and Amenities – Recommendation to Council to replace unsafe street lighting column on the footpath between Ruscombe Rd and Orchard Estate at a cost of £538.27. Noted – no observation.

9.2 Parish Lands – Recommendation to Council to install CCTV in the Loddon hall area. Noted – no observation.

10. Date of next meeting- Tuesday 15th June 2004

The meeting closed at 10.05 pm.