

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE HELD ON 16TH FEBRUARY 2005

PRESENT

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

1. APOLOGIES

Mr. Steeples.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Mrs. Harrison declared an interest in Agenda Item 3 – Insurance Premium, Millenium Green.

At this point Mr. Mackin welcomed Mr. Alan Humphries, Chief Executive of Aragon Housing Association. Mr. Humphries was invited to discuss various matters that both the Housing Association and the Town Council encounter in respect of providing the services and facilities in the town and to establish any common ground between the two authorities. Several questions were raised and the meeting was thought to be both interesting and informative and of mutual benefit to both parties.

3. INSURANCE PREMIUM – MILLENIUM GREEN

RECOMMENDED to full Council that the sum of £630 be donated to the Bellcote Meadow Millenium Green Trust in respect of renewal of annual insurance.

4. FORMATION OF MARKET COMMITTEE

RECOMMENDED to full Council that a committee should be set up to gather information with regard to the possibility of the Town Council owning and running the town's market.

5. EAST OF ENGLAND PLAN

Mr. Mackin informed the Committee that he had attended a meeting regarding the above at Puckeridge and gave a brief synopsis of the matters discussed and the subsequent questions that arose accordingly. Mrs. Holmes stated that she had also attended a meeting on the same subject at County Hall, Bedford and added her thoughts to those of Mr. Mackin.

6. RESIGNATION OF A TOWN COUNCILLOR

Information has been received from the Electoral /Members' Services Manager at the District Council regarding an enquiry made about the legal situation arising out of the resignation of a Councillor. The information is to be filed as a reference for possible further use.

7. CERTIFICATE IN LOCAL ADMINISTRATION

It was decided to enrol the Town Clerk on the above course as a first step in the process of the Council proceeding with the Town/Parish Quality Status Accreditation.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Wren announced that volunteers were still required to help with both the Carnival and V J Day celebrations. The services of four drivers and their articulated lorries have already been acquired. A meeting is to be held on Monday 28th February in the Council Chamber at 7.30 p.m. Any offers of help will be welcomed.

The meeting closed at 9.15 p.m.
