

HADLEY AND LEEGOMERY PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of a meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee
held on the 19th October 2010, commencing at 7.00 p.m.

***Note:** The Committee has delegated authority to incur individual items of expenditure of up to £2,500.00 from within its agreed budget without reference to the Council. Recommendations for expenditure in excess of £2500.00 are subject to ratification by the Council.*

292/10 PRESENT

Councillors R G Dickens (Chairman), J Smart (Vice-Chairman), P H Durling, C S J Harrison, G I Moore, R R Plenderleith, P Smart, S Thomas and M L Wickstead.

Clerk to the Council: Colin Potts.

293/10 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None

294/10 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor G I Moore declared a personal interest in respect of agenda item 6.1 – planning application re: 24 Ripley Close, Leegomery, as a neighbour of the application property.

Councillor S Thomas declared a prejudicial interest in respect of agenda item 6.2 – planning application re: 22 Apley Castle, Apley, as owner of the application property.

295/10 COMMENTS BY MEMBERS WHO HAVE DECLARED PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS.

RESOLVED that comments will be deferred at this point and heard immediately before the agenda item is dealt with.

296/10 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Committee which was held on the 21st September 2010 (previously circulated) be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

297/10 BUDGET MONITORING

The Committee reviewed a budget comparison report in respect of the Council's budget for 2010/11. There were no matters arising.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Councillor S Thomas made a statement in respect of application TWC/2010/0534&540, and then left the room whilst the committee dealt with that application.

298/10 Applications for consideration

RESOLVED that no objection be made in respect of the following:

1. TWC/2010/0517 – erection of a first floor side extension and conversion of garage to living room, 24 Ripley Close, Leegomery, Telford.
2. TWC/2010/0534 & 0540 (listed building and full planning applications) – proposed first floor extension and sun room, 22 Apley Castle, Apley, Telford.
3. TWC/2010/0535 – erection of a storage/workshop building, Communications House, Hadley Park East, Hadley Park, Telford.

4. TWC/2010/0557 – change of use from open space to private garden land with proposed boundary wall, 8 Sandal Close, Hadley, Telford.

299/10 Permissions granted (for information only)

NOTED that Telford & Wrekin Council has granted permission in respect of the following:

1. TWC/2010/0476 – two storey extension to rear and partial demolition of dwelling and outbuildings, 2 Wheat Leasowes, Horton, Telford.

2. TWC/2010/0478 – two storey side extension, 17 Sunderland Drive, Apley, Telford.

300/10 Permissions refused (for information only)

NOTED that Telford & Wrekin Council has refused permission in respect of the following:

1. TWC/2010/0321 – two storey side and single storey rear extension, 24 Far Vallens, Hadley, Telford.

PAYMENT AUTHORISATIONS AND APPROVALS

301/10 Financial Report

The Clerk submitted a report.

RESOLVED that the report be approved and that expenditure incurred on behalf of the Council under the terms of Financial Regulation 3.4 as detailed below is ratified:

Amount Excl VAT	Details
£14.50	Ultravend Hygiene Services – toilet rolls CFCC
£75.00	Severn Security Alarms – call out charges CFCC <i>(s.19 (Local Govt.) Misc. Provns Act 1976)</i>
£31.98	reimbursed to C Henderson re: Homebase – telephone extension set cemetery office; Lidl - Work boots, cemetery.
£57.40	TFM – cemetery maintenance supplies <i>(s.214 LGA 1972)</i>
£132.41	Re-imbursed to K McCavery re: items purchased for Hadley Youth Café. <i>(s. 19 Local Govt. (Misc. Provns.) Act 1976; s.145 LGA 1972)</i>

302/10 Payments for approval

The Committee reviewed a list of payments to be made. Councillor R R Plenderleith had verified against invoices etc. the cheques to be drawn and payment authorities to be signed.

RESOLVED that

(1) the drawing of cheques numbered 301723 to 301734, payment of direct debits in favour of Severn Trent Water and British Telecommunications Plc, and six payments in respect of salaries by BACS, all totalling £7721.54 and as detailed in an approval list submitted, is authorised.

(3) Councillors P Smart and M L Wickstead are authorised to sign the authorities for payment and the cheques to be drawn.

303/10 CASTLE FARM COMMUNITY CENTRE HIRE CHARGES

The Committee received a letter from Telford College of Arts and Technology in respect of venue hire charges and the impact that cuts in public sector spending will have on community learning courses. The college is asking all venues which it uses for community learning

courses to consider reducing their hire charges. The Clerk reported that the hire charges for Castle Farm Community Centre are amongst the lowest for this type of venue, and the committee was of the view that rates should not be reduced. It was proposed that the hire charges are frozen for the coming year, and this will be confirmed when the budgets are set in November. It was felt that the Council should do all that it can to work with other agencies to keep community activities running and to retain bookings for the community centre, and it was proposed that the Clerk is given authority to negotiate with existing and new hirers where activities are under threat, and that options will include offering a free session for taster or first sessions of new courses or activities, and if any significant hire is under threat because of venue costs to consider a discounted rate. The situation will be kept under review and any developments reported to the Committee.

RECOMMENDED that the Clerk is authorised to act as detailed above in respect of hire charges for community activities and courses.

304/10 SIGNING OF DOCUMENTS – POSTAL FRANKING MACHINE HIRE AGREEMENT

RESOLVED that Councillors R G Dickens and R R Plenderleith are authorised to sign on behalf of the Council a hire agreement in respect of the replacement postal franking machine, the Council having agreed to enter in to the new agreement at minute 274/10.

305/10 REMEMBRANCE PARADE AND SERVICE 14TH NOVEMBER 2010

RESOLVED that the Council in accordance with its powers under section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972, should incur the following expenditure in connection with the Council's annual Remembrance Parade and service which, in the opinion of the Council, is in the interests of the area or its inhabitants and will bring direct benefit to them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure:-

Grants to

Salopian Brass	£500.00
Young people's and cadets groups, if attending:	
Telford Sea Cadets	£200.00
83 St. George's Sqn ATC	£200.00
Donnington Detachment Shropshire Army Cadet Force	£200.00
1 st Ketley Boy's Brigade	£ 50.00
1 st Hadley Brownies	£ 50.00

Payments to

Bugler: C Foskett	£ 50.00
RBL Poppy Appeal re: wreaths supplied	£ 50.00
Refreshments etc., Telford Bars and Catering Ltd and others	£250.00 (estimated)

306/10 MEMORIAL PLAQUE – HARRY PATCH

The Committee was informed that arrangements for the production of a memorial plaque to the late Harry Patch by a retired carver had not progressed as envisaged, and it is now proposed that the Council commissions the plaque itself. A contingency budget of £250.00 had been agreed for this at minute 231/09, but if the council is to fund the whole cost now this may prove to be insufficient. The Clerk has therefore been asked to obtain quotations for the production and installation of the plaque for consideration at a future meeting.

307/10 CASTLE FARM COMMUNITY CENTRE EXTERNAL LIGHTING

RESOLVED that expenditure in the sum of £340.00 excluding VAT on two replacement external lights to the front of the Community Centre to be supplied and installed by the Council's approved electrical contractor is authorised.

308/10 VILLAGE GREEN ENHANCEMENTS – GRANT APPLICATION

The Clerk gave an update on progress with obtaining quotations for the proposed items to be included in the bid for funding from Sita Trust under the Landfill Communities Grants Scheme.

The Borough Council Street Lighting Engineer has provided draft proposals to improve lighting on the green. However, the Committee considered that there may have been a misunderstanding in respect of the council's requirements following a site meeting in July, as the proposals are for a total of eight lights and the resulting cost estimate is considerable. The Committee therefore decided that a maximum of three lights is sufficient, two to replace existing and one additional. Also, the styles of lights suggested are not what the council envisaged. The Clerk is therefore to contact the Officer and request a revised scheme incorporating Victorian style columns and lamps, on the smaller scale described.

The Clerk has had a site meeting regarding the resurfacing of the footpaths and quotations are awaited.

The Clerk and Councillor Thomas have visited a local engineering business which is able to produce designs of bins to the Council's requirement and this is being followed up. Members gave input as to the style of bin that is required.

Further updates will be provided as progress is made.

The meeting closed at 8.00 p.m.

cpmins242

Chairman, 16th November 2010