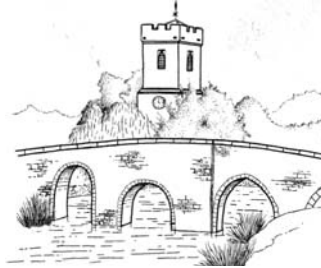


BIDFORD ON AVON PARISH COUNCIL

In the County of Warwickshire



Minutes of the Finance and Strategy Committee held on Wednesday 7th January 2009 at 7.30 pm in the Parish Meeting Room, Bramley Way, Bidford-on-Avon.

The Committee Chairman, Cllr. Gerrard, had sent in his apologies. As the Committee has no appointed Vice Chairman, it was proposed Cllr. Mrs. Keeley, Chairman of the Parish Council be appointed as Chairman of this meeting. The proposal was unanimously carried.

PRESENT:

Chairman : Cllr. Mrs. Keeley
Cllrs. Ms. Deacon, Hendey, Hiscocks, Langston, Sandle, Spiers and Williams

In attendance : Mr. Hully – Responsible Financial Officer to the Parish Council and Elisabeth Uggerlose, Clerk to the Parish Council

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received, and accepted, from Cllrs. Gerrard and Hill

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

All members of the Council are reminded that in order to comply with the Code of Conduct adopted by the Parish Council on 20th August 2007 if any matter arises during the meeting in which they have Declared an Interest which could be prejudicial, they should withdraw from the room and not seek to improperly influence a decision about that matter

None declared

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE FINANCE AND STRATEGY MEETING OF 19th NOVEMBER 2008

Proposed by Cllr. Hiscocks as being accurate and signed by the Chairman of the Committee.

4. PUBLIC FORUM

There were no members of the public present

5. LENGHTMAN EXPENDITURE

To approve cost of gully cleansing (approx. £3,500).
It was resolved the gully cleansing should take place.

6. PRECEPT FOR 2009/10

To consider and approve the budget/precept for 2009/10 (figures circulated)
Members had considered the budget figures, prepared by the RFO and based on the issues raised at the previous Committee Meeting and, although concerns were expressed at having to use reserves to continue the Council's improvement programme, Members did not believe the current economic climate was the appropriate time to raise the precept by more than 5%, although it was recognized that reserves would have to be built up again soon, especially as it was becoming clear that the Principal Authorities, themselves suffering from shortage of funds, would be reducing their services and these would, in some instances, have to be taken over by the Parish Council, at its own cost.
It was, therefore, resolved that the precept would be set at £154,400 an increase of 5%

The meeting ended at approx. 8.10 pm.