

BURNHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held at Burnham Park Hall on Monday 3 March 2003 at 8.00 pm

Members Present: Councillor L K Hazell (Chairman)
 Councillor J Somers (Vice-Chairman)
 Councillors: *P C Adams, P Beard, H Blair, P A Davies, B S Dhillon, G Edwards, H P Evans, E J Glover, D R Pepler, M W Taylor, J M M Thomson and S Tilbey.*

PART II

167. **Minutes of the Council Meeting – 06 January 2003**

Cllr L K Hazell, Chairman of the Council, presented and moved the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 06 January 2003.

RESOLVED:

- ◆ That the minutes be approved.

168. **Minutes of the Recreation & Amenities Committee 20 January 2003**

Cllr S L Tilbey, Chairman of the Committee, presented the unconfirmed minutes of the Recreations and Amenities Committee held on 20 January 2003.

RESOLVED:

- ◆ That the minutes be noted.

169. **Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee 10 February 2003**

Cllr B S Dhillon, Chairman of the Committee, presented the confirmed minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 10 February 2003.

RESOLVED:

- ◆ That the minutes be noted.

170. Owing to the nature of the business to be discussed the Executive Officer left the meeting

171. **Councillors Questions and Responses**

Councillor E J Glover to Cllr B S Dhillon Chairman of the Finance & General Purposes Committee.

Question

As all Councillors are aware I have been asking for training for nearly 8 years, I have NEVER received any nor have I been offered any. How is it that the Council is being asked to fund the Executive Officer's request for training at a cost of £800?

Response:

The Council was requested by the Executive Officer to consider a staff loan to enable him to enrol for accountancy and administrative qualification to become a member of the Chartered Institute of Secretaries, as the initial cost of £950 had to be paid in one single payment.

It was the opinion of the Finance and General Purposes Committee that this qualification would be of a considerable benefit to the Parish Council assisting them in achieving Quality Parish Council status.

The Committee acknowledged the benefits that this particular qualification would bring to the Council and taking into account that the Executive Officer was prepared to undertake the extra work in his own time. It was unanimously decided to finance the initial cost of the qualification from within Council resources.

The Committee attached certain conditions to this funding which are fully explained in minute 115 F & GP Committee meeting held on 10.02.03

172. Members discussed in detail the issue raised by Cllr E J Glover. The Chairman informed the meeting that it was not unusual for employers to pay for courses to train staff in professional qualifications which in turn would enhance the skills and service provided by the officer. Members were reminded that at no time had the Executive Officer requested the Parish Council to pay for the course outright. It had actually been a request for a loan, repayable to the Parish Council under the Parish Council's terms. The decision to pay the fees was a unanimous decision of the Finance and General Purposes Committee.

Resolved:

- ◆ That the decision of the Finance and General Purposes Committee to pay for the training of the Executive Officer be endorsed.

Chairman

Date

Meeting Concluded at 9.50 pm