

# Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of Welwyn Parish Council's Finance Committee

in the Parish Centre, Lockleys Drive Welwyn  
On Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2007 at 7.30 pm

Present: Councillors I Skidmore (Chairman), Councillors M Benson, C Hukin, A Burnapp, J Roper,  
and P Neville

Apologies for Absence: Councillor M Rowland (illness) The Clerk R Findlay (illness).

**2007/01** The Chairman opened the meeting at 7.30pm

**2007/02 BUDGET 2007/2008**

The Chairman noted that this extraordinary meeting had been called to recommend a budget and precept figure to Full Council.

Papers prepared by the Clerk and circulated in advance were used as the basis for extensive discussion.

**2007/03 BUDGET DECISION**

It was proposed and agreed unanimously to recommend that the precept should be maintained at the same level as for the year 2006/7. This represented approximately a £4000 increase over the lowest figure set out by the Clerk in her paper to the Committee.

It was proposed and agreed unanimously that the Finance Committee recommend that the amount budgeted for election expenses should be increased from £400 to £1400, that the sum for the earmarked Buildings fund be increased from £4000 to £6000 and for the earmarked Machinery fund from £3000 to £4000.

It was proposed and agreed unanimously that the sum budgeted for the Parish Guide be decreased from £3000 to £2000 and the sum budgeted for legal costs be increased from £2000 to £3000.

With these modifications the Finance Committee agreed unanimously to recommend to the Full Council that a Precept for the financial year 2007-2008 of £152,198:00 (one hundred and fifty two thousand one hundred and ninety eight pounds exactly) be demanded.

**2007/04 SPECIAL EXPENSES**

The Committee then discussed the written report from Councillor Neville on "Special Expenses" and agreed unanimously to recommend to Full Council to resist the demand but to request good faith negotiations between Borough Council and Parish Council with the objective of allowing the Parish Council to take over management and maintenance of those specially expensed items that the Parish Council considered to be within their competence, specifically the Digswell Playing Fields, Singlers Marsh and Danesbury. The Committee expressed puzzlement at the inclusion of an item "Community Centre" under special expenses.

**2007/08 CLOSE OF MEETING**

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.34pm.

Signature.....Chairman of the Finance Committee

Date.....2007