

CROXLEY GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER
ON THURSDAY 8 JANUARY 2009 at 8.00pm

Present: Cllr Norman – In the Chair
David Allison – Clerk to the Council
Amanda Taft – Minute Taker

Cllrs Bains, Hollands, C Jefford, Seeley and Shafe

Voting Members: 6

FA467/09 Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received from Cllr Bains.

FA468/09 Declaration of Interests

The Chairman stated that declarations of interest may be made throughout the meeting if necessary.

FA469/09 Representations from the Public

There were no public present.

FA470/09 Minutes

It was proposed by Cllr Seeley and seconded by Cllr Shafe that the Minutes of the meeting held on 11 December 2008 be approved as correct. The proposal was agreed and the Chairman signed the Minutes.

FA471/09 Matters Arising

FA462/08 (Monthly Accounts; A/c 4037/103 Grounds Maintenance). The Clerk advised that further to his meeting with Peter Brooker earlier today, he would be invoicing Three Rivers District Council for the money spent on reinstatement of the Green outside the Artichoke Public House.

FA472/09 Monthly Accounts

The Chairman introduced this item and the Clerk referred Members to the Monthly Management Accounts Report for month 9 (December 2008) which were circulated at the meeting. The Clerk explained the format of the report and gave an explanation of each expenditure item. Some of the items discussed include:

A/c 1090/101 Interest Received – After a brief discussion regarding the current very low interest rates, the Clerk agreed to research the possibility of putting some Parish Council funds in bonds or an account with higher interest rates.

A/c 4046/103 Equipment Purchased – The Clerk confirmed that the sum of £694 was for a tree winch.

A/c 4071/103 Maintenance – Tractor – The Clerk stated that the sum of £602 was for the annual service of the tractor.

A/c 4200/107 Chairman's Charity Expenditure – The Clerk informed those present that a cheque for £100 had been given to Croxley Green Scout Group which is one of the TRDC Chairman's Charities.

A/c 4711/107 S137 Grants – The Clerk reminded Members that this was the grant given to the Tennis Club.

A/c 4049/203 Dog Hygiene – The Clerk explained that the sum of £778 was for the purchase of dog waste bags as well as the waste collection service.

There being no other matters on the accounts, it was proposed by Cllr Hollands and seconded by Cllr Seeley that the Management Accounts for Month 9 (December) be approved. The proposal was agreed and the accounts were duly signed by the Chairman.

FA473/09 Budget 2009/2010 and beyond

The Chairman introduced this item and the Clerk stated that currently the precept stood at £254,345 which is a 6.41% increase on last year. By the end of the discussions, Cllrs had reduced this figure to £248,045 which is an increase of 3.77% on last year. Taking into consideration the fact that Croxley Green residents may not incur Special Expenses this year, the Chairman stated that this was a very good budget in this current financial climate. The Clerk stated that there was still some 'tweaking' to be undertaken and he agreed to look at the funds allocated to staff pensions to see if the figures could be reduced in any way. The Clerk also informed Members that the draft budget figures needed to be updated with the December accounts which had only been prepared today.

A/c 299 E & A Capital Projects/Development of Play Areas. It was recommended that the unspent £5,000 from this current year be transferred to Reserves and that the sum of £5,000 be transferred out of Ear Marked Reserves (for the Multi Sports Court) as this sum was intended for surface markings on the Multi Sports Court. This results in a zero figure and had the effect of reducing the precept by £5,000.

The Clerk stated that he would issue a revised copy of the Draft Budget with the Minutes of this meeting.

FA474/09 Closure

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.08pm.