

Brinsworth Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE FINANCE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 23 JANUARY 2020

Those present :

Chairman : Cllr A Buckley

Vice-Chairman : Cllr J Williams

**Councillors : Cllr R Bowler, Cllr Mrs P Gregory, Cllr Mrs M Hughes, Cllr S Ridge,
Cllr Mrs M Rollinson, Cllr Mrs K Saxton, Cllr Mrs J Tompkins**

Officers : Mrs G Blank

2381F Public Question Time (20 minutes)

There were no members of the public in attendance.

2382F Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs Barry and Dyson the reasons given were approved.

2383F Declaration of Members' Interests

The Chairman asked Councillors to express any declarations of interest prior to the relevant item being discussed.

2384F Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on :-

19th December 2019

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on the 19th December 2019 are approved as a true and accurate record.

2385F To Receive Information on Ongoing Issues and Decide Further Action Where Necessary

There were no ongoing issues to discuss.

2386F Financial Report

The Clerk reported that the bank balance totalled £ 39,749.25 as at the 23rd January 2020. Outstanding payments will bring the balance up to £166,721.99.

The balance of reserves left is £106,225.58

Copies of the bank reconciliation for December had been circulated prior to the meeting and Councillors checked that the bank statement and bank reconciliation balanced for the period.

RESOLVED: That the financial report is reconciled and approved for December 2019.

2387F Receipts & Payments

a) To risk assess the receipts and payments for December 2019

The Clerk presented the list of receipts and payments for December 2019 and the total for each was checked against the bank reconciliation.

RESOLVED: That the receipts and payments list for December 2019 are risk assessed and approved.

b) To risk assess the petty cash reimbursement

There was no petty cash reimbursement to risk assess.

c) To approve the payment of outstanding invoices

The Clerk made Councillors aware of the outstanding invoices for payment and presented the list for approval.

RESOLVED: That the list of outstanding invoices for payment is approved.

2388F Equipment

- To discuss the portable sound system

The Chairman informed Councillors that he had been approached by Cllr Dyson about the portable sound system he had purchased for an event he had held at the Centre and left it with them to use. He was not happy how the system was being stored and has asked if the item can either be returned or purchased from him.

Councillors discussed the issue and agreed that they have no need for the item so are not in a position to purchase it from him. The Clerk said she would ask the Trustees of the Centre if they wished to purchase it at their next meeting.

RESOLVED: That the Parish Council has no use for a portable sound system and therefore are unable to purchase the item. The Clerk will ask Brinsworth Community Trust if they wish to purchase it and respond to Cllr Dyson.

2389F Precept *

- To consider and approve the level of precept for 2020/2021 (analysis showing implications of increases will be supplied before the meeting)

In preparation for discussions the Clerk had circulated copies of the precept calculation prior to the meeting for Councillors to discuss. Previous years precept levels have been set at 15.64, 15 & 12 %. Councillors agreed that the percentage should be reduced but still needed to cover the increased costs the Parish Council will incur.

The Clerk informed Councillors of the likely minimum wage increase, increases on waste disposal costs, utility and rate costs increases due to the Pavilion extension for the Library, additional costs for events such as VE commemorations and Yorkshire Day as well as the high costs of Parish Council elections to cover should any seats be contested. With all this in mind the Clerk suggested an increase of 9%.

Councillors discussed the suggestion and what this would mean for residents on an annual basis. The Clerk informed them that on a Band B property (which the majority of properties in Brinsworth fall into) will see an annual increase of £9.94 if the increase is set at 9%.

Other percentage increases were debated.

RESOLVED: That the increase in Parish precept for 2020/2021 is set at 9%.

2390F Budget *

- To approve the 2020/2021 draft budget (to be supplied in advance of the meeting for consideration)

The Clerk had previously circulated a draft budget for Councillors to consider prior to the budget. The Clerk highlighted the increases:

- Additional staffing costs due to an increased rise in the minimum wage.
- Additional staffing costs due to the Parish Council employing an additional litter picker to meet the demands of the work.
- Increased costs of waste disposal.
- Increased costs associated with the extension of the Pavilion such as utility bills and rates.
- Costs associated with employing Active Regen to provide sports activities for children and adults.
- Costs associated with additional national events for residents (VE Day weekend).
- Costs associated with the local elections to be held in May 2020.

The Clerk had also earmarked an amount for the following reserves:

- Play equipment - to continue improving the parks.
- Footpath repairs - current reserved used to install steps, some footpaths on the playing field will require repairing in 2020.
- Premises improvement - to complete refurbishments needed to the changing room facilities and the toilets in the Pavilion.
- Tree Maintenance - The Parish Council needs to build up a reserve to enable them to deal with the necessary maintenance of trees on their property.
- Field Drainage - A reserve is needed to meet the costs of resolving the field drainage issues which is causing issues for local residents and football games being cancelled on a regular basis.

Councillors considered the budget and thanked the Clerk for her efforts pulling the information together for them.

RESOLVED: That the draft budget presented to Councillors by the Clerk is approved for 2020/21.

MEETING CLOSED: 19:15