

# **WARFIELD PARISH COUNCIL**

## **MINUTES OF THE FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE**

held **virtually** on **Tuesday 11 January 2022** at **7.45pm**

**Present:** Councillors Mrs Barnard, Finch, Mrs Gill and Strudley (Chair)

**In attendance:** The Parish Clerk

### **F22/001. Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Ms Dulieu and McCracken.

### **F22/002. Declarations of interest**

Cllr Mrs Gill declared a personal interest in a grant application discussed under item F22/006 (the grant application for Whitegrove School)

### **F22/003. Minutes of the previous meeting**

The minutes of the meeting of 16 December 2021 were circulated to members in advance of the meeting. Approval of the minutes was proposed by Cllr Finch and seconded by Cllr Mrs Gill and the minutes were **APPROVED** by members present.

### **F22/004. Responsible Financial Officers Report**

The Responsible Financial Officers report was noted by members.

### **F22/005. Financial Report**

The financial report to the end of December 2021 was circulated to members in advance of the meeting. The Clerk advised members that the report was in draft form as statements for the deposit accounts had not been received.

Members noted the debt profile and agreed the recommendation to write-off six invoices issued between April 2018 and February 2019 valued at £183.00.

Members noted the report.

### **F22/006. Draft Budget and Precept Requirement 2022-23**

The Clerk circulated the second version of the 2022-23 budget and precept requirement to members. The budget included the draft grant recommendations reviewed by the committee. Members decided not to amend their initial grant award recommendations.

Members were concerned that salary costs may increase by more than 2.4% in 2022-23. The Clerk advised members that if a salary settlement of more than 2.4% was agreed nationally, the council would look to meet this from reserves. Provision had been made to increase the general reserve to cover cost overruns resulting from the higher levels of inflation.

Members noted the budget and precept recommendation and agreed to recommend this to full council for approval.

### **F22/007. Office Accommodation Update**

The Clerk provided members with an update on office accommodation. The update identified a recommendation for the council to look at relocating the parish office.

Members noted that several steps would have to be taken ahead of any such move including obtaining planning consent.

Members agreed that the Clerk should begin taking initial steps in preparation for council and that the committee would bring the matter to the March council meeting.

**F22/008. Future agenda items and date of the next meeting**

Items for future agenda items were circulated to members. The date of the next meeting was agreed as Tuesday 22 February 2022 at 7.45pm.

**F22/009. Closure of the meeting**

The meeting closed at 8.56pm.