

FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

MINUTES of the Wrockwardine Wood & Trench Parish Council Finance Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 5th July 2011 at the Parish Council Centre, Church Road, Wrockwardine Wood at 7pm.

PRESENT: Cllr's. **K. Hanmer, M. Hanmer, D. Plant, C.F. Smith and S.A. Watkins.**

11/669 Election of a Chairman

RESOLVED – that Cllr. S.A. Watkins be elected Chair for the forthcoming twelve months.

11/670 Election of a Vice Chairman

RESOLVED – that Cllr. C.F. Smith be elected Vice Chairman for the forthcoming twelve months.

11/671 Apologies No apologies, all members present.

11/672 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest in any item specified in the agenda.

11/673 To receive budget information

RESOLVED – to accept the statement of grants issued to date, showing a balance of £1400.

11/674 Grant Applications

RESOLVED that the Council in accordance with its powers under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 should incur the following expenditure which, in the opinion of the Council, is in the interests of the area or its inhabitants and will benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure.

a) To consider a grant application from West Telford Visually Impaired Group.

RESOLVED – to award a grant of £50 towards travel costs and room hire.

b) To consider a grant application from Telford & Wrekin Council Play & Activities Service

RESOLVED – to cover the cost of the hire of the school hall for the playscheme which will run from 1st to 5th August in the school hall.

c) To consider a grant application from the Ironbridge Gorge Brass Band Festival

RESOLVED – not to award a grant on this occasion.

d) To consider a grant application from Donnington Sports & Social ABC

RESOLVED – not to award a grant on this occasion. It was noted that the application form states that the Club has not received a grant from us. The Clerk was instructed to write to Donnington Sports & Social Club reminding them that we awarded them a grant of £100 in November 2010.

11/675 To consider a contribution towards the provision of a bus shelter at Church Road

The Clerk informed members that the cost of the shelter is approximately £2000. Martyn Withnall of Telford & Wrekin Council has advised that they are seeking a contribution of £1000 from us and TWC will pay the remaining £1000 and all the installation costs.

RESOLVED – to contribute £1000 towards the cost of a shelter to be installed on Church Road near to Wade Road junction.

11/676 Maintenance of Holy Trinity Churchyard.

a) To discuss problems with maintenance of the Churchyard

The Clerk said that she has met with Gary Jones of Fastrack at the Churchyard which was tidy at the time as it had been cut a few days previously. Mr. Jones advised that they could carry out any tree work required at extra cost. The Clerk was instructed to obtain a quotation from Telford & Wrekin Services for all tree work required in the churchyard. The Clerk was also instructed to obtain the cost of a safety inspection of the trees.

Cllr's K. Hanmer and M. Hanmer expressed concern over drink bottles and other litter being left in the churchyard at weekends. The Clerk was asked to look into this matter.

It was AGREED to consider tidying the far side of the churchyard in the next financial year and to discuss this proposal at the budget meeting in January 2012.

It was AGREED to continue to monitor the upkeep of the churchyard.

b) To consider stone chippings for the ashes section of the Churchyard

An email was received from Fastrack Maintenance who advise that the ashes area would have to be weed killed and then the areas in and around the plaques and headstones would have to be dug out and levelled before putting chippings in. The cost would be approximately £2600. The Clerk advised that we would need to obtain permission from the Diocese before any work could be carried out and this is usually a lengthy process. It was AGREED that we should ask residents for their opinion before deciding on this work and the Clerk was instructed to seek resident's views through the newsletter.

11/677 To consider a request from Rev. Stafford for a financial contribution towards the re-surfacing of the Church path.

A letter was received from Rev. Stafford asking for a financial contribution of £6500 that was the cost of re-surfacing the church path as part of the restoration and re-ordering works that were carried out last year. In his letter Rev. Stafford says that the church path is a public right of way and is the responsibility of the Parish council for maintenance as it is a closed graveyard.

Cllr. Smith pointed out that the path to the church door is not a public right of way and that the right of way footpath runs through the middle of the graveyard. It was pointed out that we have not budgeted for a large sum this financial year.

RESOLVED – that we have no alternative but to refuse Rev. Stafford's request as there are insufficient funds this financial year.

11/678 Any Items of Information or Items for the next Agenda.

There were no further items.

11/679 Date & Venue of the next meeting To be agreed at the AGM in May.

Signed.....
Chair.

Date