

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE**27 April 2009**

Committee Members Present: Cllrs J Tucker (Chairman), Mrs B Brown (Vice
Chairman), Mrs S Boakes, D Brown, D Keeley,
Miss A Moloney

Council Members Present: Cllrs J Atkins, C Grayhurst
Mrs S Hunter (Town Clerk)

Members of the Public Present: Mr P Hickmott, Mr D Laverty

1. Apologies for absence
Apologies were received from Cllrs C Block, B Garlick and L Withey.
2. Declaration of Interest
Cllr Miss Moloney – Community Association.
3. Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Meeting held on 2 March 2009
It was agreed the minutes are correct.

Cllr Tucker announced that extra urgent items would be discussed at Item 12:

- 12.1 The response to the Local Development Plan
- 12.2 The Community Governance Draft Proposal

4. Questions from the public
 - 4.1 Mr Hickmott raised concerns regarding a reduction in the sporting facilities area at Holborough Park.
 - 4.2 Mr Hickmott also asked if the Council would ask TMBC if rear access to the houses along Holborough Road from the new development would be a possibility.
 - 4.3 Mr Laverty asked if the hedge at the Cricket Meadow could be cut and reduced by at least half to reduce anti-social behaviour.

Members of the public left the meeting.

5. Financial Review
The Clerk presented the financial review and bank reconciliation (full copy on file).

| | |
|-----------------|------------|
| General Reserve | £18267.30 |
| Capital Reserve | £89038.00 |
| Total Funds | £107305.30 |

 The Clerk will ask TMBC to confirm in writing how the Woodlands Farm Section 106 play equipment upkeep funds can be spent.

6. Audit Trail
Cllr Mrs B Brown called into the Office and checked four items, one through to the original quote and found everything to be in order.
A copy of the work carried out by the Internal Auditor has been distributed to members of the Council.

RECOMMENDED to accept the Internal Auditor's method and depth of the Internal Audit.

7. Requests for Donations under Section 137
There were no requests for donations.

8. Quotations for Truck Hire

Three quotations were presented to the committee.

RECOMMENDED to accept the quotation from TLS for £80 per week. The rental agreement will include everything apart from insurance.

9. Public Sector Duties – Forthcoming Bill

This will be in the Office for perusal.

10. Agreement of STC Policies for– Health & Safety at Work, Promotion of Racial equality, DDA, Health & Safety of Play Areas, Equal Opportunities Policy

RECOMMENDED to accept the various policies and publish on the website, apart from the racial equality bill, as a publication is not required by town and parish councils.

11. Correspondence

11.1

RECOMMENDED to accept quotation from Safe Play to repair the play equipment. Safe Play also inspected the All Weather Pitch and they have not found any causes for concern.

The large play area in the Recreation Ground has been covered in a black oily substance. The area has been closed until the staff are able to clean off this unknown substance.

Cllr Grayhurst suggested obtaining a degreaser from Bretts in Aylesford.

11.2 The rates discretion for the Museum will end on 1 April 2010. Dr Ashbee will reapply to see if TMBC will grant a concession for 2010. STC may have to budget for rates for the Museum for 2010.

11.3

RECOMMENDED to accept the Fourth Week Play Contribution – amount £1128.22.

11.4

RECOMMENDED to accept the public path creation agreement from KCC at Brookland Lake. The fishing club will monitor the footpath.

11.5 TMBC will hold over the grant of £15000 towards the Cemetery extension for another financial year. The clerk will make contact with Kevin Wise to see if he can give any information regarding permeability testing.

12. Any other items which the Chairman has decided are urgent owing to special circumstances

12.1 Representations to the Local Development Plan have been prepared by Cllr Atkins. Three changes were recognised by Cllr Atkins:

1. A reduction of the area for the sporting facilities at Holborough Park.
2. The area at the rear of the houses in Holborough Road defined as green space. To request that seven metres behind the houses be excluded, to create possible rear access.
3. Ask that the notation be removed regarding the Nature Conservation Area. This would allow STC maximum flexibility for the land they own at Snodland Common between The Brook and the railway line.

1. The committee agreed to this in principle, although it will look at the plan again before a decision is made.

2. The committee will consider this, although there was virtually no response from this area during the parking review.

3. The committee agreed to this response in principal.

RECOMMENDED to agree with the proposals in the Community Governance Review for Snodland. To change from seven councillors to six in Snodland East and from 8 to 9 in Snodland West.

The Chairman moved that the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.