



MINUTES OF FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING Monday 3rd July 2023

Present: Cllr Jon Lean, Cllr Rob McCullough, Cllr Tristan Clark Cllr Kate Kelliher
Clerk/RFO Sue Simmons Deputy Clerk Rachel Davis

391. Committee to appoint a Chair to run to May 2024
Cllr Lean stated that he was happy to stand again as Chair. He was proposed by Cllr McCullough and unanimously voted into the role.
392. Apologies for absence
No apologies for absence were received
393. Declarations of Interest under the Localism Act 2011
Cllr Clark gave his standing DOI relating to planning matters as he is Chair of SGC DMC.
394. Pre-arranged items from members of public **None**
395. Committee to APPROVE comments for submission on any Planning Applications (necessary due to deadline dates):
i. P23/01867/E Raising of roofline of 1no. agricultural barn. Building At Hillside Barn Huckford Lane Winterbourne South Gloucestershire BS36 1AP
Westerleigh and Coalpit Heath has NO OBJECTION to this application.
However, the Parish Council requests that a planning condition is applied to any permission to ensure that works do not begin until all of the bat emergence/ re-entry surveys referred to in the Roost Assessment, have been completed and found to be acceptable.
396. Committee to APPROVE Minutes of F & GP Meeting held on 2nd Feb 2023
Unanimously approved and signed by the Chair.
397. Committee to NOTE receipt of Bank reconciliation and statements to end of June 2023
NOTED
398. Committee to NOTE full list of payments for April – June 2023
NOTED
399. Committee to NOTE full list of receipts for April – June 2023
NOTED
400. Committee to NOTE information on 2023/24 Receipts & Payments vs Budgets and discuss/approve any required decisions
NOTED
The RFO reported that apart from the recent costs associated with the breakdown of the lake aerator and need to hire pumps and a generator all elements of the budget are where they should be at this stage.
The Clerk also explained why we spread the load across four years for election costs. It is so the budget remains more consistent and therefore the precept too, rather than having potential 'spike' years. Funds not used go into reserves and enable the funding of S137 and other works when needed without having to raise the precept.
401. Committee to review grant pots and committed spends and approve any required decisions including:
(a) Potential for allocating funds for further replacement equipment at Newman Field (trim trail) and Westerleigh Playing Field (trim trail and see-saw). After discussion it was agreed that £10k should be earmarked for WPF purchase and installation of 2 replacement trim trail pieces and possibly a replacement see-saw (after consultation). It was also

MINUTES OF FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday 3rd July 2023

agreed that £15k should be put aside for further pieces in Newnan Field. Possibly two larger pieces. Rotten cycle rack to be removed and used as bug log pile or similar.

(b) Balances

There is still £6235 in the S137 pot

There is approx £58000 in the Says Court solar pot

There is £56678 in the CIL/S106 pot after allowing for the new defibrillator, kitchen at Mafeking, and lake platforms and path all of which are committed. This is where the £25k mentioned in (a) would come from.

There is £4489.53 in the LNAP budget

There is £2371 in the Bins Project pot after allowing £1800 for the installation of nine recently purchased bins. This is approximately enough to cover 4 further bins and installation.

The £8288.50 for WPF is the balance owed to Proludic – now payable as equipment inspections have been received and wetpour requirements have been agreed.

402. Committee to review current locations of funds across accounts

It was explained that the spread of funds across Natwest, Redwood and Unity banks means that all operational costs (Admin & E & L) are in the Natwest current account, and funds for S137 grants, LNAP, Bin project, and Says Court community projects such as Holiday activities.

The funds spread across the two savings accounts represent the £70k CIL balance and the £102k reserves approximately. Some of the reserves may be required when the full extent of the bank and outflow works costs at Bitterwell are known.

403. Committee to note correspondence relating to Finance matters and any other matters required by the RFO including:

Thank you letter from Bristol & Weston Hospitals Charity for the grant of £1000.

Notice of increase rate rise on Redwood Bank account. 2.85% from 29th June 2023.

Repairs to Bitterwell Lake – costs still awaited;

Repairs to aerator – paid and our own aerator now back in lake;

Meeting with Coalpit Heath Football Club re 'The Compound' – Cllr McCullough and Clerk met with Chair of CHFC to discuss major plans which are in region of £100k. Encouraged several applications to major grant providers and a partial application to W&CHPC may be a future way to get to total needed.

The Deputy Clerk asked if transactions would reach the level making an Intermediate AGAR necessary. The RFO explained it is hoped that the £200,000 threshold will not be met this year.

Once three years of £200,000+ is reached a switch to Income & Expenditure accounting rather than Receipts & Payments is necessary.

404. Items considered urgent or exempt by the Chairman

None

405. Date of next Parish Council meeting (Full list at www.westerleighparishcouncil.org.uk/meeting-dates/)

July 10th 2023 Westerleigh Village Hall 7pm

Next F & GP meeting October 16th 2023

The meeting ended at 8pm and was followed by a Staff Committee meeting.