

Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee  
of Saddleworth Parish Council, held at the Civic Hall, Lee Street,  
Uppermill on **Monday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2007**

There were present Cllr. Mrs. A. McInnes – Chairman  
Cllr. Mr. P. Davenport– Vice Chairman

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

- 527. Apologies for Absence:** Cllrs. Dr. D. Atherton, Mr. R. Franklin, Mr. D. Heffernan, Mr. A. Hodgkiss & Mr. P. Renold
- 528. Declarations of Interest - None**
- 529. Himalayan Balsam (Up-date)** – Launch took place in Uppermill, community events have also taken place in Diggle and Delph. Further events are planned including Greenfield / Grasscroft and the Delph Donkey in association with Oldham Countryside Service. The project has created partnerships with Groundwork Oldham and Rochdale, Oldham Countryside Service, Peak Park and Community Associations. Funding has been received from Peak Park. It was agreed that the funding of £2,000 allocated for Himalayan Balsam be released to Groundwork Oldham and Rochdale.
- 530. Re-cycling (Referred from Environmental Sub-committee)** – Re-cycling issues need to be kept under review by the Parish Council, we need to look at opportunities to bring more re-cycling facilities into Saddleworth. All local authorities are being forced to look at increasing re-cycling rates or face heavy fines. The information was received and noted.
- 531. Rights of Way Improvement Plan** – Oldham MBC have produced a draft Rights of Way Improvement plan, the Council is a statutory consultee. Concern was raised that the Parish Council had not been consulted at an earlier stage. Need to develop a champion to work with local residents in each area.
- 532. Heritage Walking Festival** – the South Pennine Walking Festival will take place in September, very few events are planned in Saddleworth. Need to contact the co-ordinator, Colin Speakman, to try and link some local walks into the programme.

- 533. Renewal of council's Insurance Policy** – The Clerk advised the meeting that the Council's Insurance Policy was due for renewal on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2007. The Chairman of the Council and the Chairman of the Finance & General Purposes Committee had reviewed the cover offered by Zurich Municipal and agreed to accept the premium of £5,376.49 for 2007/2008. The members approved the decision of the Chairman of the Council and Chairman of the Finance & General Purposes Committee to accept the quotation.
- 534. Localisation of Services / Opportunities for Additional Funding** – The Government drive is for localisation with the Rural Development Plan, the Parish Council is the best placed to lead on it. It was agreed that a Task and Finish group needs to be set up look at Parish Plans and how the Council ensures that it is not “left out of the loop”. The item will be discussed further at the next meeting.
- 535. Accounts for Payment**  
The lists of Accounts for Payment was approved by the Committee. The total expenditure being £20,325.87 and income being £6,272.47. There were no payments made in accordance with Section 137 and 139 of the Local Government Act 1972
- 536. Area Action Team**  
The Clerk informed the meeting that discussions had taken place with the Area Manager concerning Parish Council representation on the Area Action Team, (AAT). Details of the terms of reference of the AAT were circulated, The Parish Council had requested three places on the team, that request would be considered at the next AAT meeting. Members considered it important that they had input to and feedback from the AAT.
- 537. Health Workshop**  
A Health Workshop has been arranged at the Civic Hall on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> July. A variety of groups have been invited including Community groups and some parish councillors. Feedback will be provided to the Parish Council.
- 538. Saddleworth Baths**  
Councillor Lord informed the meeting that Oldham Community and Leisure were planning a major development at Saddleworth Baths including a fitness centre. The information was received and noted
- 539. Exclusion of Press & Public**  
The members voted for the exclusion of press and public from the meeting.

**540. Consultancy** – The Clerk advised the meeting that following the last Association of Councillors meeting, the former Clerk, Mr. R. Wilcox had decided to terminate his contract as Consultant Clerk on 4<sup>th</sup> May. The members noted and accepted the information.

The meeting was also informed of a letter from the Oldham MBC Head of Planning, it was agreed that a letter would be sent to the Principal Planning Officer.