

# SE.1

**MINUTES OF A MEETING  
OF THE SOUTH EAST AREA COMMITTEE**

**HELD AT THE CIVIC HALL,  
WANTAGE ON TUESDAY,  
9TH JUNE, 2009**

**Open to the Public, including the Press**

PRESENT:

Members: Councillors Joyce Hutchinson (Chair), Richard Farrell (Vice-Chair), Terry Fraser, Jenny Hannaby, Sue Marchant, Julia Reynolds, Margaret Turner and Reg Waite

Officers: Steve Culliford, Lorna Edwards and Toby Warren

NUMBER OF MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: 2

Ex.1 **Election of a Chair**

*RESOLVED*

*that Councillor Joyce Hutchinson be elected as Chair of the South East Area Committee for the 2009/10 Municipal Year.*

Councillor Joyce Hutchinson – Chair – In the Chair

Ex.2 **Election of a Vice Chair**

*RESOLVED*

*that Councillor Richard Farrell be elected as Vice-Chair of the South East Area Committee for the 2009/10 Municipal Year.*

Ex.3 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Terry Cox and Zoe Patrick.

Ex.4 **Minutes**

The minutes of the Committee meeting held on 10 March 2009 were adopted and signed as a correct record.

Ex.5 **Declarations of Interest**

Declarations of Interest was made in respect of report 09/09 - Community Grant Applications as follows:

<u>Member</u>	<u>Type of Interest</u>	<u>Application</u>	<u>Reason</u>	<u>Minute Ref</u>
Julia Reynolds	Personal and Prejudicial	Wantage Summer Festival	she was its committee chairman.	SE.9
Joyce Hutchinson	Personal and prejudicial	Wantage Displays	In so far as she was involved in the management of Wantage Displays.	SE.9
Jenny Hannaby	Personal	Wantage Displays	In so far as she had been involved with this organisation previously.	SE.9
Jenny Hannaby	Personal	Wantage Festival	In so far as she had been involved with this organisation previously.	SE.9
Julia Reynolds	Personal and Prejudicial	Wantage Displays	as she was involved in its management	SE.9
Reg Waite	Personal	Wantage Displays	as he was a member of the Wantage Chamber of Commerce that was a partner to Wantage Displays.	SE.9
Jenny Hannaby	Personal and Prejudicial	Stockham School Application	In so far as she was a school governor.	SE.9
Joyce Hutchinson	Personal and Prejudicial	Stockham School Application	In so far as she was a school governor.	SE.9

Ex.6 **Urgent Business and Chairman's Announcements**

The Chair reported that she had accepted a community grant application from Stockham School as a matter of urgent business. She explained that the application was determined as a matter of urgent business as it was essential that the works could proceed over the summer and therefore it was necessary to consider the grant application prior to the next meeting of the Committee in the autumn. This application was considered with the other community grant applications (minute SE.9 refers).

Ex.7 **Statements and Petitions from the Public Under Standing Order 32**

Mr Robin Turnbull made a statement in support of the community grant application by Wantage Displays. He reported that a group of volunteers had been formed to improve the summer floral displays and the Christmas lights displays in the town. It

was a free standing group without a committee or written constitution, but was loosely linked to the Wantage Chamber of Commerce. The group also had one District Councillor and one Town Councillor attending as volunteers. The group had been working with shopkeepers to improve displays and had ambitions to provide £12,000+ worth of displays this year. The Town Council had not agreed to underwrite this cost and so grants and local donations were being sought to cover the costs. Donations by local residents had proved successful by having donation boxes or buckets at shops in the town. The group had no storage and had to pay for this as well as maintenance, set up and take down.

Ex.8 **Questions from the Public Under Standing Order 32**

None

Ex.9 **Community Grants**

Councillors Joyce Hutchinson, Jenny Hannaby and Julia Reynolds had each declared personal and prejudicial interests in this item and in accordance with Standing Order 34 they left the meeting during consideration of the relevant community grant applications.

Councillor Jenny Hannaby and Reg Waite had both declared personal interests in this item and in accordance with Standing Order 34 they remained in the meeting during consideration of the relevant community grant applications.

The Committee received and considered report 09/09 of the Head of Corporate Strategy, which set out details of the Committee’s community grants budget and detailed three grant applications. As referred to elsewhere in these Minutes, the Chair had also accepted an additional grant application from Stockham School which was considered, details of which were circulated at the meeting.

The Committee considered each application. As the Chair of the Committee had declared a personal and prejudicial interest in two applications and left the meeting during their consideration, the Vice-Chair took the Chair for those items.

**RESOLVED**

(a) *that the Committee’s community grants budget position be noted;*

(b) *that the applications for community grants be agreed as follows: -:*

<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Scheme</u>	<u>Grant</u>
<i>Wantage Summer Festival</i>	<i>Towards cost of 2009 Summer Festival</i>	<i>£2,500 (agreed by 5 votes to 2 with 1 of the voting Members not being present during consideration of this item)</i>
<i>Grove Parish Council</i>	<i>Replacing fence at Mary Green</i>	<i>£2,500 (agreed by 5 votes to 3)</i>

	<i>children's play area</i>	
<i>Wantage Displays</i>	<i>Towards floral displays and Christmas lights</i>	<i>£2,000, subject to the applicant providing a written constitution (agreed by 4 votes to 3 with 2 of the voting Members not being present during consideration of this item and with the Vice-Chair (in the Chair) using his second and casting vote)</i>

- (c) *that authority be delegated to the Head of Corporate Strategy, in consultation with the Vice-Chair of the Committee, to award a grant of up to £1,500 to Stockham School, Wantage towards the cost of building a sensory garden, subject to Wantage Town Council awarding a reasonable grant and that the applicant be advised to contact the Oxfordshire Council for Voluntary Action to seek additional funding sources (agreed by 6 votes to nil with 2 of the voting Members not being present during consideration of this item).*

**Exempt Information Under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972**

None

The meeting rose at 7.35 pm