

**Minutes of the proceedings of Finance and General Purpose Committee held on Monday 26 November 2007 at 8.00pm at Knightwood Leisure Centre Valley Park**

**Present:** Councillor A Dowden (Chairman) and Councillors C Anderson (Vice Chairman), Mrs C Dowden and Mrs A Dyde.

**Action**

**1 Minutes**

**Resolved:**

**That the minutes of the meeting held on 26 September 2007 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.**

**2 Matters Arising**

The Clerk informed the Committee that he had received a reply to the letter sent to the Leader of TVBC in relation to election charges.

The leader explained the need for the increase in charges and that whilst the Borough did have discretion to charge, TVBC had taken the decision some years ago to charge parish councils for election costs. He was however prepared to instruct the Head of Finance to allow Valley park to pay off the costs over a period of two years starting from the next financial year.

**Recommended:**

**That the offer to pay the election costs over a two year period starting from 2008/2009 be accepted.**

Clerk

**3 2007/2008 National Salary Award For Local Council Clerks**

The Clerk advised the Committee that the National Joint Council for Local Government Services had reached agreement on rates of pay as from 1 April 2007 (an increase of 2.475%). Consequently the National Association of Local Council Clerks and the Society of Local Council Clerks had jointly recommended that the salary scales of Local Clerks be increased by 2.475%.

**Recommended:**

**That the Clerks remuneration package be increased by 2.475% and back dated to 1 July 2007.**

Clerk

Action

**4 Society of Local Council Clerks**

**Recommended:**

**That the Clerk take steps to join the Society of Local Council Clerks in order to assist him in his duties as Clerk**

Clerk

**5 Budget 2008/2009**

The Committee considered the budget for 2008/2009. The total amount which needed to be raised for 2008/2009 was £55,709. However, having regard to the level of balances which was necessary for next year the Committee considered that it would be prudent to raise just £50,000 which represented approximately a 4% increase on 2007/2008.

**Recommended:**

**That the budget as set out in the annex to these minutes be adopted and that a Council Tax Precept of £50,000 be raised for 2008/2009.**

Clerk

The meeting closed at 9.00pm