

FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

held on **Wednesday 15 January 2019** at **7.45 pm** in the Parish Office

Present:

Councillors Wilson (Chair), Dr Barnard, Mrs Barnard, Ms Dulieu, Fitzwilliams and Harrison

In attendance:

Jason Mawer - Parish Clerk

F453. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Jones

F454. Declarations of interest and dispensations

Cllr Dr Barnard declared an interest as a Borough and Town councillor.

F455. Minutes of the meeting of 19 December 2018

The minutes of the meeting held on 19 December 2018 were circulated to members ahead of the meeting. The minutes were proposed by Cllr Ms Dulieu, seconded by Cllr Harrison and APPROVED by members present.

F456. Matters arising from the previous meeting

The Clerk advised members that the lighting at Whitegrove Community Centre had been repaired.

F457. Financial Report to end December 2018

The Financial Report to the end of December 2018 was circulated to members ahead of the meeting. The Clerk was asked to check on the figures on the balance sheet, which appeared to be a typographic error. The Clerk was unable at the meeting to explain the difference in the budget line regarding s.137 grants, but would clarify this ahead of the next meeting.

A reported underspend at this stage on building improvements is due to the late start on these projects and these should be completed by year end.

Members noted the report.

F458. Budget 2019/20 update

A budget paper was circulated to members ahead of the meeting.

The Clerk went through the paper with members. The Clerk explained that the income for the halls had been reworked and showed a small increase for 2019/20. The Clerk detailed the proposals for the reserves, and the reallocation of the neighbourhood plan reserve in part to the Parish Facilities reserve and to the general reserves to cover expenditure in 2019/20. The Clerk explained to members the lower than expected council tax base figure, which resulted from fewer new home completions in previous years.

Members discussed the grant awards. The Clerk explained that the churchyard at St Michael the Archangel was not officially closed as interment of ashes continued. the council could continue to use its power to contribute towards cemetery expenses under provision of the Local Government Act. Members discussed concerns regarding the Warfield Environment Group (WEG) grant for a life buoy. The Clerk explained that his view was that the council had no liability for any equipment any group purchased themselves, but that he was checking with the councils insurers to ensure they were happy. Members noted the advice of the Clerk, but remained concerned about the precedent this could set and if they would be asked to maintain the life buoy. Members asked if the life buoy could be restricted to the use of WEG.

Cllr Mrs Barnard left the meeting

The chair reminded members that they should respect other members and of the rules of debate and that members must not talk over each other.

The budget discussion continued to the level of precept. Members noted the Clerks recommendation and asked the Clerk to increase the budget of the Warfield 125 events by £950.

The effect of this change would result in the council setting a precept of £195,000 for 2019/20 a 7.8% increase at band D.

Members noted the budget report and recommended the proposals to full council for approval.

F459. Accounts for payment

The following accounts were approved for payment:

Cheque Payments			invoice total
4561	Bracknell Pest Control	pest control inspections	£72.00
4562	BTS Ltd	office printing	£174.99
4563	Circle Cleaning Services	contract cleaning	£824.00
4564	Creative Junction	Summer of Fun event	£180.00
4565	PHS Group	sanitary provision	£653.34
4566	SLCC Enterprises Ltd	training books	£127.70
4567	employee	Wren delivery adjustment	£29.01
			£2,061.04

F460. Items for Information

There were no items for information.

F461. To confirm the date of the next meeting

The next meeting will take place at 7.45pm on Tuesday 26 February 2019.

F462. Closure of the meeting

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.16pm