

**MINUTES OF THE VIRTUAL FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON ZOOM
ON WEDNESDAY 27th JANUARY 2021**

It was agreed at the beginning of the meeting that an important item regarding the Playpark refurbishment will be discussed at the end of the meeting, as it occurred too late to be put on the agenda.

Present: Cllrs: N Kirk (Chair), S Bryant, M Dury, T Griffin, P O'Leary, S Dyer (Clerk)

FIN/21/01 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

FIN/21/02 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None

**FIN/21/03 TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS UNDER
WHITCHURCH VILLAGE COUNCILS CODE OF CONDUCT
(ADOPTED ON 7th NOVEMBER 2012)**

None.

**FIN/21/04 TO RECEIVE, CONSIDER AND GRANT ANY DISPENSATIONS
(FOR DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS)**

None.

**FIN/21/05 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE FINANCE MEETING HELD ON
24th JUNE 2020**

It was resolved that the minutes, previously circulated, were a true record of the above meeting and will be signed accordingly by N Kirk (Chairman)

**FIN/21/06 TO NOTE THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION PAYMENT CAP
UPDATES FROM AVON PENSION FUND**

The Clerk explained that information is being received from Avon Pension Fund regarding the LGA Exit payment cap of 95k, which came into force from 4th November 2020 and how this may affect the fund. As this is not relevant to the village council this information was noted.

FIN/21/07 TO CONSIDER INCREASING THE CEMETERY FEE'S IN APRIL 2021

The Clerk advised that the cemetery fees have not been increased since 2019, other burial authorities increase their fees annually. It was resolved to recommend a 4% increase and to change the fee for a child not exceeding the age of five, to no charge.

FIN/21/08 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON CiL & S106 FUNDS HELD

The Clerk explained the amount of CiL Funds held are £115,899.80, the dates these funds need to be spent are held on a spread sheet, which will be circulated to all members present.

There are still Section 106 funds held but these may be spent shortly to complete the playpark refurbishment.

- FIN/21/09 **TO CONSIDER CREATING A RESERVES POLICY**
The Joint Practitioners' Advisory Group, which the council has to adhere to when completing its audit and financial transactions advising set up a Reserves Policy which includes Earmarked & General Reserves.
It was resolved to recommend that a policy is set up with the £80,000.00 Earmarked for the cemetery and £30,000.00 for general reserves and this should be ring fenced and reviewed annually.
- FIN/21/10 **TO DISCUSS AND RECOMMEND CAPITAL EXPENDITURE FOR 2021/2022**
There is no capital expenditure planned.
- FIN/21/11 **TO CHECK THE BUDGET TO DATE, SET THE BUDGET FOR 2021/2022 AND AGREE THE PRECEPT TO BE RECOMMENDED TO THE FULL COUNCIL**
Each item of the budget was considered at length and amendments made to the plan where it was felt to be necessary.
It was resolved to recommend that the precept for 2021/2022, is increased by £1,000.00 to £38,000.00, this will be a decrease of .49 per annum on Band D properties in the village and a reduction on all other bands.
- FIN/21/12 **TO CONSIDER AND DISCUSS QUOTES RECEIVED TO COMPLETED THE PLAYPARK REFURBISHMENT PROJECT**
The Clerk explained that she visited the site with the Chair, Vice-Chair on Monday to speak with the contractor to see what still needs to be completed to finish the project.
It was recommended by the contractor that top soil is spread on the areas outside the boundary of the play equipment & MUGA and it is then reseeded and a grid paving system with gravel is installed around the table tennis area. A quote was requested for this additional work together with an additional picnic bench. This has been received and is £14,030.00. The Clerk has spoken to the garden maintenance contractor and he has given a rough quote for around half this price, he will be asked to put his quote in writing.
This item will be placed on the agenda at the full council meeting on 3rd February for a decision to be made.

Meeting ended at 9.50p.m