

## **WROCKWARDINE PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee Meeting held on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2008 at Admaston House at 7.30 p.m.**

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#### **Present:**

Cllr. – T. Kiernan  
Cllrs. K.J.S. Ballantyne and Mrs. Jo Savage.

Mr. M. Goldstraw – Clerk  
Also present: Cllr. E. Dawes and Mr. Alan Bingham.

#### **F&GP**

##### **07/18 Chairman's opening remarks**

The Chairman thanked all for attending and welcomed Mr. Bingham.

##### **07/19 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs. Craik and Rawlings.

##### **07/20 Minutes**

There were no minutes to approve.

##### **07/21 Co-option of Members of Council to Committee**

The Chairman reminded the meeting that Council had permitted the existing F&GP Committee to co-opt additional members of council to increase the present number of members to a level that would reduce the risk of the committee repeatedly becoming inquorate.

Cllr. Ballantyne proposed that Cllr. Dawes be co-opted to the Committee.  
Seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Savage – it was RESOLVED.

Cllr. Dawes joined Committee members at the table.

Cllr. Ballantyne proposed that subject to their acquiescence Cllrs Nadine Evans and Sheila Turner be also co-opted to the Committee. Seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Savage – it was RESOLVED.

##### **07/22 Development Plan**

The meeting discussed a number of proposals put forward by members of council. It was agreed that Cllr. Ballantyne would place the existing plan on a computer disc and forward it to the Chairman. The Chairman agreed to prepare a new draft to include points raised previously by Councillors to be put before Council at the earliest opportunity.

##### **07/23 Grants – criteria for acceptance**

It was agreed that the existing requirements as set out on the form provided by Council to applicants should remain but that the additional wording set out below should be included:

*“If accounts do not exist, or it is not considered practical to produce them as part of this application, please supply a breakdown of how you propose to spend any grant money given to you by the Council.”*

**07/24 Receipt of Planning Applications from the Borough Council**

The meeting considered the cost implications of the Borough’s proposed electronic transmission of planning applications to parishes and how, in light of the proposed change, it would present planning application to Council.

The Clerk outlined a solution whereby future planning applications could be received on to a lap top computer and then projected onto a wall or a screen by through the medium of a digital projector.

Cllr. Ballantyne felt that there were two issues to be addressed. The first was the expense of providing the clerk with the necessary equipment to ensure that members were no disadvantaged by the proposed changes. The second was the matter of the Clerk’s time and whether or not Council wished to make other arrangements i.e. another meeting. Cllr. Ballantyne suggested that it may be a possibility that Council delegates planning responsibility to the F&GP Committee.

Cllr. Ballantyne proposed that the Committee recommended to Council that it recognises that the borough is moving towards the electronic transmission to parish councils of planning applications and therefore:

- 1) The responsibility of responding to consultation should be transferred from full Council to the F&GP Committee.
- 2) That Council gives delegated authority to F&GP to determine all planning applications other than those which either council itself retains or which F&GP refer back to Council for decision.
- 3) That Council authorises expenditure for the purchase of suitable technology and equipment in order that the Clerk be in a position to communicate planning applications to members of Council and to the public effectively, such equipment to include the purchase of a good quality lap top computer and associated digital projection attachments.

The proposal was seconded by Cllr. Mrs Jo Savage. It was RESOLVED.

**07/25 Next Meeting**

**Next meeting *if required* to be Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2007 at Wrockwardine Parish Hall at 7.30 p.m.**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.02 p.m.

**Signed** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Chairman**

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_