

Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee
of Saddleworth Parish Council held at
The Civic Hall, Lee Street, Uppermill on **Monday 24th October 2011**

There were present: Cllr. Mr. B. Lord - Chairman
Cllr. Mr. R. Knotts – Vice Chairman

Cllrs. Mr. N. Allsopp	Mr. G. Harkness
Dr. D. Atherton	Mr. D. Heffernan
Mrs. M. Bingley	Mr. K. Hulme
Ms. L. Brown	Mrs. P. Lord
Mr. M. Buckley	Mr. R. McCann
Mr. B. Cullen	Mr. A. Roughley
Mrs. E. Firth	Ms. L. Schofield
Mr. R. Franklin	Mr. G. Sheldon

1216. Apologies for Absence: Cllrs. Mr. J. Hudson & Mrs. N. Kirkham

1217. Declarations of Interest – Councillor Sheldon – Community Toilet scheme

1218. Community Gritting & Snow clearance – a meeting has taken place with Oldham Council. A letter has been sent to Community Associations and via GMP e-watch, asking for details of roads requiring clearing and volunteers. A meeting has been arranged with the Police to discuss the disruption to bus services caused by parked cars.

1219. Community Toilet Scheme – members considered a report from the Clerk on the operation of the Community Toilet Scheme – the report was noted.

1220. Provision of Information to the Public – the newsletter will be produced in a similar format to previous editions.

1221. Transport – Raad has produced an initial paper on de-cluttering. The sub-committee has created a working group to draw up suggestions for the Uppermill Parking review. The District Partnership asked the Transport and Traffic sub-committee to review the proposed sign for Greenfield, one suggestion was that all village signs should include “in Saddleworth”.

1222. District Partnership – Councillor Atherton has resigned as a Parish Council representative, it was agreed that Councillor Hulme will replace him. The Churchill scheme has been given the go ahead. Councillor Firth will provide feedback from the District Partnership at future meetings.

1223. Extending Peak District National Park in Saddleworth – Members considered a paper produced by Councillor Hulme. Members agreed in principle to extend the Park, mainly into land owned by United Utilities, there are very few properties in the area. It was agreed to create a working group to look at the viability of the proposal and invite a representative of Natural England to a future meeting.

- 1224. Devolution of council services from OMBC to Saddleworth Parish Council –** Members considered a paper produced by Councillor Hulme. It was agreed that the Parish Council should declare an interest in exploring the devolution of services from OMBC. It was agreed that a task and finish group should look at what other Councils have done. The task and finish group would comprise Councillors Cullen, Hulme, Buckley, Firth, Harkness, Heffernan, Knotts & Roughley
- 1225. Internal Audit report –** members considered the Internal Audit report – the report was received and noted.
- 1226. Budget Monitoring –** members considered a Budget Monitoring report – the report was received and noted.
- 1227. Accounts for Payment –** The list of Accounts for Payment was approved by the Committee. The total expenditure being £23,758.22 and income being £104,119.11. There were no payments made in accordance with Section 137 and 139 of the Local Government Act 1972.
- 1228. Exclusion of Press and Public –** members resolved that the Press and Public should be excluded for the next item.
- 1229. Civic Hall Car park re-surfacing –** Tenders are being invited for the resurfacing of the car park, the closing date is 31st October. A Special Council meeting will be held after the Planning Committee on 7th November, to discuss the tenders.
- 1230. Civic Hall staffing –** members were reminded that details of the current staffing situation should remain confidential.