

Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee
of Saddleworth Parish Council held at
The Civic Hall, Lee Street, Uppermill on **Monday 24th September 2007**

There were present Cllr. Mrs. A. McInnes - Chairman

Mr. P. Bagley	Mr. A. Hodgkiss
Mrs. B Beeley	Mr. J. Hudson
Mr. K. Begley	Mr. K. Hulme
Mrs M. Bingley	Mr. B. Lord
Mr. R. Birse	Mrs. P. Lord
Mr M. Buckley	Mrs. A. Parry
Mr. B. Cullen	Mr. P. Renold
Mr. R. Franklin	Mrs. D. Shaw
Mr. D. Heffernan	

551. **Apologies for Absence:** Cllrs. Dr. D. Atherton & Mr. P. Davenport,
552. **Declarations of Interest** – None
- 553 **Community Facilities** – Councillor Beeley informed the meeting of the proposal by Oldham MBC to close the Springhead Community Centre. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to Oldham MBC advising them that the Parish Council opposed the closure and requesting Oldham MBC to invest in the one and only Community Facility in Saddleworth. The Council will also be asked to retain ownership of the building.
- 554 **Land adjacent to The Spinney** – Councillor Heffernan advised the meeting of a letter that had been received from Oldham MBC concerning flooding problems at the above location. United Utilities installed a “flood tank” to deal with excess water during periods of heavy rain on land owned by the Parish Council. Residents in nearby properties at The Spinney have complained about excess ground water allegedly draining off the ground where the tank has been installed. A solution to the problem would be to install an additional land drain at the bottom of the slope and a cost of £3 - £4,000. It was agreed that the matter be deferred until more information was available.
- 555 **Dog Control Orders** - Oldham MBC is currently consulting on proposals for Dog Control Orders in the Borough. The Parish Council can also create and be responsible for the enforcement of the Orders. It was agreed that a Task and Finish group comprising Councillors Mr. P. Renold, Mrs. A. Parry and Mr. P. Bagley will consider the issue.
- 556 **Stakeholder involvement in the North West Spacial Strategy** - the Clerk informed the meeting that Manchester University were undertaking

a research project to evaluate stakeholder involvement to date in the North West Spacial Strategy. It was agreed that the Clerk would meet with Councillors Mr. R. Birse, Mr. B. Lord and Mr. J. Hudson to produce a response.

- 557 **Pennine Prospects** - The Annual Conference will be held in Halifax on Friday 5th October, the Parish Council can send up to three delegates. It was agreed that Councillors Mr. M. Buckley, Mr. K. Begley and Mr. K. Hulme attend the conference and be entitled to reclaim their fuel costs for attending.
- 558 **Saddleworth White Rose Society** - The Society are seeking the views and possible support of the Parish Council and other South Pennine Parish and Town Councils for a proposal to create a South Pennines Borough. It was agreed that a Task and Finish group be set up to look at the advantages and disadvantages of the proposal and to report back to a Special meeting of the Council. The group will be Councillors Mr. M. Buckley, Mr. K. Begley, Mr. B. Cullen, Mr. A. Hodgkiss and Mr. K. Hulme
- 559 **Campaign to Protect Rural England** – the annual subscription of CPRE was now due, it was agreed to renew our membership and pay the annual subscription of £27.00.
- 560 **Accounts for Payment** – The list of Accounts for Payment was approved by the Committee. The total expenditure being £37,537.65. and income being £7,856.75. There were no payments made in accordance with Section 137 and 139 of the Local Government Act 1972