

PEWSEY PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE FINANCE & STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD ON 1st MAY 2019
IN THE PARISH OFFICE, BOUVERIE HALL, PEWSEY

PRESENT: Cllr Mrs Stevens (Chair), Cllrs Mrs Carmichael-Owen, Mrs Dalrymple, Mrs Saunders, Cllrs Carder, Deck, Del Mar, Eyles, Giles, Hagan, Haskell, McGarry, Morris, Smith and Stevens.

The Chair welcomed Cllr Mrs Saunders and Cllr Del Mar to their first Finance & Strategic Management Committee meeting.

IN ATTENDANCE: Alison Kent (Clerk).

1. APOLOGIES: Cllr Ford, Cllrs Ann Hogg, Mrs Hunt and Kerry Pycroft.

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST: None.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING: All being in agreement, the minutes of the meeting held on 30th January 2019 were signed as a true record by the Chair.

4. FINANCE:

Current balances as at 1st May: Santander Current Account £76,143.15

Santander Community Instant Reserve Account: £70,094.70

Lloyds Business Account: £475.50

Lloyds Fixed Term Deposit: £60,000.00

Santander Community Instant Reserve Account (Admin): £7,100.90

The budget sheet to 31st March had been circulated to all members with accompanying notes, which reflected the end of year position prior to the completion of the annual accounting statements.

Authorisation of payments as listed were proposed by Cllr Morris, seconded Cllr McGarry, all in favour.

Quotations for a new noticeboard to be sited on the side wall of the public toilets had been obtained. Discussion took place on whether the provision of noticeboards was the best way to communicate with the public. Cllr Deck reminded members that the Council had a statutory duty to publicise its meetings and public notices. Cllr Smith stated that not everyone had online access and Cllr Giles said it was extremely useful to publicise organised events. Cllr Haskell felt the Council had to reserve its right to remove notices if they had been left for some time or were considered unsuitable. Cllr Morris advised that a new noticeboard had been agreed by the former Community and Conservation Committee as the existing noticeboard was in need of repair and was not large enough for all information posters to be displayed. The location would also be covered by CCTV. Cllr Morris proposed that the quotation from Earth Anchors Ltd be accepted, seconded Cllr Giles, 13 for, 2 against. The existing noticeboard would continue to be maintained at present.

Distribution of Reserves – Discussion took place on whether the earmarked reserve funds were proportioned correctly. Cllr Stevens felt council should consider placing additional funds to play areas as there had been a lot of expenditure recently due to vandalism. The Clerk added that there was an annual repair budget of £2,000 in addition to the earmarked funds for play areas. Cllr Deck felt that council should wait to finalise the play area action plan as part of the service devolution and asset transfer package.

Cllr Haskell proposed that the earmarked reserves for the public toilets be credited at £2,500 per annum, seconded Cllr Deck, all in favour.

5. TO CONSIDER DONATION REQUESTS: Members were aware that the donation of £420 from Pewsey Scout Group had not been used towards the former BMX site as originally planned. Works had taken place to install a new fence at the Scout Hut to ensure proper safety for its members. Additionally, a request had been received from the group for a donation towards some archery equipment. Cllr Morris proposed that the £420 be returned to the group and made up to £500 for the fence from the general fund, with an additional £500 for the archery equipment from the earmarked youth services reserve, seconded Cllr McGarry, all in favour.

6. ONGOING AND FUTURE PROJECTS:

Anti-Dog fouling campaign – Cllr Smith reported that following the presentation at the Community Morning, publicity had taken place in the Messenger and on social media, with the artwork completed for the winning posters of the Primary School poster competition. The Clerk had chased for the quotations for posters, vinyl stickers and signs. Hotspots had been identified around the village. He would like to see the council purchase extra litter bins to be placed in some of the strategic hotspots, with permission of any landowners, as the public would then perceive that action was being taken. Cllr Eyles agreed that some of the parishes litter bins had been relocated as people were using them to get rid of their household waste instead of using their own bins.

Cllr Smith suggested that two or three new bins could be purchased, matched with the hotspots and litter bin survey and then added to the litter picker’s schedule. Cllr Del Mar cautioned not to add too much in the way of street furniture. Cllr Smith explained that part of the project was to consider a red/amber/green designation on parish council land so that dog owners knew whether they were permitted or not.

Cllr Morris proposed a maximum budget of £650 be set for the purchase of new litter bins for this project, seconded Cllr Giles, 14 for, 1 abstention.

Planters – Cllr Kerry Pycroft had obtained quotations for planters to be placed either side of the Memorial bench. Cllr Stevens explained his idea for the area which was to paint the ground underneath the seat green, at no cost to the Council. Pewsey Vale School’s art department would then be asked to paint a poppy either side of the seat. It was felt that planters around the seat would urbanise it and then be potentially abused. There were other areas in the centre of the village that could be considered.

Cllr Mrs Stevens proposed to accept the plan as stated above, seconded Cllr Morris, all in favour.

Bridge painting – Cllr Kerry Pycroft had provided details of the bridges that required attention. The Clerk would investigate whether some of the works could be undertaken by the Parish Steward.

7. CORRESPONDENCE: None.

8. FULL COUNCIL INFORMATION: Cllr Haskell advised that Mrs Dewey would be celebrating her 100th birthday on 7th May and he would be presenting a bouquet to her on behalf of the Council. The Robert Pilon concert would take place on 8th June at Pewsey Vale School in aid of Wiltshire Air Ambulance, Pewsey Carnival and Salvation Army. Tickets were on sale at Cossors shop. The next meeting relating to the Service Devolution and Asset Transfer from Wiltshire Council would take place on 8th May with himself, Cllr Smith and Cllr Ann Hogg in attendance. It would provide an explanation of the process but would not involve any negotiations. A full report would be given at Full Council on 14th May

9. ITEMS VIA THE CLERK: The Clerk reminded members there was no meeting next week. The Annual Parish Meeting would take place at 6.30pm, followed by the Annual General Meeting of the Council at 7pm on the 14th May.

There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting at 7.42pm after thanking members for attending.

Signed..... Date.....