

Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee
of Saddleworth Parish Council held at
The Civic Hall, Lee Street, Uppermill on **Monday 23rd November 2009**

There were present

Cllr. Mr K. Begley - Chairman

Cllr. Mrs. A. McInnes – Vice Chairman

Cllrs. Mr. P.W. Bagley

Mrs. B.A. Beeley

Mrs. M. Bingley

Mr. R. Birse

Mr. M. Buckley

Mr. B. Cullen

Mr. R.G. Franklin

Mr. D. Heffernan

Mr. J. Hudson

Mr. K Hulme

Mrs. A.C. Parry

- 864. Apologies for Absence:** Apologies for Absence: Cllrs. Dr. D. Atherton, Mr. P.H. Davenport, Mr. A. Hodgkiss, Mr. B. Lord, Mrs. P. Lord & Mrs. D.M Shaw
- 865. Declarations of Interest – None**
- 866. Red telephone kiosks –** It was agreed that the Parish Council will adopt the red telephone kiosks at Broad Lane, Delph and Ladhill Lane, Chew Valley Rd, Greenfield. B.T. will be advised that the Parish Council does not wish to adopt the kiosks at Delph Lodge or the Junction of Station Road and Sam Road, Diggle. Arrangements will be made to refurbish the adopted kiosks. Local groups will be asked to suggest uses for the kiosks and assist in monitoring their condition.
- 867. Tourist bus –** members considered a report prepared by Councillor Franklin to provide an experimental tourist bus on 15 weekends from 19th June 2010. The bus will run alternatively from Greenfield Station to Dovestone and Uppermill to Dovestone, linking with the trains arriving at Greenfield Station. R.S.P.B. has agreed some funding, requests have also been submitted to Pennine Prospects and Peak Park. It was agreed that a request should be made to the District Partnership for them to share the cost with the Parish Council.
- 868. Civic Hall Modernisation Phase 2 –** the advertisements for Expressions of Interest to tender for the work have appeared in the local press. The Architect is preparing the Tender documents. The information was noted and accepted.
- 869. Provision of Information to the Public –** The Task and Finish group first met in July, a second meeting was held last week to review the News & Views magazine and Parish Flyer. Another meeting has now been arranged to discuss the format and content of the web-site. A full report will be presented to this Committee in the New Year.
- 870. Parish Plan –** The formal launch of the Plan will be at the Civic Hall on 1st December. Copies of the Plan will be available from the Council Offices, Visitor Information Centre and local libraries.

871. **Rights of Way** – Initial discussions have taken place with Imogen Fuller about the Tourist map.
872. **South Pennine Forum** – Nothing to report.
873. **Transport** – The wall in Diggle is due to be repaired in January. The Police have carried out speed checks on Stockport Road, Lydgate.
874. **Fuel Poverty** – The next meeting of the group is in December.
875. **Pennine Prospects** – Nothing to report
876. **Peak Park** – The meeting with representatives from Oldham Council and the Peak Park was positive, a follow-up meeting will be held in February.
877. **District Partnership** – The next meeting is 3rd December.
878. **Water Power** – The next meeting of the group is on 4th December.
879. **Saddleworth & Lees Information Network** – Nothing to report.
880. **Internal Audit report** – Noted and accepted
881. **Accounts for Payment** - The list of Accounts for Payment was approved by the Committee. The total expenditure being £16,326.67 and income being £5,471.25. There were no payments made in accordance with Section 137 and 139 of the Local Government
882. **Exclusion of Press and Public** – The members voted for the exclusion of the Press and Public from the meeting for the following items.
883. **Lower Hall Lifting Platform** – Members considered a report on the purchase and installation of a platform lift in the Lower Hall. It was agreed to purchase a lift up to a maximum cost of £7,000. The existing room divider / barrier will be reconfigured.
884. **Budget monitoring** – Members considered a report from the Clerk on the projected expenditure and income for the current year. It was agreed that the anticipated underspend on the Parish Plan and Quality Parish Council budgets should be earmarked to fund the Tourist Bus and Community Toilet Scheme.
885. **Staffing** – Members were advised of the current staffing situation.