

**MINUTES OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE WVCA HALL
ON WEDNESDAY 18th JANUARY 2023**

- Present: Cllrs: N Kirk (Chair), S Bryant, M Dury, T Griffin, P O’Leary, S Bangham & S Dyer (Clerk)
- FIN/23/01 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**
None.
- FIN/23/02 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
The Clerk gave apologies for V Perry who is unable to attend.
- FIN/23/03 **TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS UNDER
WHITCHURCH VILLAGE COUNCILS CODE OF CONDUCT
(ADOPTED ON 7th NOVEMBER 2012)**
Cllr M Dury declared an interest in agenda item 6, as his wife works for the Village Council.
- FIN/23/04 **TO RECEIVE, CONSIDER AND GRANT ANY DISPENSATIONS
(FOR DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS)**
None.
- FIN/23/05 **TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE FINANCE MEETING HELD ON
24th AUGUST 2022**
It was resolved that the minutes, previously circulated, were a true record of the above meeting and they were signed accordingly by N Kirk (Chairman).
- FIN/23/06 **TO NOTE AND AGREE THE NATIONAL SALARY AWARDS BACK
DATED TO 1st APRIL 2022**
Notification has been received from NALC (National Association of Local Council) that the Local Government Association have come to an agreement on the new pay scales for 2022-23 to be implemented from 1st April 2022. The new scales were noted and agreed.
- FIN/23/07 **TO NOTE THE DETAILS OF THE AVON PENSION FUND EMPLOYER
SCHEDULE SHOWING THE 2022 VALUATION RESULTS AND
REVIEW THE 2023/2024 PROJECTED PAYROLL FIGURES**
The above details were noted, the employer contribution rate will increase from 22.4% to 23.4% from 1st April 2023, in line with actuarial valuation summary, there is currently a £500 surplus in contributions.
- FIN/23/08 **TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON CiL FUNDS HELD**
The balance of CiL funds held is £128,210.60 of which £1,651.65 needs to be spent straight away and £72,212.02 by various dates during 2023. These funds can only be spent on specific things.

All the relevant CiL suggestions received in 2022 have now been completed. It was agreed to put an item on the agenda for the next meeting for Councillors to speak to their neighbours and come to the meeting with some ideas on how these funds can be spent to enhance the village further.
A leaflet drop will then be made asking residents for their views and ideas.

FIN/23/09 TO REVIEW THE RESERVES POLICY AND AGREE ANY AMENDMENTS

The Reserves Policy was reviewed, it was resolved to increase the Cemetery Reserves by £10,000 to £90,000 and the General Reserve by £10,000 to £40,000.

FIN/23/10 TO NOTE THE RECOMMENDATION FROM THE PLAYFIELD/CEMETERY/ALLOTMENT COMMITTEE REGARDING BUDGET FIGURES AND INCREASING FEES FROM 1ST APRIL 2023

The Playfield/Cemetery/Allotment Committee Chairman explained that it was agreed to recommend that Cemetery fees are increased by 5%, rounded up, Allotment fees will stay the same.

Budget figures:-

Cemetery - £7,500.00

Playfield - £3,000.00

General Maintenance - £5,000.00

Allotments - £600.00

Total - £16,100.00

These recommendations were noted, after further discussion it was resolved to also increase cemetery reservations to £125.00 for five years from 1st April 2023.

FIN/23/11 TO DISCUSS AND RECOMMEND CAPITAL EXPENDITURE FOR 2023/2024

No capital expenditure is planned for 2023/2024.

FIN/21/12 TO CHECK THE BUDGET TO DATE, SET THE BUDGET FOR 2023/2024 AND AGREE THE PRECEPT TO BE RECOMMENDED TO FULL COUNCIL

The budget figures for 2022/2023 were considered at length and a new budget set for the coming financial year.

It was resolved to recommend the Precept is increased by 5% from £40,000.00 to £42,000.00. This would see an annual increase of £2.69 on a Band D property or .27p per month.

Meeting ended at 9.10.p.m.