

At a meeting of  
**WHITWORTH TOWN COUNCIL**  
**GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE**  
held on  
**THURSDAY, 10 JANUARY 2008**

**Present:**

**Chairman:-** Cllr Mr J Mellor

**Councillors:-**

Cllr Mr T Aldred  
Cllr Mr S Baldwin  
Cllr Mr D Barnes  
Cllr Mr D Bradbury  
Cllr Mr D Chorlton

Cllr Mrs De Souza  
Cllr Mrs M Gibbons  
Cllr Mr J Grogan  
Cllr Mrs K Ruane  
Cllr Mr R A Neal

**Officials:-**

**Clerk of the Council:** Mrs K Douglas

**Apologies:-**

Apologies were received from Cllr Mycock, who was unwell.

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**163. Minutes**

Resolved that the Minutes of the meeting of the General Purposes Committee held on 6 December 2007, copies of which had been circulated to each Member, be approved as a correct record.

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**164. Declarations of Interest**

- Cllr Neal declared an interest re planning matters through his role on the Development Control committee.
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**165. Public Question Time**

No members of the public were present.

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**166. Planning matters:**

- 1) **Application No. LCC – 14/07/0553: Creation of 6km cycleway on land between Healey Dell, Whitworth and Britannia Greenway, Rossendale**

Resolved that the Council has no objection to this application.

- 2) **Application No. 2007/0756: Installation of glazed sheltered canopy to rear at St John with St Michael School, OL12 8EP**

Resolved that the Council has no objection to this application.

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**167. To approve the tri-partite draft charter between Whitworth Town Council, Rossendale Borough Council and Lancashire County Council.**

Resolved that the Council gives its approval to the document, on the condition that references to the Farrow Hoyle Trust are omitted.

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**168. To consider the production of a leaflet detailing all Christmas / festive events in the town in 2008.**

Resolved that the festive edition of Whitworth Valley News should be moved a number of weeks earlier to accommodate this information and that no further leaflet should be required.

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**169. To receive an update on the missing 'Welcome to Whitworth' sign.**

Resolved that Cllr Grogan should contact the ex-Clerk Mr Bill Jenkins for details of where the original signs were purchased from, and that the Clerk should ascertain whether the Council can make a claim for the missing sign on the insurance.

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**170. To consider a distribution company for the deliver of the Whitworth Valley News publication.**

Resolved that Council should try using a distribution company for one issue, to test the waters.

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**171. To consider a request that Councillors' expenses be paid on a monthly basis.**

Resolved that Council supports this idea.

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**172. To consider a request for a contribution towards funding for the renovation of the bridge at Shawforth straddling the proposed Cycleway route.**

Resolved that, whilst Council is fully supportive of the cycleway and take on board Groundwork's comments regarding the bridge, the bridge's responsibility is Rossendale Borough Council's and they should be responsible for its funding.

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**173. To receive reports from representatives to outside organisations.**

Councillors Ruane and Bradbury reported back from a meeting with residents and Red Row regarding a possible redevelopment of the Orama Mill site.

Councillor Neal reminded Councillors of the Neighbourhood Area Forum meeting, taking place on 14 Jan, and urged all members to attend.

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**174. To receive and, if appropriate, adopt the financial statement presented by the Clerk.** The Clerk produced a bank reconciliation statement.

Resolved that the Clerk's statement be adopted and accepted.

**175. To authorise the signing of orders for payment**

The Clerk produced and explained a Schedule of Accounts Payable in the form of Report 15 of 2006/7.

Resolved that approval is given for the payments.

**176. Internal Audit**

**Members of the Committee carried out an internal audit.**

- bank paying-in book, cheque book and bank statements;
- invoices and Schedule of Accounts Payable;
- balances against bank statements;
- petty cash account, vouchers and receipts;
- cash balances and cash held.

All was found to be in order.

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**PART B:**

**177. To consider the current useage of the Police Car in Whitworth.**

Resolved that the Clerk write to Inspector Neil Wilkinson to clarify the terms of the car's usage.

**178. To discuss the precept for the financial year 2008/09.**

\* It was resolved to move this agenda item to Part B during the Council meeting \*

Resolved that Council adopts the precept for the financial year 2008/09..

**There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 9.25pm**