

Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee
of Saddleworth Parish Council held at
The Civic Hall, Lee Street, Uppermill on **Monday 22nd June 2009**

There were present Cllr. Mr K. Begley – Chairman
 Cllr. Mrs. A. McInnes – Vice Chairman

Cllrs.	Mr. P.W. Bagley	Mr. K Hulme
	Mrs. B.A. Beeley	Mr. B. Lord
	Mr. R. Birse	Mrs. P. Lord
	Mr. M. Buckley	Mrs. A.C. Parry
	Mr. B. Cullen	Mr. P. Renold
	Mr. R.G. Franklin	Mrs. D.M Shaw
	Mr. J. Hudson	

- 793. Apologies for Absence:** Apologies for Absence: Cllrs. Dr. D. Atherton, Mrs. M.J. Bingley, Mr. P.H. Davenport, Mr. D. Heffernan & Mr. A. Hodgkiss
- 794. Declarations of Interest – None**
- 795. Boundary signs –** Oldham M.B.C. Assistant Chief Executive Carolyn Wilkins circulated examples of the designs being considered for the signs on the Borough boundaries, these will include “Welcome to Saddleworth”, the white rose and “In the historic County of York. It was agreed that the village name should also appear where the village and borough boundaries coincided. A standard design will apply to all the Boundary signs around the Borough. The second phase of the project will be signs within the borough including Village boundary signs. Members thanked Carolyn for all the work that had been done in designing the signs.
- 796. Local Development Framework –** Councillor Buckley summarised the Parish Council’s response to the Local Development Framework Draft Core Policies. Oldham M.B.C. will consider the response with all the other responses that they receive. The key issues are reflected in the Draft Parish Plan. It was suggested the LDF should facilitate the expansion of the Peak Park. Members formally approved the submission produced by the Planning Policy Sub-committee.
- 797. Parish Plan –** Copies of the Draft Plan have been sent to Oldham M.B.C. and partner organisations for their comments. The Plan will be published in the Summer.
- 798. Rights of Way –** Nothing to report .

- 799. South Pennine Forum** – The Chairman, Clerk and Councillor Buckley attended the Annual General meeting of the South Pennine branch of the Yorkshire Local Councils Association to exchange information. There is a desire for more Parish / Town Councils in Kirklees and Calderdale, a recent change in legislation simplifies the process for creating new Parish / Town Councils. The representatives were made very welcome and invited to attend future meetings on the same basis.
- 800. Transport** – Following a Road Traffic accident on Church Rd, Councillor Franklin attended a meeting with local residents and a site meeting with Oldham Council Highways, it has been agreed that the current signage will be modified and “slow “ signs painted onto the road surface. Oldham Council has agreed to clean road signs across Saddleworth, details of dirty signs need to be passed to the Clerk to be forwarded to Oldham. Discussions have been held with Councillor McCann about time limited parking restrictions in Uppermill, the proposals will be considered by the Traffic and Transport sub-committee
- 801. Fuel Poverty** – Councillor Franklin gave a presentation on the keys issues to deal with Fuel Poverty. The action plan was approved by the members, this will include an “Idiots guide”. Oldham Council has signed up to the Sustainable Communities Act, enabling it to inform the Government of actions that it would like to see. The Parish Council can pass information to Oldham for inclusion in their submission.
- 802. Pennine Prospects** – The draft programme for the Walk & Ride Festival has been produced, there are more events than in previous years. The Minor grants programme has now been launched, it was agreed that the Clerk will submit an application for assistance with the cost of producing Tourist map. Heritage Lottery funding will be available shortly. The Business Plan has been approved by the Board and will be considered at the AGM. The Annual Conference on 29th September will be held in the Civic Hall.
- 803. Peak Park** – Councillor Beeley has been involved in discussions on partnership working with the Peak Park, the Parish Council needs to be involved in any decisions, the Chairman has asked for a copy of the Draft Parish Plan.
- 804. Area Committee** – The hanging baskets and planting in the villages has been completed. All the grants had now been paid. The Borough Councillors are currently finalising the arrangements for the District Partnership that will replace the Area Committee, it is intended to build on the current arrangements with Parish Council nominees being part of the Partnership, all Area Committee co-optees will be invited to the first District Partnership meeting.

- 805. Civic Hall Modernisation Phase 2** – a meeting has been arranged with the architect to revise the plans, a full business case will be presented to the Council before a final decision is made on the work to be carried out.
- 806. Water Power** - Councillors Begley & Buckley attended the recent meeting of the working group and will attend future meetings.
- 807. Saddleworth & Lees Information Network** – Councillor Franklin attends the group, it has accepted the Fuel Poverty Action Plan
- 808. Events in Saddleworth** – there is currently no central contact point for information on events that are planned in Saddleworth. It was agreed that a Task and Finish group should be formed comprising Councillors McInnes, Begley, Franklin, Beeley and B. Lord to look at the role of the Parish Council in providing information to the public.
- 809. Accounts for Payment** - The list of Accounts for Payment was approved by the Committee. The total expenditure being £23,639.02 and income being £5,342.33. There were no payments made in accordance with Section 137 and 139 of the Local Government
- 810. Exclusion of Press and Public** - The Members voted for the exclusion of the Press and Public from the meeting for the next item.
- 811. Sponsorship** – Members considered a report from the Clerk on the possible sponsorship of a vehicle for use by the Saddleworth and Lees Neighbourhood Policing team. It was agreed that the Council would not pursue the matter.