MINUTES OF THE FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 20th NOVEMBER 2006 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS AT 7PM

PRESENT Councillors J. Barnett

H. Cadd

P. Collins (Mayor)

D. Isham

R. Lehmann (Chairman)

Ms. R. Newell

Town Clerk Ms. P. J. Heath

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr. Stuchbury.

235/2006 DECLARATION OF INTEREST FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Cllr. J. Barnett declared a personal interest on items 9 "response made to comments by the Community Plan Steering Group" and 10 "administrative procedures for the Circular Walk Project" on the agenda as a representative of the Community Plan Steering Group.

236/2006 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Members received and noted the minutes of the previous meeting held on 2nd October 2006 which had been ratified on 23rd October 2006.

237/2006 ACTION REPORTS AND UPDATES

The Members reviewed the action list which had been circulated with the agenda and received information on the outstanding items.

238/2006 QUALITY PARISH COUNCIL HEALTH-CHECK

Members discussed the current leaflet which being printed, this having been circulated to all Members prior to the meeting; it was **AGREED** that 1000 copies be printed and distributed to the normal outlets and also given out by Councillors at the Christmas Parade.

ACTION CLLR. MORDUE

The January newsletter, which will be a promotion of the Council and urging people to stand for the Town Council, has been sent to the PR Company for comment. The returned draft will be then circulated to all Members before printing. Following a discussion it was **AGREED** that the January newsletter should be delivered to all homes in the parish; it was **AGREED** that the additional cost would be vired from within the F & A Budget. Companies other than the Royal Mail will be investigated to distribute the leaflet.

ACTION CLLR. LEHMANN

239/2006 BUDGET REVIEWS

239.1 Finance and Administration Committee budgets

Copies of the figures to date had been circulated with the agenda; Members noted the figures.

239.2 Overview of all budgets

Members asked that the Flea Market and Street Market figures be split on the spread sheets and in the accounts. Members also requested that the budget to date be shown against the actual to give a greater understanding of the financial position in any one month.

ACTION THE TOWN CLERK

239.3 Information of the Town Clerk's Hours

Copies of the Town Clerk's TOIL had been circulated with the agenda, Members noted the figures.

240/2006 OUT-TURN FIGURES FOR 2006/2007 AND DISCUSS THE PROVISIONAL FIGURES FOR 2007/2008

Copies of the out-turn figures had been circulated with the agenda. The Clerk apologised that due to problems within the office the provisional figures for 2007/2008 had not been compiled. Members considered in detail the out-turn figures for 2006/2007 and discussed the guideline figure and percentage increase for the precept they should give to the Committees via the Full Council Meeting.

Proposed by Cllr. Collins, seconded by Cllr. Barnett, and **AGREED** that the calculated estimated increase for income in 2007/2008 be established, minus known increases/estimated increases for Finance and Administration, Events (plus a 4% increase) and the balancing figure then be allocated to Environment and Property; the headline figures are to be distributed to all Members prior to the Council meeting.

It was **AGREED** that a 3 year budget is prepared to give the Council a steer on how future requirements could be met.

ACTION THE TOWN CLERK

241/2006 THE OLD GAOL ACCOUNTS FOR THE BUILDING AND MUSEUM

Members discussed the accounts that had been circulated, by the Buckingham Heritage Trust, to all Members as per minute number 217/2006. Proposed by Cllr. Collins, seconded by Cllr. Cadd, and **AGREED** that the Committee should propose, at the precept meeting, a 3 year contract with an annual support for £3,000.

242/2006 CONSIDER RESPONSE TO COMMENTS MADE BY REPRESENTATIVE OF COMMUNITY PLAN GROUP

Members discussed at great length the comments made by Mrs. Moore in the public session prior to the Council meeting on $23^{\rm rd}$ October 2006 and the proposed response drafted by the Chairman which he has requested to be placed before the Council on $11^{\rm th}$ December 2006.

Members felt it would not be helpful to make the proposed response and felt that a more general policy statement should be made.

243/2006 ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES IN ORDER TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH CONTRACT SIGNED WITH BCC TO DELIVER THE PROJECT

A copy of the proposed administrative procedures and controls had been circulated with the agenda; this was accepted by the Members and copies of the procedures would be sent to the Community Plan Steering Group and Bucks. County Council.

ACTION THE TOWN CLERK

244/2006 REPORT ON THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT WHITE PAPER: STRONG AND PROSPEROUS COMMUNITIES

The report on the Local Government white paper "Strong and Prosperous Communities" had been circulated to all Members with the agenda; Members noted the report.

245/2006 FUNDING REQUEST FROM CHAIRMAN OF BUCKINGHAM YOUTH CENTRE

Cllr. Lehmann declared a personal interest as a Member of the Youth Centre Management Committee but stayed in the Chair.

Members discussed the request which had been circulated with the agenda. Proposed by Cllr. Newell, seconded by Cllr. Cadd, and **AGREED** by 4 votes to 0 to allocate the Youth Centre contingency for this project 4086/132; the Chairman abstained from the vote.

246/2006 OPENING HOURS OVER THE CHRISTMAS PERIOD OF THE OFFICE

Members **AGREED** that the office although open would be closed to the Public between Christmas and New Year to enable the staff to work uninterrupted.

247/2006 CHAIRMAN'S ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

There were no Chairman's Items for information

The following items were heard under section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission of Meetings) Act 1960 which excludes Members of the Public due to the confidential and financial nature of the business discussed

248/2006 CONFIRM THE EMPLOYMENT OF MR J JONES

249/2006 THE 8 WEEK ASSESSMENT OF THE DEPUTY TOWN CLERK

Meeting closed at 9.25pm.		
CHAIRMAN	Date	•
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