

Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee  
of Saddleworth Parish Council held at  
The Civic Hall, Lee Street, Uppermill on **Monday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2009**

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

Cllrs.	Dr. D. Atherton	Mr. R. Franklin
	Mr. P. Bagley	Mr. D. Heffernan
	Mrs. B. Beeley	Mr. J. Hudson
	Mrs M. Bingley	Mr. K. Hulme
	Mr. R. Birse	Mr. B. Lord
	Mr. M. Buckley	Mrs. P. Lord
	Mr. B. Cullen	Mrs. D. Shaw

The members expressed sincere condolences to the family of the late Derek Seville. Mr Seville was the first Chairman of the Parish Council and put a considerable amount of time and effort into work for the Parish Council and other groups in Saddleworth. The Clerk will write to his widow expressing the sorrow and sympathy of the Parish Council

**727. Apologies for Absence:** Apologies for Absence: Cllrs. Mr. P. Davenport, Mr. A. Hodgkiss & Mrs. A. Parry

**728. Declarations of Interest** – None

**729. Regeneration** – Councillor Mohib Uddin and Mr Phil Jobling explained the LDF and its relationship to the Regional Spatial Strategy. The Core Strategy will be out for consultation in March / April, with a draft strategy by the end of the year, The Core Strategy will be adopted by March 2011. The Regional Spatial Strategy allows for 289 new homes to be built in the Borough. There will be no review of the green belt before at least 2011. Members thanked Councillor Uddin and Mr Jobling for their presentation and answering questions.

**730. Voluntary Weekend** – The working group will produce a report for the February meeting.

**731. Parish Plan** – The responses from the 1,200 questionnaires that were returned have been analysed. The working group is meeting to start to draft the Parish Plan. A meeting of the group that helped to draft the questionnaire will be held shortly followed by a public meeting to present the draft Parish Plan. It is proposed to produce two documents, the full Parish Plan and a summary leaflet. Mr Victor Smith of Dobcross won the £100 prize for completing the Questionnaire.

**732. Rights of Way.** – A large amount of work has been done, a meeting of the sub-group will be arranged in the near future.

**733. South Pennine Forum** – Awaiting feedback from the meeting of the South Pennine Branch of the Yorkshire Local Councils Association. Membership of the

Associations is based on the Counties as defined by the 1972 Local Government Act.

- 734. Congestion Charging / Transport** – The Traffic & Transport sub committee now incorporates Lees. New contractors are now on site to complete the improvements at Greenfield Station. Following the results of the referendum, the sub-committee needs to consider what should happen post TIF, one issue is the timing of the Diggle buses.
- 735. Fuel Poverty** – A sub-group has been formed in Saddleworth to discuss Fuel Poverty, which is defined as spending 10% of income on fuel. The group is looking at carrying out a survey in Saddleworth, Stockport Council already have a policy which may prove helpful in identifying areas of need. Members endorsed the creation of the sub-group led by the Parish Council
- 736. Pennine Prospects** – Funding may be available from the Sustainable Development fund and also a Heritage bid to regenerate upland areas. The Walking Festival will be held again this year, groups are needed to organise events etc.
- 737. Area Committee** – The new sub-groups have been agreed, some will be Parish Council sub-committees and others will be Area Committee sub-committees. Both groups of sub-committees will consider issues from Saddleworth & Lees.
- 738. Civic Hall Modernisation Phase 2** – Several meetings have been held with John Barnes (Architect) to discuss the design and layout. A Planning Application is being submitted to Oldham MBC.
- 739. Chain of Office** – The new chain of office has now arrived.
- 740. Code of Conduct** – No further information – update at February meeting
- 741. Accounts for Payment** - The list of Accounts for Payment was approved by the Committee. The total expenditure being £37,518.20 and income being £6,388.00. There were no payments made in accordance with Section 137 and 139 of the Local Government