

Minutes of the meeting of the Finance Committee of Waterbeach Parish Council held on Tuesday, 31<sup>st</sup> October at 7.30 p.m. in the New Pavilion.

**Present:** Dr. C. Grant; Mr. W. Grant; Mr. M. Leeke (Chairman); Mrs. C. Smith; Mr. M. Williamson; Mr. A. Wright.

**In attendance:** Mrs. J. Cornwell; The Clerk

**1. Declaration of Interests:**

Dr. Grant – personal interest as a library volunteer in matters relating to WILL

Mr. Grant – personal interest as a library volunteer in matters relating to WILL.

Mr. Williamson declared a personal interest as a school governor in matters relating to WILL.

**2. Apologies:** there were none.

**3. To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> July, 2006:**

Mr. Williamson proposed, seconded by Mrs. Smith and agreed that the Minutes be approved and signed.

**4. Matters arising from the Minutes of the meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> July, 2006:**

There were no matters arising from the Minutes.

**5. To review the 2006/2007 financial year to date:**

i. Income and expenditure:

It was agreed that it was not expected that any more would be paid to WAY in the current financial year. Mr. Williamson had met with Steve Wright, Head of Youth Services, CCC and Jon Butler, CCC officer who had both reported that there is no money available for youth services. A meeting is to be arranged in, possibly, January with WAY, CCC, the Parish Council and other relevant bodies to discuss the ongoing financial situation of WAY.

Trees: Acacia Tree Surgery would be asked to assess all trees on the Green, the Gault and at the Cemetery in order that tree works could be prioritised. The MoD would be asked to consider necessary work on the copper beech in the cemetery.

Lights between Beach Social and Youth Club – the bollard lights have been damaged again. B. Langley & Son have been asked to provide an estimate for replacing the bollard lights with a 3 metre high column light and a guarded security light on the Beach Social club and the youth portacabin. This would be discussed as an agenda item in November.

Electricity usage – the meters should be read and checked against the next monthly invoice.

Audit – Mr. Sloman, the internal auditor, is no longer able to carry out the service for councils.

CALC should be asked for a list of internal auditors for consideration.

Figures for part exchanging the Stiga mower should be obtained for consideration at the December meeting.

Safety wear – employees should be asked what safety wear they have, i.e boots, gloves, helmets etc, and it should be established if they are being worn appropriately and if they need replacing. It should be established if it is necessary to wear ear muffs whilst driving the Stiga ride-on mower. It was agreed that if it is not a requirement then the groundsman should be instructed not to wear them in the interests of safety to the general public.

Election expenses – these are in excess of budget. SCDC have explained that this was caused by the number of postal votes. It was agreed that in future a figure of £2000 should be annually in the budget.

Library – Mr. Williamson agreed to remind the school secretary that Will should be invoiced quarterly for the use of the community building.

It was agreed that the Footpath line in budgeted income should be removed as the income from CCC for PP3 budget is accounted for, as the actual amount received in allocations.

Machinery compound – it was agreed that Mrs. Cornwell, Mr. Saberton, the Clerk and Mr. Smart should assess what provision should be made for safe storage of machinery etc. The matter would be discussed as an agenda item in December.

Play area equipment allocation – a cheque for £1760 is required for the landfill tax element of the grant for equipment at Chittering

Vehicle reserve – this allocation needs building up in future.

ii. Bank reconciliation to 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2006

**6. To consider request by groundsman for additional equipment:**

All of the items requested by the groundsman at the Employment Panel meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> September were considered. The price of cordless drills in the ESPO catalogue and the Sealey catalogues from Thurlow Nunn Standen were considered. It was agreed that a 18v cordless drill/driver be purchased at a cost of £49.95 + VAT ex the Sealey catalogue from Thurlow Nunn Standen.

Air compressor – the cost of air compressors in the Sealey catalogue were compared. It was agreed to purchase a 2hp. 25 litre air compressor from Thurlow Nunn Standen for £180.

It was agreed that Ian Rabbett should be consulted about the supply of water to the groundsman's shed. Water to the cricket square was not considered necessary.

It was agreed that a sarel spiker was not necessary as the cricket square had been maintained satisfactorily without one, a new cricket crease marker was not needed as the council already have a useable marker. The billy goat collector can be used instead of providing a leaf blower, and a supply of spare parts are not necessary.

It was agreed that a garden shredder should be obtained in order that the new waste regulations could be complied with. Further prices would be obtained and discussed at the December meeting as an agenda item.

**7. To consider arrangements with Beach Bowls Club to maintain the bowls green:**

Mr. Grant and Mr. Wright had attended the Annual General meeting of the Beach Bowls Club to discuss the possibility of the Club taking over the maintenance of the green. They had also met with officers of the Club to discuss the matter.

Mr. Grant presented the costs to the Council and the proposals of the Club. After consideration it was agreed that a recommendation be put the Council meeting on 7th November that the Council's employees will continue to maintain the bowls green and that the Council will address all issues of management, i.e of Council staff and interference from outside personnel.

**8. To consider financial implications of additional youth facilities:**

It was considered that there were no matters to discuss.

**9. Correspondence:**

Waterbeach Football Club - Complaint that pitches are not being maintained satisfactorily and request for fees to be reduced. It was agreed that the fees could not be realistically reduced as the charge includes training evenings and there is a considerable subsidy from all ratepayers of the village for all the facilities on the recreation ground.

It is understood that the groundsman marks the pitches out each week and that the garage pitch has been rested for recovery of the goal mouths.

Ringway – estimate for 'Please Drive Slowly' signs for the driveway to the recreation ground. It was agreed that the size of the sign makes it impracticable. Mr. Williamson proposed, seconded by Mrs. Cornwell and agreed that 'Slow' painted on the drive at each end is adequate.

CCC – annual street lighting charge of £554.37 is to be invoiced shortly. It was agreed that an extra line in the expenditure budget should be placed to accommodate this unbudgeted expense.

Sarah Smart – employment issues. It was agreed that the Employment Panel should meet with the Clerk to discuss the contents of the letter.

**10. To consider any issue with financial implications to the Council:**

It was agreed that the agreement between WILL and CCC should be signed by Mr. Wright at the meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> November.

The meeting ended at 10.15 p.m.

Chairman .....

Date .....