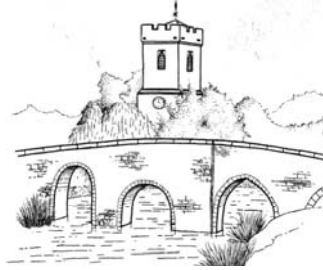


BIDFORD ON AVON PARISH COUNCIL
In the County of Warwickshire



**Minutes of the Finance and Strategy Committee held on Tuesday 9th January 2007
@ 7.30 pm in the Parish Meeting Room, Bramley Way, Bidford-on-Avon**

PRESENT:

Chairman : Cllr. Gerrard
Cllrs. Ms. Deacon, Hendey, Mrs. Keeley, Langston, Sandle,
Smith and Spiers

Also present the RFO

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies received and accepted from Cllr. Hiscocks.
Cllr. Ms. Varga was absent.

**2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE FINANCE AND STRATEGY
MEETING OF 28TH NOVEMBER 2006**

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

3. NOTICE BOARDS

The Clerk advised that the notice boards by St. Laurence Church, in the centre of the
village, are looking old, the doors are difficult to open and that, as all the other notice
boards have been replaced, these be replaced as well. Estimates had been obtained
and the cost would £745 for two notice boards.

Cllr. Sandle proposed the expense be accepted and was unanimously supported.

4. REVIEW AND APPROVAL; OF BUDGET/PRECEPT FIGURES FOR 2007/08

Figures had been circulated to all councillors (and are attached to these minutes) and the Chairman asked the RFO to go through them.

- The RFO advised that the figures reflected the items as discussed at the pre budget meeting of 28th November 2006 and advised that a precept increase of 3% per household would result in a deficit for the year of £30,000, which would be covered by specific reserves.
- On the above basis, the RFO suggested a precept of £140,000.
The Chairman supported the RFO's suggestion and proposed an annual precept of £140,000 which was unanimously accepted by the Council.
- The Clerk reminded the Council that the internal auditor had advised that reserves held should not exceed a third of the year's expenditure. It was, therefore, proposed and agreed, that £50,000 should be allocated to play equipment and improvement of play areas.
The RFO added, that a similar relocation should be carried out in the budget of 2006/07, which was also approved.
- The Chairman then referred to the funds received under S106 for the Miller Bank development in Broom. These funds are for the purchase of play equipment for Broom, which has already been agreed at £36,000, and for the continued maintenance of the Kings Lane and Millers Bank open space areas, as well as of the play equipment. It was, therefore, prudent to try and maximise the income from these funds by putting them into a long term deposit account. The Clerk had ascertained that it is possible to put these funds into a separate account and that all interest arising from the capital receipt be earmarked to pay for the maintenance

5. DATES FOR FURTHER MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND STRATEGY COMMITTEE

The Chairman advised that there was a requirement for a total of 5 meetings per annum to take place, which would require the presence of the RFO.

The RFO responded that he had made it clear that he would only consider attending more meetings than the current 3 if this was reflected in his salary.

The Chairman then proposed the meeting be adjourned and that he and the Council Chairman meet with the RFO to settle this matter.

This was agreed and the meeting was closed at 8.10 pm