



Stratfield Mortimer Parish Council

Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting

held on Tuesday 28th February 2017 @ 7:30 pm

at The Parish Council Office, 27 Victoria Road, Mortimer. RG7 3SH

Present:

Councillors: Cllr. M. Dennett (Chairman), Cllr. J. Earl, Cllr. D. Ives, Cllr. N. Kiley, Cllr. A. Richardson, Cllr. P. Wingfield.

Clerk: Haydn Selwyn-Jones – Parish Clerk

Public/Press: No members of the public and no members of the press present.

Part I	
16/56	Public Questions None
16/57	To receive any apologies for absence Apologies were received from Cllr. P. Blagden, Cllr. A. Butcher.
16/58	To receive any declarations of interest and dispensations Cllr. P. Wingfield declared a personal interest as a Volunteer driver with the Volunteer Bureau with regard to Agenda Item 17/61.
16/59	To receive and approve the January 2017 Accounts for presentation to Full Council on Thursday 9th March 2017 Received and approved for presentation to Full Council
16/60	To receive and agree draft Communications Policy for presentation to Full Council on Thursday 9th March 2017 Cllr. J. Earl summarised the process in drawing up this draft Policy, in that he trawled the internet for Parish and District Councils for information on their Communications Policies and adapted them for SMPC's needs. After detailed discussions and changes, it was proposed by Cllr. M. Dennett, seconded by Cllr. J. Earl and AGREED unanimously move to a vote to agree the SMPC Communications Policy, subject to the agreed changes, and to present the Policy to be received by Full Council on Thursday 9 th March 2017, which was AGREED unanimously.
16/61	To receive the Handybus business plan for presentation of recommendation to Full Council on Thursday 9th March 2017 with regard their grant request. The Clerk presented a report on the Handybus business plan, which was then discussed. Concerns were expressed about the apparent average fare of 80p per journey charged, based on the published numbers carried and the revenue income indicated. In view of this the Clerk was requested to again go back to Handybus to get a response to this concern and, as fares are a key driver for the bottom line numbers, to question whether the fares could be increased and to bring all the papers to Full Council on Thursday 9 th March 2017 for a decision to be made on grant funding.
16/62	Exclusion of Press and Public It was AGREED , proposed by Cllr. M. Dennett, seconded by Cllr. J. Earl, to exclude members of the public and press from the meeting at Part II,

	Item 16/63 on the Agenda due to the confidential nature of the information being discussed unanimously.	
<u>Part II</u>		
16/63	<p>To receive shortlisted Admin. Assistant candidates' interview details and agree presentation to Full Council on Thursday 9th March 2017</p> <p>Cllr M. Dennett outlined the process used to shortlist the candidates and in carrying out the interviews and the recommendations of the interview panel.</p> <p>Following discussion it was then proposed by Cllr. M. Dennett, seconded by Cllr. J. Earl and AGREED unanimously to move to a vote to appoint the recommended Candidate and to take this to Full Council on Thursday 9th March 2017 to be received, which was AGREED unanimously.</p>	

The meeting closed at 9:30 pm.