



Minutes of a Meeting of the Finance Committee held in Committee Room, Alderholt Village Hall at 7.00pm on Tuesday 10th December 2024

Present: Cllr S Butler (Chairman), Cllr A Hibberd, Cllr G Logan, Cllr M Smethers, Cllr R Stone and Cllr D Tooke.

In attendance: Mrs N Ashton (Clerk).

10/24 Welcome from the Chairman including housekeeping notices:

Cllr Butler welcomed everyone to the meeting and pointed out emergency exits.

11/24 To receive and accept apologies for absence:

There were no absences.

12/24 To receive declarations of interest and/or consider the granting of dispensations:

Cllr Hibberd declared a non-pecuniary interest in one of the grant applications and did not take part in discussions or voting.

13/24 To approve the Minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on 24th June 2024:

Members **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes as a correct record.

14/24 Public Session:

There were no members of the public present.

15/24 To consider any Grant Applications received:

Project Manna application was reconsidered as agreed at previous meeting due to further information being supplied. Members **RESOLVED** to grant £150.00 and to request the Council is kept updated on projects which may involve the school and Alderholt parishioners.

Request received from St James Church to increase current grant from £400.00 to £450.00. It was agreed to seek clarification with regards to actual maintenance carried out and what the requested increase will be for.

16/24 Budget 2025/2026

i. To review current expenditure against budget and forecast of expenditure to end of financial year:

The Clerk presented the figures showing current expenditure to date and estimated expenditure to year end. Members **RESOLVED** to make a virement of the additional allotment path costs to the CIL budget line.

ii. To consider and agree the budget and precept requirement for 2025/2026 for submission to Full Council:

Members **RESOLVED** in principle to agree the budget of £105,381.70 and a precept requirement of £103,837.70 meaning the annual charge for Band D will be £80.27 which represents an increase of £4.11 (5.40%) for the year. Figures may change subject to further inquiries being made with regards to requests received from the Church to increase grant request and from ARA to increase SLA costs.



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iii. To review the earmarked reserves and agree any allocations for 2025/2026 for submission to Full Council:

Members **RESOLVED** to increase the earmarked reserves for Community Transport, to retain funds for Big Alderholt Fete, Election Costs, Play Equipment, and Wireless Microphone as previously agreed and to set aside funds left from the Planning Inquiry for future review of the Neighbourhood Plan. Earmarked reserves will be reviewed again in March prior to the end of the financial year.

17/24 To review the following:

i. Risk Management

It was agreed by Full Council in March to rate the level of each risk item which the Clerk reported has not yet been completed and this will be finalised prior to the end of the financial year for presentation to Full Council.

ii. Internal Financial Controls

The External Audit for 2023/2024 did not identify any issues nor did the internal audit which took place in October and as reported at the November Full Council meeting the auditor acknowledged changes that have been made to checking of finances and stated this was very good practice.

With no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.28pm.