

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE HELD ON 18TH MARCH 2009

PRESENT

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

1. APOLOGIES

Messrs. Coward and Steeples.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

3. REQUEST FOR FUNDING – LINK - RIDE

It is **RECOMMENDED** to full Council that the sum of £250 be awarded to Mid Beds Link-A-Ride service which is well used by Shefford residents.

4. REQUEST FOR FUNDING – SHEFFORD MAJORETTES

A representative of the Shefford Majorettes has requested funding for the group in order to buy colour guard flags. The clerk is to contact the said representative in order to establish the cost of the flags prior to giving consideration to the request.

5. AGENDA FOR ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

The committee discussed the topics to be placed on the agenda for the Annual Town Meeting on Friday 24th April 2009.

6. CREDIT CARD

Information from the Chief Executive of the SLCC has indicated that a credit card with a low credit limit can be obtained by Town Councils providing strict regulations and monitoring are in place. The clerk is to investigate further.

7. PURCHASE OF LAPTOP COMPUTER

A new laptop is to be purchased as per last November's meeting.

8. MANDATE – BANK SIGNATORIES

The bank has requested the Town Council to complete a new Cheque Signatory Mandate so that their records can be updated.

9. GRASSCUTTING CONTRACT

The committee considered all responses and tenders for the new Grasscutting contract.

Three contractors are **RECOMMENDED** to full Council named as :

Quote 1 – Quote 2 and Quote 3. The Mayor will make further comment and information at the meeting on Friday 27th March 2009.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

A quotation for the repair of the Bellcote Meadow Changing Room has been received from a contractor. The clerk was requested to seek a second quotation as per the insurer's guidance instructions.

The Risk Assessment document was reviewed and as such is **RECOMMENDED** to full Council.

On 19th March the clerk will be attending a workshop hosted by the Beds Assc'n of Town & Parish Councils entitled *Internal Audit For Parish and Town Councils*. Bearing this in mind it was agreed that the review of the effectiveness of the internal audit will take place at next months meeting of this committee.

The meeting closed at 10.10 p.m.