

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF
WELWYN PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON TUESDAY 02 DECEMBER 2008 AT
THE PARISH CENTRE LOCKLEYS DRIVE WELWYN
THAT COMMENCED AT 8.35PM.

PRESENT: Councillor J Blackburn (Chairman) and Cllrs M Benson, S Butler,
I Colpitts, C Hukin, L McLusky, P Neville, L Page and J Roper.

IN ATTENDANCE: R Findlay (Clerk)

APOLOGIES: Cllrs I Skidmore (other commitments) and H Ober and (sickness).

2008/137 OPENING OF MEETING

The Chairman welcomed all present and declared the Council meeting open.

He asked members if they all now understood the clarification of the Council's Reserves. Members indicated that they did understand. He also reminded members that the Council held a contingency of 3 months expenditure in the Reserves of £60,000.

2008/138 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

None

2008/139 CONTINUATION: BUDGET 2009/2010 AND SETTING OF THE PRECEPT FOR 2009/2010

The Vice-Chairman, Cllr. P Neville re-opened the discussion on the budget and Precept. He explained that the Council would be using some of the Reserves to finance any capital expenditure and explained that this would not increase the proposed Precept.

Earmarked Reserves

It was agreed to accept the recommendation to put £9,000 to build up Earmarked Reserves for the following:

- Buildings £2,000
- Machinery £2,000
- Civic Centre £2,000
- Playgrounds £3,000

Fees and Charges for Hall Rental

It was agreed to accept the recommendation.

Allotment Fees for 2010/2011

It was explained that the fees for 2009/2010 had been agreed in last year's budget because the invoices are sent out in October for the following year's fees. Therefore, the rental fees needed to be decided at this meeting for 2010/2011.

It was agreed to accept the recommendation.

Miscellaneous Charges (*re-production, garden waste sacks and Dog waste bags*)

It was agreed to accept the recommendation.

Sport Pitches Fees

It was agreed that the Finance Committee look at Sport Pitches fees again during the course of the next financial year.

It was agreed to accept the recommendation.

Cemetery Charges

It was agreed to accept the recommendation.

It was then **proposed** by the Vice-Chairman of the Finance Committee, Cllr. P. Neville, to adopt the entire budget for 2009/2010 and accept the transfer of Reserves for the capital expenditure.

Unanimously **Resolved** to adopt the entire budget.

It was then **proposed** by Cllr. P. Neville and **seconded** by Cllr. L. Page to set the precept at £237.695 (based on the Band D tax base). This would be an increase in the Precept of 26%. The Parish Council’s actual part of the precept of 4.7% the rest would be compensated by the Borough’s Special Expenses which will be given back to the tax payers of Welwyn Parish.

Unanimously **Resolved** to set the Precept for 2009/2010 at £237.695

Capital Items

The following estimated items of capital expenditure were then discussed:

Gents urinals/flooring	£600
Replace Pipes	£1,000
Full toilet refit	£1,000
Kitchen refit	£900
Finger Post or Information Board for the Playing field	£400
Cricket Wicket Cover	£335
White Lining Machine	£525
Tipping Tractor Trailer (ex. VAT)	£2,000
Tractor Mounted Rotary Topper Mower (ex. VAT)	£1,500
Replacement Notice Boards (Welwyn High Street and Oaklands)	£800
Total estimated cost	£9,060

Unanimously **Resolved** to draw down from Reserves £9,060

2008/140 COMMUNITIES IN CONTROL CONSULTATION

It was reported that there were several sections to this consultation.

It was agreed that the Clerk send all Councillors the website link to the consultation documents.

The Council **Resolved** to give **delegated Powers** to the Chairman and Clerk to respond to the consultation.

2008/141 ADOPTION OF THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT: NEW PUBLICATION SCHEME

The Clerk had previously circulated information about the new scheme.

It was **Resolved** to adopt the New Publication Scheme, without modification. This is to be placed on the Council’s website.

2008/142 CLOSE OF MEETING

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.22pm

Signed:.....Chairman of the Council

Date:.....2008

ESTIMATE 2009/2010

Expenditure Heads	2009/2010	
	Inc.	Exp
Staff Costs/Salaries		142,521
General Administration	5	20,345
Audit		2,000
Transport & Plant		5,558
Assistance to Local Groups		2,000
Allotments	1,800	2,650
Cemetery, Churchyard & Gen. Maint.	6,200	18,750
Leisure Facilities		1,400
Civic Centre	22,000	63,080
Parish Centre	200	3,300
Pavilion/Playing fields	6,500	19,950
Whitehill Centre	9,000	8,600
Public Toilets		2,550
Other Buildings/Tenancies	34,116	
Loan Repayments		1,312
Civic Centre Rent Arrears		10,000
Capital Items		9,060
Contingency Fund		5,000
Agency Services		
Advertising		2,500
Interest	3,000	
Planning		
	82,821	320,576
Transfers from Reserves		
Transfer from Reserves for Captial Items	9,060	
Transfer to Earmarked Reserves		9,000
	9,060	9,000
Total Expenditure		329,576
Less Total Income	91,881	
	237,695	
Amount Precepted	26% *	

(PC Actual 4.7%)