



Bray Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE FINANCE PRECEPT MEETING OF BRAY PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT 7.00PM ON MONDAY 28th JANUARY 2008 IN THE BRAYWOOD MEMORIAL HALL, FIFIELD ROAD, FIFIELD, BERKS

PRESENT:	Cllr Mrs H Howard (Vice-Chairman of Finance took the Chair)
Bray Village Ward:	Cllrs Mrs C Aspey, Mrs M Pierce, K Elvin, C Graham
Dedworth Ward:	Cllr D Moores
Holyport Ward:	Cllrs D Coppinger, P Janikoun
Oakley Green and Fifield:	Cllr G Annetts, J Foulger Mrs C Woodley – The Clerk

10/2008. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr N Basterfield.

11/2008. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 17th DECEMBER 2007

Amendment at Min No.214/2007 – last sentence to readit was therefore **agreed** (delete suggested) that names of voters are recorded in the financial decision making process. The Minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on 17th December 2007 were then signed as a true record.

12/2008. TO REVIEW THE PARISH ACTUAL AND FORECAST 2007/08 AND CONSIDER BUDGET OPTIONS FOR 2008/09 IN ORDER TO SET THE PARISH PRECEPT REQUIREMENT FOR 2008/09

The Actual and Forecast for 2007/08 had been circulated to Councillors in advance of the meeting and was the same document as was presented at the last Finance meeting. Cllr Annetts commented that the Parish Council had budgeted to give more S.137 grants within this current financial year, than had actually been applied for. A proposed budget for 2008/09 had also been circulated in advance and was presented as at Appendix B reflecting an increase in the precept requirement of 3% (as an average rate of inflation) which would just cover the anticipated shortfall in income and expenditure with a surplus of around £2K leaving reserves in excess of 50% of the precept. Discussion took place of a possible 4% increase in the precept to align with the Royal Borough's figure since the difference to ratepayers would be negligible. Last year's precept had reflected a large increase which had not been challenged. It was agreed however, that the Parish reserves would allow the undertaking of projects that may arise during the year. Cllr Graham therefore proposed a 3% increase in the budget with a precept requirement of £122,250, seconded by Cllr Mrs Howard. **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY.**

13/2008. TO CONFIRM THE APPOINTMENT OF AN INTERNAL AUDITOR FOR THE FORTHCOMING AUDIT FOR THE CURRENT FINANCIAL YEAR 2007/08.

Mr Geoff Weir has indicated that he is prepared to undertake the Parish Council's Internal Audit for 2007/08 and had submitted his CV for consideration by members. Cllr Mrs Pierce proposed that Mr Weir carry out the Internal Audit for the current financial year, seconded by Cllr Moores. **AGREED.**

14/2008. TO CONSIDER AN APPLICATION FOR FUNDING FROM BRAYWOOD MEMORIAL HALL

Cllr Moores presented the application recently received from the Braywood Memorial Hall Committee for a grant towards the purchase and installation of a new fire door at the Hall. This application is retrospective since the door has already been installed and had cost £500. After discussion Cllr Moores proposed a grant of £250, seconded by Cllr Graham, provided the Hall Committee that the Parish Council do not usually consider retrospective applications and this should be avoided in the future. AGREED.

The meeting closed at 7.20pm.