

**Minutes**

of the **Meeting of the Parish Council** held on 28 January 2008

**Present:** D Livingstone (Chair) E Cooper  
C DeMyers-Robinson D Edmonds  
C Osler K Perkins  
G Small K Thomas  
N Warden C Williams

**Clerk:** C Gallacher

	<b>Action</b>
<p><b>1. Apologies and declarations of Interest</b></p> <p>Apologies were received from, J Napper, J Nicholas and I Stewart. E Cooper and C Williams apologised for late arrival.</p> <p>There were no declarations of interest.</p> <p><b>2. Public Time</b></p> <p>Council was asked to arrange to clear back bushes obscuring the estate gateway sign at Bowland Drive, Emerson Valley.</p> <p><b>3. Minutes</b></p> <p>Minutes of the meetings on 17 December 2007 were agreed and signed as a true record</p> <p><b>4. Reports</b></p> <p>The clerk’s report was noted.</p> <p>Police and Emerson Valley Ward councillors were not in attendance. C Williams advised that Merebrook School is preparing a School Transport Plan and that a request may be made to close off and separate parts of the car park at North Furzton retail centre to reduce danger to children. He also informed the meeting of improvements to the junction of V3 Fulmer Street and Dulverton Drive to reduce ‘shunting’ type vehicle accidents.</p> <p><u>Planning &amp; Environment Committee</u></p> <p>Minutes of the meeting of 7 January 2008 were presented unsigned as a report and accepted. It was agreed to seek time to speak against application 07/02088/ful at Development Control Committee and to press for Highways department to be present to answer possible questions on the traffic implications of the proposal. The meeting also noted action taken with regard to proposed development at Kingsmead South, where the developers are now revising the drawings as a result of council and residents’ objections.</p>	clerk

## Community Committee

Minutes of the meeting of 14 January 2008 were presented unsigned as a report and accepted. It was resolved that up to £100 could be spent on securing distribution of audio readings of the newsletter to people with sight difficulties in the parish. It was also suggested that the newsletter could be included on the website as a text documents to allow for this to be enlarged by those with vision difficulty.

It was resolved to install a dog waste bin near the retail centre in Blackmoor Gate, Furzton.

The requirements for gaining Quality Parish Council status were briefly discussed.

### **5. Councillor Surgeries**

D Livingstone proposed that councillors should hold monthly surgeries on a Saturday morning from 10am until noon at the parish office. These would be drop in events, at which residents could meet councillors to discuss concerns. A number of councillors indicated their willingness to participate and it was resolved to hold the surgeries for a trial three month period on the first Saturday of each month, commencing April, which would be announced in the newsletter.

### **6. Standards Committee Consultation**

The meeting noted the (circulated) consultation from Standard Board, but felt that no response was needed on this.

### **7. Finance**

a) The (circulated) Finance Report for nine months to End December was noted and approved.

b) The monthly finance report was circulated and the meeting adjourned while members considered this. The retrospective approval list was agreed and the finance report approved and signed by the Chairman and clerk.

It was resolved to authorise signature of cheques to make the following payments:

			chq
Inland revenue	paye/nics	2520.25	2035
M Aitkins	landscape SBE	446.5	2036
M Aitkins	landscape EVCC	141	2037
A H Contracts	bin servicing	842.36	2038
Mirus IT	IT support	293.75	2039
Cash	Petty cash	76.28	2040
C Gallacher	expenses (mileage)	89.39	2041
C Gallacher	authorised purchases	19.39	2042
A Ridgway	authorised purchases	143.57	2043
C Gallacher	salary adjustment	29.48	2044
A Ridgway	salary adjustment	6.37	2045
M Webber	salary adjustment	6.59	2046

Anglian Water	rates Windmill Hill	207.37	2047
SLCC	subscription	224	2048
Pro-Clean	cleaning	78	2049
Dor2Dor	newsletter distribution	821.24	2050
Scribe 2000	licence renewal	393.5	2051
Hertsmere Leisure	Astroturf hire	432	2052
MKPA	play equipment	37.28	2053
<b>8. Budget 2008/09</b>			
<p>The clerk was authorised to transfer £15,741 from the Reserves Account (ring-fenced funds) to offset costs incurred under the various headings for which these funds are held.</p> <p>The meeting again considered the budget and the recommendations for use of reserves. Although councillors wanted to minimise increase in the precept, it was felt that over-commitment of reserves would lead to greater difficulties in the future and the use of reserves should be controlled. It was resolved to increase the precept by £9.50 per Band D equivalent property, with any difference between precept and budget being recovered from income and reserves.</p>			
<b>9. Correspondence</b>			
<p>The meeting noted correspondence from Community Safety Partnership on the roll out of Neighbourhood Policing and the meeting on 5 February to discuss this, which will be attended by several councillors.</p> <p>A circular from BALC on training events was also noted.</p>			
<b>9. Meeting dates</b>			
Meeting dates were agreed/noted as:			
	Planning & Environment Committee	4 February 2008	
	Community Committee	11 February 2008	
	Parish Council	25 February 2008	
<p>It was resolved that the May meeting of the full council be held on Wednesday 28 May, to avoid the bank Holiday.</p> <p>There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 20h54</p>			

SIGNED.....Chair