

Minutes of the meeting held at Yoredale, Bainbridge on Monday, 3 December 2007.

Present:

R Alderson, RA Bird, Mrs A Brooks, SHK Butcher, G Dalton, C Hammond, C Lis, Mrs D Millward and W Weston.

Also in attendance: KJ Lancaster.

COPIES OF ALL DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED ARE IN THE MINUTE BOOK

69/07 PUBLIC MINUTES

RESOLVED –

That the public minutes of the meeting held on 6 August 2007, having been printed and circulated, be taken as read and be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

70/07 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Mr J Bennett of Linton Parish Council had registered his intention to speak at the meeting and the Chairman agreed that this should immediately precede Item No 6 “Detailed Review of Linton Falls Car Park and Toilets & Grassington Wood Lane Car Park”.

71/07 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED -

That pursuant to Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of those items of business listed in column 1 of the following table on the grounds that each involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 specified in column 2:

<u>Item No</u>	<u>Paragraph Number</u>
14	1, 3 and 5
15	1 and 2

72/07 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from J Blackie and TRN Harrison-Topham.

73/07 DECLARATIONS OF LOBBYING

SHK Butcher reported that he had been lobbied on Agenda Item No 6 in respect of Grassington Car Park.

**74/07 REVIEW OF LINTON FALLS CAR PARK AND TOILETS,
AND GRASSINGTON WOOD LANE CAR PARK**

Speaker: Mr Bennett on behalf of Linton Parish Council spoke to support the retention of Linton Car Park and Toilets by the Authority.

CONSIDERED – the report of the Project and Estates Officer, together with additional letters, circulated at the meeting, from Grassington Parish Council and from Mrs S Marshall dated 30 November and 1 December respectively.

Members welcomed the officer recommendation that Linton Car park should be retained by the Authority, but there was some concern at the possible disposal of Wood Lane Car park. Reference was made to the benefit that this site provided, particularly for the elderly and less mobile wishing to visit Grassington. Mention was made of a covenant that restricted development of the site, although it was pointed out that this did not rule out some degree of development.

RESOLVED –

That:

- (a) the report and comments be noted;
- (b) Linton Falls Car Park be retained by the Authority; and
- (c) subject to an appraisal of all options for further use of the site, including the appropriateness of the site to provide affordable local housing, Grassington Wood Lane Car Park be retained for the time being.

75/07 FINANCIAL PROGRESS REPORT: SEVEN MONTHS TO 31 OCTOBER 2007

CONSIDERED – the report of the Senior Finance Officer.

RESOLVED -

That:

- (a) the report be noted;
- (b) the allocations from the Opportunities Fund, as set out in Appendix 7 of the Senior Finance Officer's report, be approved; and
- (c) the proposals to spend the additional Planning Delivery Grant received in 2007/08, as set out in Appendix 8 of the Senior Finance Officer's report, be approved.

76/07 EFFICIENCY SAVINGS

CONSIDERED – the report of the Senior Finance Officer.

RESOLVED –

That the report be noted.

77/07 PROPOSED BUDGET 2008/09

CONSIDERED – the joint report of the Senior Finance Officer and the Head of Finance and Resources.

RESOLVED –

That:

- (a) the Authority be recommended to approve the draft 2008/09 budget as set out in the joint report of the Senior Finance Officer and the Head of Finance and Resources; and
- (b) the projections for the 2009/10 and 2010/11 financial years be noted.

78/07 INVESTORS IN PEOPLE

CONSIDERED – the report of the Personnel and Training Officer.

RESOLVED –

That the report and the assessment feedback be noted.

79/07 HEALTH AND SAFETY

CONSIDERED – the report of the Senior Administrative Officer.

RESOLVED –

That the report be noted.

80/07 STAFFING MATTERS

CONSIDERED – the report of the Senior Administrative Officer.

RESOLVED –

That the report be noted.

81/07 SICKNESS ABSENCE

CONSIDERED – the report of the Senior Administrative Officer.

RESOLVED –

That the report be noted.

The remainder of business was considered in private

82/07 PRIVATE MINUTES

RESOLVED –

That the private minutes of the meeting held on 6 August 2007, having been printed and circulated, be taken as read and be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

83/07 STAFF BUDGET – SIX MONTH UPDATE

CONSIDERED – the report of the Head of Finance and Resources which provided members with an update on the progress with the application of the Authority's policy that staff costs should be managed within a target of 70% of the Defra core grant.

The Head of Finance and Resources amended the recommendation within the report in respect of the period of pension recovery to add "or to whichever year is appropriate to maintain the current contribution rate of 19.6%".

RESOLVED –

That:

- (a) the progress made in adhering to the salary cap for 2007/08 be noted;
- (b) the impacts and projections for future years be noted; and
- (c) the pension recovery rate be lowered from 15 to 17 years or to whichever year is appropriate to maintain the current contribution rate of 19.6%, assuming that actuarial re-projections support this as a viable option.