

WENDOVER PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting

20th February at 7:30pm

St Anne's Hall Aylesbury Road Wendover HP22 6JG

Present: Councillors Gallagher (Chair), Goodall, O'Donnell, Walker, Williams, Worth

Clerk and Minutes: Andy Smith

Members of Public: 6

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

F23/68 Apologies were received and **ACCEPTED** from Councillors O'Donnell and Goodall

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

3. MINUTES

F23/69 Youth Centre – Julie is in process of becoming a trustee, Major Grant – Sam Walker .

4. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENT

F23/70 The.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

F23/71 A member of the public talked about the Lindengate grant application – They fully supported the charity and hopes they do raise the money, but don't feel that this grant should be supported. It was highlighted that they are not in the parish. It was also noted that in the publicly available accounts they have significant reserves and cash balances. Further, it was believed the request did not fit within the Parish Council grant policy which sets out requirements for regional and national organisations unless being able to show that the grant can specifically benefit the Parish. They finished by hoping that they get the money somehow.

F23/72 A member of public mentioned the parking review. They felt that scope of the current works was outside that of the parking review. There are a significant number of existing lines that are being resurfaced/repainted and it is hoped that this is not being paid for by the Community Board. The Clerk would write to confirm who is funding the current works and report back to Council

6. CLERKS REPORT AND CORRESPONDANCE

F23/73 None to report

7. GENERAL REPORTS

F23/74 **Review of the I&E report, EMRs and balance sheet**
The report was reviewed and noted.

F23/75 **To review the over £500 report and VAT reclaim for Oct – Dec 2023**
The report was reviewed and noted.

F23/76 **To review the bank reconciliations for Nov 2023-Jan 2024**
The report was reviewed and noted.

F23/77 **To note the end of year projection**
The report was reviewed and noted.

F23/78 **To receive an update on project costs up to Jan 2024**
The report was reviewed and noted.

F23/79 **To review the Flagstone account statements**
The report was reviewed and noted.

F23/80 To review the internal control checklist

The report was reviewed and noted. It was noted that Cllr Williams would undertake the next batch of transaction sampling and testing.

F23/81 To receive an update on the LGPS pension fund deficit and cessation value

It was noted that the latest statement was not yet available and will be forwarded when it is sent to the office.

8. OTHER MATTERS

a) Major Grant Requests

F23/82 Wendover Canal Trust – the application is a continuation of the canal access and visibility works and should improve the appearance and there will be additional signage. The work is being funded mainly by the canal and rivers trust. There is some works starting already.

It was noted that the plans had been discussed by the Parish Council previously, but no request for funding had been considered. It was **RESOLVED** to approve this grant request for £5000 and this would be granted under the power in the Public Health Act 1875 s 164.

F23/83 Lindengate – The public comments were noted. It was also noted that Lindengate is not in the parish boundary but had received a grant before. It was also noted that the grant policy states that grants are not normally approved for operational expenditure. Whilst the Parish Council fully supports the work of Lindengate it was **RESOLVED** not to award this grant request.

F23/84 Friends of John Hampden School – It was considered that this work should be funded by Buckinghamshire Council but it was agreed that it was not operational expenditure. It was noted that our children are spending so much time indoors and anything that supports the outdoor activities of young people was a positive. It was **RESOLVED** to approve this grant request for up to £5000, based on final costings, to be granted under S137 of the Local Government Act 1972

b) Minor Grant requests

F23/85 It was noted there were no requests.

c) Standing Grant requests

F23/86 Churchyard Committee - It was noted that Churchyard Committee have requested an additional £500 so the request is for £7500 in total. The finance committee considered the application form and noted the use of volunteers for most of the works. It was also felt that £7500 was the rate you would pay for a commercial contractor to undertake the works. It was **RESOLVED** to request a more detailed breakdown before approving the grant. It was further noted at £7500 the current grounds team could employ a part time role to support them and they could undertake the maintenance work. This would need to come back to Parish Council when more information has been received and granted under the Local Government Act 1972, s.214(6)

F23/87 Wendover Youth Centre – The difficulties being faced by the Youth Centre currently were noted. It was further noted that their figures included salaries in their breakdown and that there is a deficit in the accounts that are publicly available. As the grant should not be for operational costs or to cover any deficit. It was **RESOLVED** to ask for an up to date set of accounts and separate out what the £7000 payment contributes towards. It was noted that the Council wants to support the Youth Centre. This would need to come back to Parish Council when more information has been received and granted under the Local Government (Misc Provisions) Act 1976 s19

d) Project Management Policy

F23/88 It was noted that this was very helpful to Council decision making and it was **RESOLVED** to adopt the policy and introduce the Project Information Document format.

e) Transfer fundraised money

F23/89 It was **RESOLVED** to transfer the following monies: £2922.17 from 1262 Fundraising Income to EMR 357 – Skatepark, £1601 from 1214 Christmas Trees to EMR 357 – Skatepark. This is a total of £4523.17 transfer into EMR 357 Skatepark

F23/90 It was **RESOLVED** to authorise the Clerk to transfer any outstanding monies to EMR 357 when they are all collected.

f) LPM 1940s themed event for D Day

F23/91 It was noted that this was being discussed because of an issue of being able to secure the bookings required for the events. The committee **RESOLVED** to approve this event and authorise the Estates and Events Manager to make the bookings.

9. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING AND ITEMS FOR THE AGENDA

F23/92 The meeting on Tue 21st May 2024 at 7:30pm was noted.

10. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

F23/93 It was **RESOLVED** to move the meeting into confidential session (commercially sensitive information)

F23/94 The Manor Waste Lease renewal was discussed and it was **RESOLVED** to accept the new lease and authorise the clerk to sign it off with the leaseholder.

11. CLOSURE OF MEETING

F23/95 As all business was transacted the meeting was closed at:20:20

Signed by *Clive Gallagher*

Chair to the Finance Committee

Date: 28th May 2024