

FLITTON AND GREENFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Finance Committee held at 70 Wardhedges Road, Flitton on Monday 13th April 2015

Present: Councillors N. Arthur (Chair), S. Phillips (ex officio) N Thompson (ex officio), P Woodland, and G Ellis

Also Present: D Lawson: Clerk to the Council

1. APOLOGIES AND SPECIFIC DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Julian Sparrey.

2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the meeting held on 12 January 2015 were approved and signed

3. REQUEST(S) FOR FUNDING

None received

4. S106 FUNDING FOR RECREATION AND COMMUNITY HALLS

- (i) It was noted that the Playing Field Sub Committee had agreed what should be included in the application for sport/play/open space S106 fund and an application will be submitted to Central Bedfordshire Council.
- (ii) Work was still ongoing for bids to the Community Hall fund.

5. QUARTERLY ACCOUNTS REPORT and BANK RECONCILIATION

(i) The Clerk presented the end of year accounts and these were discussed. There were a couple of discrepancies which the Clerk agreed to correct before handing to the Internal Auditor for verification.

NOTE - this has subsequently been corrected in the accounts.

(ii) The accounts showed an overspend during the year mainly as a result of:

a. Additional work in the MUGA car park due to vandalism and a corresponding income by way of an insurance claim

b. It had been agreed at the start of the year to make up the Councils contribution to the Highway match funding scheme (£15,000) partly out of balances and partly through the precept. The Clerk had shown this within the accounts, but it was agreed to explain this through a note rather than part of the budget layout.

(iii) The quarterly reconciliation showed a correct balance and this was noted.

6. VAT CLAIM

The annual claim for VAT of £2456.51 was submitted last week and the Clerk agreed to look at why it did not match the VAT figure included in the accounts.

NOTE - this has subsequently been corrected in the accounts

7. PAY SCALES

- (i) Litter picking - the Committee agreed to increase the rate of pay made to the litter picker(s) to at least the Living wage and to £7.50 per hour.
- (ii) Clerk's salary - the Committee agreed to the annual move of one increment in the Clerks pay scale to point 22.

8. CONTRACT TERMS AND RATES

- (i) The Committee discussed the annual contracts for general maintenance work and gardening work and agreed to leave them in existence for the forthcoming year and retender all Contracts in 2016/17.
- (ii) The Councils grass cutting contract comes to an end in 2016 and will be put out to tender prior to April 2016.

9. ELECTRICITY SUPPLY AT TELEPHONE BOX

The Clerk outlined the background to this issue and there was a long discussion about the power supply and outstanding invoice at the telephone box library. It was clear from details found on file that the Council was aware of the unmetered electricity supply and very unfortunate that the bills had been suppressed by EON, although they had agreed to waive the amounts during that time. It was noted that the annual energy cost is quite low and that the cost of removing the supply would take many years to pay back, It was agreed that

- (i) the outstanding invoice be paid
- (ii) an electrician be engaged to check that the supply is still live and if it is that the electrician then be authorised to re-instate the light fitting. If the supply is not live this will be reported back to UK Power Network.

10. NEXT MEETINGS

A schedule of meetings for 2015/16 was agreed.

11. INFORMATION ITEMS

There were no items for information

The meeting ended at 21.00h

Dated this 6th day of July 2015

Chair of Finance Committee