

Minutes of the meeting of the Finance and Governance Committee held remotely via Teams video link on Tuesday 13th October 2020

The chairman reminded everyone that the meeting was being recorded.

PRESENT: Councillors G Stewart (Chair), J Hunt, and P Wood.

Clerk: Tony Skeggs

Residents: None.

F20/33	APOLOGIES – Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs R Butler and A Clark. Cllr S Kirve was absent.	
F20/34	DECLARATION OF INTEREST – Cllr Stewart declared an interest in item F20/38b as he was a member of the National Secular Society.	
F20/35	MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING The minutes of the Finance and Governance Committee meeting held on 18 th August 2020 were agreed as an accurate record and duly signed by the Chairman.	
F20/36	2021/22 ANNUAL BUDGET The clerk presented the draft budget for 2021/22 and explained the reasons behind some of the changes, shown below. There followed some discussion on individual items. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1010 Devolved Services – Reduced to zero as income paid direct to ATC. • 1020 Grants – Reduced as grants generally are being reduced following Covid-19. • 4100 Employment – Allows for a NALC pay award of 2%. • 4112 Allowances – Increased to take account of the increase in the allowance to £325 per councillor. • 4275 SMVCA Grant – This is the last year the grant would be payable. • 4200 Allotments – The budget has been increased by £1,000 to cover ongoing maintenance costs. • 4280 Playground - The budget has been increased by £1,000 to cover ongoing maintenance costs. <p>It was noted that there was nothing showing for the provision of toilet facilities. It was agreed that some provision should be made under the Open Spaces section of the budget. The draft budget showed a small surplus of £20,710 based upon no change in the precept. It was proposed and seconded and unanimously AGREED that, subject to a provision being added for toilet facilities, the draft budget be recommended to Council.</p>	
F20/37	2019/20 EXTERNAL REPORT It was NOTED that no new issues had been raised by the external auditor and that they had issued their certificate, which meant that the 2019/20 audit was now concluded.	
F20/38	REQUESTS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE <p>a) Florence Nightingale Charity Trust – After discussion it was AGREED to support the project to create a Rainbow Sculpture at Stoke Mandeville Hospital. The sculpture would be made up of 17,000 tiles, each tile would cost £20. It was AGREED to purchase 5 tiles, totalling £100.00.</p> <p>b) The Ark – After discussion it was AGREED by two votes to one to grant the full amount requested of £450 towards the refurbishment of the premises.</p>	
F20/39	COUNCIL POLICIES The chairman presented four policies, Apologies for Absence, Equality & Diversity, Provision of Grants, and Training, that he had updated. Only minor changes, updating to current arrangements, had been made to all four. Cllr Hunt commented on the Equality & Diversity policy section 5(b) and the need to include IT as an access issue. The need for an annual review and training for the chairman was noted. As there were no further comments, all four policies would be presented to the next Council meeting.	Clerk

F20/40	DATE OF NEXT MEETING The next meeting was on the 8 th December 2020. The meeting would be considering the setting of the 2021/22 precept and council tax.	
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The meeting closed at 8.30pm.

Signed: _____

Date: 8th December 2020

Action List

Date	Minute	Action	By Whom	Situation
11 Feb 20	20/04	Review of parish council policies.	Cllr Stewart	In Progress
9 June 20	20/19b	Prepare asset location maps for councillors.	Clerk	O/S
18 Aug 20	20/27	Cllr Clark to supply Neighbourhood Plan information for risk register.	Cllr Clark	O/S
18 Aug 20	20/28	Review website for Publication Scheme items.	Clerk	In Progress
13 Oct 20	20/36	Update budget for provision of toilet facility	Clerk	Completed
13 Oct 20	20/38	Make grant donations – FN Trust / The Ark	Clerk	Completed