

DRAFT MINUTES OF FINANCE MEETING OF FIVEHEAD PARISH COUNCIL **Held on Monday 18 January 2021 at 1930 - Virtual meeting online using Zoom**

Present:

Mrs K Beacham - Chair (KB); Mrs L Howard (LH); Mrs P Brett (PB); Mrs N Cameron (NC); Dr B Ferguson (BF); Mrs J Parsons - Clerk/RFO (JP)

Attendees confirmed that they understood remote meeting procedures and etiquette. KB advised that the meeting was being recorded using the Zoom facility and the recording would be deleted after the Minutes were agreed.

4046 Public participation

No members of the public attended.

4047 Apologies for absence

Mr K Male

4048 Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

As Members with a property within the administrative area of Fivehead and Swell Parish, the setting of the Parish Precept would relate to or affect a disclosable pecuniary interest that has been registered. Members signed requests for dispensation on camera. Dispensation was granted by the Monitoring Officer to the Members in attendance to allow them to freely and fully participate in relation to setting the Precept for FY21/22.

4049 FY21/22 Finances

- a) After detailed discussions on the revised budget, reserves and Precept figures that had been circulated prior to the meeting, Members agreed a Precept increase of 3% (equivalent to £1.74 pa on Band D charge) for FY21/22. The agreed Precept increase reflected prudence in uncertain times. **Resolution: to set the budget requirement at £15,757 giving a Precept of £15,757 assuming that the Allocation of Grant is £0.** Proposed by LH and seconded by NC. Carried unan.
- b) It was noted that the reserves sheet would be updated for FY21/22 to reflect expenditure in FY20/21 and commitments to fund projects and expenditure in FY21/22.
- c) Following the Clerk/RFO's probationary review, it was agreed that her permanent appointment would be ratified and hours reviewed at the next Council meeting. **Action:** Clerk to add to agenda for February.

4050 Matters of Report, Questions and Items for the Next Meeting

- a) A member of public had raised concern over large quantities of dog waste being disposed of in the ditch on the roadside of the hedge bordering Sunnyside Park, Fivehead. It was agreed that due to the health risks, this should be reported to Environmental Health as soon as possible. It was also noted that this could potentially be due to unlicensed breeding. **Action:** Clerk to report to SSDC Environmental Health.
- b) Following an incident on Iberry Lane, reported by Isle Abbots PC, where a vehicle had come off the road into the ditch causing damage and water to build up, the farmer had made the necessary repairs. Fivehead PC had followed up with Highways on previous safety defects reported, and whilst no budget was available for remedial work this financial year, Highways would ensure any areas were made safe as necessary.
- c) Water draining from fields and overflowing from blocked drainage grates on Cemetery Hill was still causing problems and could freeze causing sheet ice in cold weather. It was agreed that this would be reported to Highways again with photos. **Action:** NC to provide photos for the Clerk to send to Highways.
- d) Fivehead notice board had been updated with the latest contact information.
- e) Updated regulations came into force in December 2020 for poultry keeping due to avian flu; however there were still a number of birds in the Parish that were not being kept under cover. It was agreed that the importance of following the legislation to avoid a local outbreak would be highlighted again. **Action:** PB to post on Facebook/Nextdoor.
- f) It was noted that district planning meetings had been cancelled and some decisions were being outsourced to authorities who had no local knowledge, and were confined to desk-based

investigations. It was agreed that this would be raised at the next meeting for further discussion.
Action: Clerk to add to Feb agenda.

4051 Date of Next Meeting - Monday 1 February 2021 at 1930 via Zoom

The meeting closed at 8.30pm.

Chairman..... Dated.....