

FLITTON AND GREENFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Finance Committee held at the Church Hall, Flitton on Wednesday 10th January 2018

Present: Cllrs N Arthur (Chair), N Thompson, M Gates, G Ellis, B Rishton and T King and D Lawson (Clerk)

1. APOLOGIES AND SPECIFIC DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllrs M Lowe J Fisher and P Woodland sent apologies

2. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 18th October 2017 were received and were signed as a true record by the Chair

There were no outstanding matters

- The Quiz on Feb 3rd at the Village Hall to help fund two more defibrillators was mentioned and the community effort commended. It had been requested to defer the grant payment until the items could be purchased.
- A litter picker for Greenfield had been employed
- The transfer of monies for the MUGA had happened and the previous Committee account was now closed
- The position at the Solar Farm was queried, although in the last information, it had been confirmed that it was not fully operational yet so the Community Benefit was not yet due.

3.. BUDGET 2017/18 QUARTER 3 ACCOUNTS REPORT AND BANK RECONCILIATION

The Clerk presented the Q3 accounts, these were considered and noted, and the quarterly reconciliation showed a correct balance.

The situation regarding all the stopped cheques was also noted

4. BUDGET 2018/19

The figures were considered and the Chairman explained that out of various options a 3.2% increase had been deemed the most appropriate approach, however this was up for debate at the meeting.

This increase tied in most closely to the rate of inflation and left only a relatively low shortfall on the overall budget, such that the contingency fund would be reduced. However, the situation with regard to the Highway match funding may make a difference on this suggested percentage.

Cllr Ellis had received revised plans and costings from CBC and presented them to the meeting. These seemed to satisfy the Parish Council's views on safety in the area and it was hoped the residents would also be in favour of the revisions. Cllr Ellis would consult as soon as possible so that CBC could launch their statutory consultation process.

The officer at CBC had been able to confirm that they would pay for some work outside the match funding, but the total cost still exceeded the budget availability. The exact figure had not been finalised and so it was difficult to know exactly how much the Parish contribution would be.

It was agreed that £17.5k could be immediately allocated to the project which included the design costs for an application next year, which was not going to be made now

In addition, there were various other items of expenditure in the proposed budget which could be deferred or managed in a different way. These included the painting of the cemetery railings, the fees to consider a possible

<p>land purchase, MUGA re-surfacing accumulated fund (actual estimates to be sought on this for information) and a contingency sum at Flitton Hill allotment site.</p> <p>On this basis it was agreed that funding could be made available so long as the total cost of the scheme did not exceed £40k</p> <p>It was noted that as there is not going to be a match funding application in 2019-20, this should allow more flexibility in that budget year to catch up on any deferred work and contingency budget.</p> <p>Cllr Ellis queried whether the budget allowed for any contribution to both the S106 funding application to CBC. The Clerk clarified the figures that had been used for the Playing Field application, but there had not been any request for a contribution to the Cycle way application. However, it may be that funding on one or other project would not be successful or not commence until 2019-20 budget, in which case it could be written into that budget. It was agreed to leave the figures as stated.</p> <p>It was agreed to transfer all the Reserve funding to the Deposit account.</p> <p>Cllr Thompson proposed the 3.2% increase providing a precept of £44,500 and Cllr Gates seconded this</p>	
<p>RESOLVED that a 3.2% increase in precept be recommended to Council on 24th January to raise the sum of £44,500</p>	
<p>5. RISK ASSESSMENT REGISTERS</p>	
<p>All the Risk Registers (including the Corporate Register, Allotments, MUGA, Playing Field, Cemetery and Grass Verges) were discussed and one amendment will be made to the Allotment Risk Assessment Register.</p>	
<p>RESOLVED the Risk Assessment Registers were adopted for 2018-19</p>	
<p>6 GRASS CUTTING CONTRACT</p>	
<p>The current situation with regard to tenders was noted and will be discussed in full at the Council meeting</p>	
<p>7.CENTRAL BEDS COUNCIL BUDGET 2018 CONSULTATION</p>	
<p>It was noted that CBC has launched consultation on its budget. There was a discussion about this and the capping restraints, efficiencies made already and services provided.</p> <p>It was agreed to write to support the proposed precept.</p>	<p>DL</p>
<p>8. INFORMATION ITEMS</p>	
<p>The Clerk mentioned that there had been an email that afternoon asking for the Council to make a small contribution towards the Community Reassurance meetings which were going to start in February. This was discussed and it was agreed to contribute £50 towards the refreshment fund and the Clerk would manage this with the organisers. Also agreed that the Parish Council would like to be represented at the meetings.</p>	<p>DL</p>
<p>9. NEXT MEETING</p>	
<p>Weds 11th April 2018</p>	

The meeting ended at 19.10h

Signed

Chairman
11th April 2018