

MINUTES OF THE FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE HELD ON 17TH DECEMBER 2003

Prior to the commencement of this meeting, Mr. R Beaumont and Mr. G. Earl representing the Shefford Saints F C (Juniors), met Committee members to discuss any possible remedial action that could be taken regarding mole activity on the Millenium Green football pitch.

PRESENT

Mr Steeples presided over Mesdames Harrison and Holmes, Messrs. Mackin, Wren and Gray.

1. APOLOGIES

Mr. Fletcher.

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

None.

3. AFFILIATION – BEDS RAILWAYS AND TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION

The Council felt that they could not enter into an affiliation agreement with the above Association as it did not relate to any Shefford activity.

4. SPORTS EQUIPMENT - BELLCOTE MEADOW

A letter has been received from Mrs. McGregor regarding the provision of sports equipment at Bellcote Meadow or possibly The Meads. This was deferred for consideration to the Services and Maintenance Committee.

5. INFORMATION REQUIRED RE MBDC WEBSITE

An E;mail from MBDC has been received asking if the Council would like to write a mini profile of Shefford for linking to the MBDC website. Mr. Mackin offered to write two or three paragraphs with this in mind.

6. INVITATION TO TOWN COUNCIL TO HAVE OWN PAGE ON WEBSITE

An invitation from MBDC has been received offering the Council to have it's own page on the Mid Beds Community website. Mr. Mackin to view system to ascertain if it is appropriate for the town.

7. DRIVERS / FUNDS – WHITBREAD WANDERBUS

An application has been received from the Secretary of the Wanderbus Committee for a donation towards the upkeep and running of the Wanderbus. The Committee agreed that they would be providing a donation. A plea for volunteer drivers was also made and it was suggested that there could be an item in Newline. Mr. Steeples agreed to attend the AGM of the Wanderbus Committee on 28th January 2004.

8. CASH FOR BEDFORDSHIRE'S RURAL COMMUNITIES

A letter from BRAF stated that funds were available for various projects in Bedfordshire. Town Council to apply to see if they are eligible to apply for funding in respect of the 'mole' situation that prevails on Millenium Green football pitch as used by the Shefford Saints F C (Juniors).

9. SHEFFORD EMERGENCY FLOOD PLAN

The Council was informed of the various areas to which they should be giving consideration regarding the possibility of flooding in the town.

10. BUDGET AND PRECEPT FOR 2004 - 2005

A review of insurance Schedules was discussed particularly with Contents Insurance in mind.

The salaries of the TMR Booking Clerk, Council Chamber Cleaner and Play Equipment Inspector were reviewed along with Town Meeting Room hire charges. Any amendments to take effect on 01.04.2004.

A list of groups/charities to be considered for a donation is to be considered.

11. AMOUNT OF PRECEPT

The precept of £ 90,855 was RECOMMENDED to full Council.

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

An enquiry has been received from the Community Safety Forum asking if the can have 'stickers' with the slogan 'Kill Your Speed' on them which could be attached to the wheelie bins.

The meeting closed at 10.00 p.m.
