

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE HELD ON 20th JUNE 2007

PRESENT

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

1. APOLOGIES

Mr. Gray.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Mrs. Harrison, Mr. Mackin and Mr. Steeples declared an interest in Agenda Item 3. Mr. Steeples declared an interest in Agenda Item 4.

3. ACORN PRE-SCHOOL

At this point Mr. Steeples welcomed Mrs. Tracy Callender, Headteacher of the Shefford Lower School who arrived to inform members of the situation regarding the status of the Acorn Pre-school Group.

Mrs. Callender began by explaining that the group was in fact a charity with the requisite registration number and then further outlined the reasons as to why it was moving to the Lower School site. Primarily, the present site is no longer able to meet the Government's requirements and a move to the Lower School with all the facilities it can offer, will not only meet those requirements but will also be a benefit to the children as the vast majority of them will then go on to attend the Lower School anyway. Good links have also been forged with the Middle School and it is anticipated that the transition of the children from pre-school to the start of Upper School will be as smooth as possible.

As only 90% of funding will be given it is up to the Group to make up the remaining 10%.

Bearing this in mind, it is **RECOMMENDED** to full Council that the sum of £1,000 be donated to the Group who will then attend a meeting of the Finance & Policy committee in September to inform them of their financial status at that point.

4. TENDERS – PUBLISHING/PRINTING OF SHEFFORD NEWSLINE MAGAZINE

Four tenders for the above have been received and were discussed at length. Overall it was unanimously agreed to continue with the current company.

5. OVFFF CUP

The male nominee of the OVFFF Cup has written to the committee and informed them that he would be very pleased to accept the trophy. A female recipient is still to be found.

6. ADOPTION OF ANNUAL ACCOUNTS – 2006/7

Copies of the Annual Accounts for the period 1st April 2006 to 31st March 2007 were issued to the committee and discussed accordingly.
The accounts as issued are **RECOMMENDED** to full Council.

7. DONATION REQUEST – VICTIM SUPPORT BEDFORDSHIRE

A request for a financial donation has been received from Victim Support Bedfordshire.
It is **RECOMMENDED** to full Council that the sum of £200 be donated accordingly.

8. NOMINATIONS – CO-OPTION OF COUNCIL MEMBER

Five nominations were received in respect of the remaining vacancy to serve as a co-opted member of Shefford Town Council. All applications were read out to the members and a 'show of hands' gave a unanimous vote to one of the applicants.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The STMA committee has indicated to the members that they would like a formal registration of their land with H M Land Registry.

The meeting closed at 10.35 p.m.
