

HADLEY AND LEEGOMERY PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of a meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee
held on the 20th July 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.*

181/10 PRESENT

Councillors R G Dickens (Chairman), J Smart (Vice-Chairman, joined meeting at agenda item 7, minute 188/10 refers), P H Durling, R R Plenderleith, P Smart, M J Smith, S Thomas and M L Wickstead.

Clerk to the Council: Colin Potts; Administrator: Gail Lawrence.

182/10 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were accepted from Councillors C S J Harrison and G I Moore. Apologies were also accepted from Councillor J Smart as he was unable to attend at the start of the meeting but joined the meeting later. During the meeting Councillor Dickens and Councillor Durling had to give apologies and leave, see minute 192/10.

183/10 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors R G Dickens and P H Durling both declared a prejudicial interest in respect of agenda item 6(2), planning application for change of use of land in Hadley Park Road, as they reside at and have a beneficial interest in property which adjoins the application site. Councillor Dickens indicated that he wished to speak on the matter under the provisions of paragraph 12(2) of the Code of Conduct.

184/10 RESOLVED that the provision for members with prejudicial interests and members of the public to speak in respect of item 6(2) be deferred until the point at which that item is due to be dealt with.

185/10 RESOLVED that for the duration of the time in which the Chairman of the Committee will leave the room whilst item 6(2) is dealt with, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee not being present, the Chairman of the Council Councillor Pat Smart is elected to act as Chairman of this committee meeting for the duration of that item.

186/10 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Committee which was held on the 15th June 2010 (previously circulated) be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

187/10 BUDGET MONITORING

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

188/10 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Committee considered applications in the order listed below. Before the Committee discussed application TWC2010/0304 (land at Hadley Park Road) Councillor R G Dickens made his representations under the provisions of paragraph 12(2) of the Council's Code of Conduct. Councillor Dickens and Councillor Durling, both having declared a prejudicial interest in this matter, then left the room. Councillor P Smart took the Chair. Three members of the public then spoke on the matter, and raised concerns about the proposed access to the site, which is on a bend in the road where there have been a number of road traffic accidents. It was said that previous applications in respect of adjoining sites have been refused permission on access grounds.

RESOLVED that the under-mentioned applications are dealt with as follows:

1. TWC2010/0297 – erection of 2 No. detached bungalows, 46 Haybridge Road, Hadley, Telford – no objection.
2. TWC2010/0304 – change of use from open land to private parking, land at Hadley Park Road, Hadley, Telford – object on the grounds that
 - It is understood that previous applications which required access at the same location have been refused on highway safety grounds, which creates a precedent.
 - The proposed vehicle access point would create highway safety issues. The location is on a bend where a number of accidents have occurred, and presents a danger to other road users and pedestrians particularly in view of the close proximity of a nursery and the Rest Room and elderly persons' dwellings.
3. TWC2010/0305 – change of use from open space to car parking area, 109/110 Parkdale, Hadley, Telford – no objection.
4. TWC2010/0309 – erection of a single storey side extension and new fence to front, 70 Heatherdale, Apley, Telford – no objection.
5. TWC2010/0311 – erection of 1 No. dwelling with detached garage and creation of a new vehicular access, Mill House, Hadley Park East, Hadley, Telford – object on the grounds that the proposal is contrary to saved policy HE19 of the Wrekin Local Plan 1995-2006 (protection of the setting of listed buildings). Hadley Park Mill to the east side of Mill House and Hadley Park Hotel to the west side of Mill House are both listed buildings, and Mill House itself although not listed is said to date from the mid 1800s. The three properties together enhance each others settings and form a part of the historical heritage of the local area, with the Mill House sitting centrally in its plot and sympathetically between the other two buildings. The proposed new property is of a scale and prominence that would destroy the relationship between the existing buildings and will detract from and damage the setting of the two listed buildings.
6. TWC2010/0321 – erection of a two storey side extension and single storey rear extension, 24 Far Vallens, Hadley, Telford – no objection.
7. TWC2010/0247 – retrospective application for a mobile park home single detached garage, 2 No. timber sheds, and change of use of site for temporary storage of 12 No. touring caravans and temporary siting of 1 No. mobile park home for repair, Jordan's Yard, 1 Haybridge Road, Hadley, Telford – the committee received and considered additional information now provided by the Planning Authority in respect of this application which was dealt with by the committee on the 15th June. In the light of this additional information the Committee confirmed that the Council will withdraw its request for the green card referral in respect of this application.

189/10 SPEAKING AT PLANS BOARD – APPLICATIONS TWC2010/0133 & 0134

The Committee was informed that the Clerk has been authorised by the Council to speak on its behalf at the meeting of the Borough Council Plans Board at which these two applications are dealt with (erection of 2 dwellings and demolition of section of listed wall, Watkins Nursery, Apley Castle). The Clerk had attended the meeting of the Plans Board held on the 14th July when the applications were deferred. To provide for the eventuality that the Clerk may be on leave when the applications next come before the Plans Board it was

RESOLVED that Cllr S Thomas is authorised to speak on behalf of the Council in respect of applications TWC2010/0133 and TWC2010/0134 at the relevant meeting of the Plans Board in the event that the Clerk is unable to attend.

Councillor J Smart joined the meeting at this point.

PAYMENT AUTHORISATIONS AND APPROVALS**190/10 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
£6.00	Central Taxis Ltd – transport to bus user group meeting for Parish representative (<i>s.111 LGA 1972</i>).
£10.97	Re-imbusement to Cemetery Superintendent re: purchase of Timbercare for benches and new funnel for filling equipment with petrol. (<i>s.214 LGA 1972</i>).
£10.50	Telford & Wrekin Council – fee for amending details of Premises Licence Castle farm Community Centre (<i>s.19, Local Govt. (Misc. Provns.) Act 1976</i>).
£94.00	Aqua-force Special Waste Ltd. – disposal of fluorescent light tubes (<i>s.19, Local Govt. (Misc. Provns.) Act 1976</i>).
£88.00	C E Davey – garden maintenance at Holy Trinity Church Yard (<i>s.215 LGA 1972</i>).

191/10 Payments for approval

The Committee reviewed lists of payments made and 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 already issued and numbered 301618 to 301620 and 301641, as detailed in lists submitted and totalling £707.00, is ratified;

(2) the drawing of cheques numbered 301642 to 301653 totalling £11006.13, payment of a direct debit in favour of British Telecommunications Plc of £665.07 and payment of salaries by BACS totalling £4678.63, as detailed in an approval list submitted, is authorised.

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

192/10 GRANTS

The Committee noted that the budget provision for grants for 2010/11 is £5350.00, £1,700.00 of which has been spent leaving a balance of £3,650.00.

At this point Councillor Dickens received a message relating to a family emergency and he and Councillor Durling gave their apologies and left. The Vice-Chairman of the Committee took the chair for the remainder of the meeting

RESOLVED that the Council in accordance with its powers under section 19 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 will make the following grant:

Donnington Police Community Sports and Social Amateur Boxing Club	£150.00
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And that the Council in accordance with its powers under section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 should make the following grant 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:

Telford Women's Craft Group	£150.00
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193/10 THANKS FOR GRANTS PREVIOUSLY MADE

NOTED that thanks have been received for grants made to Samaritans of Telford and S.T.A.B.L.E.

194/10 WAR MEMORIAL

The Committee was informed of an offer to repaint the railings and gate at the War Memorial. This would be carried out free of charge as part of formal training as a painter and decorator by the son of the grounds maintenance contractor for the war memorial. The Council would need to purchase the paint (black "Smoothrite" as existing).

RESOLVED that the offer be accepted, provided that the work can be completed before the scheduled cleaning of the war memorial in early September.

195/10 SUBMISSION BY A LOCAL RESIDENT

The Committee considered the content of an email received from a local resident, which referred to the Forthcoming changes in Employers' National Insurance contributions and VAT and their affect on the Council, the Council's investment policy, and community centre hire fees. A suggested response was submitted for the committee's approval and it was

RECOMEMNDED that the suggested response as submitted should be sent to the writer of the email, and that if further such representations are received the writer should be invited to attend the next available meeting of the committee to present their comments.

196/10 HADLEY YOUTH CAFÉ – UPDATES

The Committee received and noted information in respect of the following:

- Talent show to be held on Friday 6th August. Cllr. Thomas volunteered to sit on the judging panel.
- Display boards – the Committee confirmed that two display boards could be mounted on the wall in the coffee room at Castle Farm Community Centre by the Youth Café
- The temporary exclusion of two young people in accordance with the Youth Café behaviour contract.

The Committee also approved equipment purchases and

RESOLVED that

(i) delegated authority be granted to the Clerk to purchase items within agreed budgets as follows:

Table Football	£175.00 - 250.00
Pool Table	£250.00
Basket ball set (freestanding)	£150.00
Wii set - see below	<u>£350.00</u>
Total	<u>£1000.00</u>

(ii) expenditure of £159.96 already incurred to Dunelm Mill for the, purchase of bean bag seats is ratified.

(iii) the sum of £1500.00 is transferred the Youth Project Earmarked Reserve to the budget provision for Parish council Youth project to fund equipment purchases.

197/10 VILLAGE GREEN FUN DAY 2010 – PAYMENTS

The Committee received a final summary of expenditure in respect of the Village Green Fun Day held on 20th June.

RESOLVED that the following item of expenditure which was omitted from the final list submitted to the committee at its meeting in June is ratified:

Dawley Bank Horticultural Society – donation to funds in respect of provision of attractions (crochery smash, skittles, and crafts): £100.00.

CASTLE FARM COMMUNITY CENTRE**198/10 CCTV System annual maintenance**

RESOLVED that a quotation in respect of the annual service and inspection of the CCTV system installed at Castle Farm Community Centre submitted by PP Electrical Services in the sum of £70.00 excluding VAT is accepted, this being considered to fall within the terms of Financial Regulation 11.1(a)(iii).

199/10 Health and Safety – extreme hot weather

The Committee was informed of action taken by the Clerk to put in place provisions and procedures to ensure that adequate ventilation and provision for hot air to escape is made in extreme hot weather affecting hirers of the Community Centre. This includes authorising staff to unlock and/or open windows and doors which would normally remain closed.

RECOMMENDED that the action taken be approved.

200/10 CEMETERY – MEMORIAL MASON LICENSING SCHEME

RECOMEMNDED that the Commonwealth War Graves Commission is exempted from the Council's Memorial Mason Licensing Scheme on the grounds that the organisation sets the standard for memorials installation and management in the UK and other countries, and is not required to apply for licences to operate in other cemeteries.

201/10 TELFORD TALKS

The Committee received information in respect of a project called Telford Talks, an online social networking site. The Committee was of the view that the social networking site was not a facility that the Council would make use of.

RECOMMENDED that the Council confirms the above.

202/10 DIRECTORY OF CLUBS, GROUPS AND FACILITIES IN PARISH

The Committee was informed that a directory of clubs, groups and facilities in Hadley and Leegomery has been published by Hadley Peoples' Partnership. The Parish Council has been asked to add an electronic copy of the directory to its website as a useful source of information to local people. The Committee noted that the directory includes an entry for a facility which does not lawfully exist, having operated without planning permission for some time and currently being the subject of planning enforcement action by the Borough Council to prevent the use of premises continuing. The Committee was of the view that the Council should not give the impression that it condones the unlawful use of premises, and accordingly would require the entry in question to be deleted. It would then be happy to include the directory on the Parish Council website.

RESOLOVED that the Clerk will write to the Priority Action Co-ordinator requesting that the entry referred to above be deleted from the publication.

203/10 DISPOSAL OF OLD GAZEBOS

RECOMMENDED that twelve old gazebos currently included in the Council's Asset List with a nominal value of £1.00 are written off and disposed of as scrap.

The meeting closed at 9.00 p.m.

cpmins237

Chairman, 21st September 2010