

**Minutes of a meeting of the
GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE held on
Monday, 1st November 2010
in the Committee Room, Freight House, Bradley Way, Rochford.**

Committee Members Present: Chairman Cllr Mrs H Glynn, Cllrs Mrs C Cunningham, Mrs A Heath, V Leach, R Mitchell, R Patient, D Weir and Mrs M Weir.

Also Present: Cllr Mrs J Barney, Cllr Mrs E Chippette, Cllr Mrs M Dorrell and Mr A Woodley, Wyvern Community Transport.

Whilst awaiting a couple of Members arrival it was agreed to make the best use of time and Andrew Woodley from Wyvern Community Transport was welcomed and invited to speak. Andrew Woodley gave a detailed and informative presentation and answered Members questions:-

- Formed 2003.
- Registered Charity.
- Tripart agreement between RDC, ECC and RAVS.
- Approved and funded by ECC.
- Set up for Rochford district with one bus.
- Serve Rochford area.
- From April 2010 one bus in Castle Point.
- Scheme provides transport for permanent residents of Rochford district or Castle Point district who are unable to use conventional public transport.
- Fleet of minibuses with special adaption for wheelchair access.
- Members assist with the cost of the journey by paying £2.50 for any distance up to 4 miles, for journeys over 4 miles 50p per mile thereafter.
- There is an annual fee of £5 to cover administration costs.
- Group membership also available to book travel for events.
- 2 staff in office taking calls and bookings can be taken up to 7 days in advance.
- Currently have 6 paid drivers.
- All drivers are Midas trained (Minibus Driver Awareness Scheme) and they all have trackers.
- Access to social cars from volunteers using their own cars for individual journeys.
- Always looking for volunteer drivers.
- 421 single Members.
- 67 group Members currently.
- Serve the Dome on a Tuesday due to limited bus service.
- ECC advised monies available for transport in rural areas of Essex and looked at extending the Dome route incorporating Wallasey, Canewdon, South Fambridge.
- Other routes commencing 2 outward journeys and 2 returns Rochford Station, Tesco, Southend Hospital and Southend.
- New scheme under Section 22 allowing bus pass holders and members of the public to board for revenue in support of the service.

Questions:

- Q Have you thought about Paglesham? A - Canvassed Paglesham with little response.
- Q Is it pre-determined if someone is disabled or has difficulty in getting public transport?
A - Restricted mobility, temporarily unable to use public transport, you live in an area

not served by public transport, your transport needs are not met by existing timetables. Also possible to hail and ride.

- Q Are people going to get upset that they pay for this service and other people hail it? A - Advantage paying £5 per year they can use the service all week.
- Q Do you take taxi vouchers? A - Yes they take taxi vouchers at the moment.
- Q What is the criteria - age/disability? A - Age, sickness, disability, restricted mobility, temporarily unable to use public transport, you live in an area not served by public transport, your transport needs are not met by existing timetables. .

Members agreed it would be useful to place an article in the newsletter published in the New Year.

Andrew Woodley distributed leaflets; the Chairman thanked him for his presentation and he left the meeting.

36. Apologies for non-attendance at meeting:

All committee Members were present. Members queried whether Cllr Mrs Bateman's resignation had been received and Cllr Leach confirmed it had.

37. Declarations of interest:

There were none.

38. To approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 18th October 2010 and to approve the destruction of the manuscript notes in respect of that meeting:

Members approved the Minutes of the Meeting held on 18th October 2010 as a true record and agreed to the destruction of the manuscript notes in respect of that meeting.

39. Actions List Update:

The Chairman went through the action points:-

- **Gain permission to decorate 2/3 trees with Xmas lights/Request permission to erect Seasonal Decoration over the highway:** The comments in the report were discussed in detail and it was agreed that it would not go ahead for this year due to the concern at the amount of damage that would occur in the trenching and foundation. The Chairman expressed disappointment that it had taken too long to process after it had been agreed. Cllr Leach confirmed it was more viable to go with the existing foundation at the present time to enable the presence of a Christmas tree. Item to be revisited for next year.
- **New Parish Council Noticeboard at Hawkwell Village Hall:** See item 42.
- **Youth Working Group to visit GW youth facility:** Members agreed for item to be removed.
- **Members to report to GP Committee feedback/comments re bus shelter survey:** Members reported at previous meeting, ongoing.
- **New Bus shelters:** See item 41.a.
- **Review light in alleyway at Hawkwell Chase:** Ongoing.
- **Cllr Mrs Glynn to copy RDC paper on tree planting in Hawkwell:** As per report, ongoing.
- **Wyvern Community Transport:** Presentation completed. Item to be removed.
- **Corporate Identity:** Ongoing as per report.
- **Clerk to enquire re use of payback team in adverse weather:** Ongoing as per report.
- **Children in Need event:** Ongoing as per report.

40. Financial Report:

The Chairman went through the report and advised £1,455 of funds were still available. Cllr Leach added most expenditure for GP tended to happen in the summer months and that on speaking to the Clerk recently he was comfortable that the budget was under control. There were no questions and Members accepted the Financial Report.

41. Financial Planning for 2011/12:

a. Budget: Cllr Mrs Heath requested provision for a bus shelter in Rectory Road; the Chairman referred to cost centre 4921 capital projects and advised it would come under that item and it was hoped grants would be achieved for bus shelters. Members debated whether to allocate a budget for Summer Fayre 2011 and discussed the amount required, Cllr Leach suggested £3K should cover the cost and Members debated at length the likelihood of holding a fayre. **The Chairman proposed that £3K be added to account code 209 (GP Projects) for Summer Fete next year, Cllr Mrs Heath seconded** and the motion was carried. The Chairman announced the GP committee recommended to Finance the budget for 2011/12 would be with an addition of £3K totalling £24,525; she asked Members if they were happy for it go forward and Members were unanimous.

b. Operational Plan:

The Chairman read through the Operational Plan and asked for anything additional to be added, Cllr Patient referred to national cuts in Youth grants and that bullet point 4 came down to funding but that it should remain in the operational plan as part of Council's commitment for next year. Members were content and accepted the Operational Plan as set out.

42. Parish Notice Board

Members were referred to the Clerk's report and Post Mounted Notice Board examples. The Chairman advised CIF funding was being considered later this month relating to ECC. Members examined the examples and discussed shape and size and considered the space available at the locations. It was advised that the Clerk was waiting to hear from the Highways Authority regarding locations – White Hart Hill by the Village sign, Rectory Road Golden Cross, St Teresa's Parish, Albert and Clifton Road – it was suggested it would be beneficial to site one at the northern end of the parish because many residents were unaware of the boundaries of Hawkwell. Members agreed the 4 locations. After much deliberation preference was given to 'Chatsworth 1800mm with décor posts' and this was agreed upon.

43. Christmas Lights Working Group – Update:

The Chairman informed that Council had been given some lights from Southend. Cllr Mrs Weir queried if the lighting costings had been looked at and they had; they far exceeded the committee's budget but they would be carried forward in the New Year. Members queried the Christmas light celebration and Cllr Leach advised it would be the same as last year; the marquee had been booked, the British Legion were in agreement and happy for use of their power supply and they would provide refreshments. Cllr Patient suggested it would be useful to call a meeting to co-ordinate details for Christmas and it was agreed to call a meeting for next week.

44. Christmas Parcels Working Group (update by Cllr Mrs Weir):

Cllr Mrs Weir announced a meeting of the Christmas Parcels Working Group would be held on Thursday 4th November 2010 at 2pm.

45. Summary of actions/decisions:

- Members agreed for an article on the Wyvern Community Transport service to be placed in newsletter next year.
- Members agreed for this year Christmas tree foundation to remain as in previous years and to revisit new tree foundation for next year.
- Members approved the Budget for 2011/12 with the addition of £3K to 209 GP Projects for Summer Fete.
- Members approved the 2011/12 Operational Plan.
- Members approved the Chatsworth 1800mm with décor posts as their first choice of notice board.
- Meeting next week to be called to discuss details for Xmas Lights Ceremony.
- Items to be removed from action point update list – ‘Youth Working Group to visit GW youth facility’ and ‘Wyvern Community Transport’.

The meeting closed at 8.15pm.

Chairman