

FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

MINUTES of the Wrockwardine Wood & Trench Parish Council Finance Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 5th March 2019 at the Parish Council Centre, Church Road, Wrockwardine Wood at 6.00pm.

PRESENT: Cllr's. Mrs S.A. Watkins (Chair), L. Madeley, C. Smith, H. Smith and J. Thompson

18/1072 Welcome by the Chairman

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

18/1073 Apologies

All members were present.

18/1074 Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

None were disclosed.

18/1075 Grant Request

The Clerk advised the Committee that there is £450 remaining in the grants budget for the current financial year. The Committee discussed the following grant applications:

Wellington Brass Band

RESOLVED – to award a grant of £50 to Wellington (Telford) Brass Band towards the cost of instruments and music.

Hope House Children's Hospice.

RESOLVED – to award a grant of £200 to Hope House Children's Hospice, Oswestry towards nursing care.

Citizens Advice Shropshire

The Committee considered a grant request from Citizens Advice Shropshire for help to provide a GP Outreach Service in the Albrighton area. The Committee were advised that there are already outreach sessions running in the Telford area which we sign post residents too, therefore, the application was declined.

Councillors pointed out that any request for support from Citizens Advice Telford would be looked upon favourably.

18/1076 Request for litter bin

Cllr Charles Smith reported that residents have complained that there is no litter/dog waste bin in the Lineton Close/Pickering Road/Richmond Avenue area. Councillors discussed whether the outstanding litter bin to be provided by Telford & Wrekin Council earmarked for the playing fields at the bottom of Gibbons Road could be used in Lineton Close.

RESOLVED – that the Finance Committee agreed for the Clerk to arrange for the litter bin earmarked for Gibbons Road playing field to be installed in Lineton Close

18/1077 Review contract for grass cutting

Due to changes in contractor for our environmental team and grass cutting service, it has been necessary to review the grass cutting contract.

ID Verde have provided a quote which is more than double the original cost but want to cut the grass every week. The Clerk has asked if the Committee are in agreement to get quotes from other contractors and ask ID Verde to requote for a 14-week programme.

The Committee asked the Clerk to get further quotes to be reviewed at the next Finance meeting.

18/1078 Railing in Church Road

The Parish Council had previously agreed to fund the installation (ref:18/3073) of railings at the top of Church Road for the safety of young people attending the Priory secondary school.

The Clerk reported that following a conversation with TWC Safer Schools Department, she had learned that both the Telford Priory School and Wrock – wardine Wood Infant School are each to receive £15k in the new financial year for Safer School projects.

The Finance Committee agreed to put plans to install railings at the top of Church Road on hold until it is clear what work has been agreed as part of the Safer Schools project.

18/1079 Budget update

The Clerk distributed a copy of the current budget as at 5th March 2019 for Information, his included a breakdown of expenditure under each individual budget headings.

A problem was highlighted by the Clerk that TWC Finance Department have emailed her to say they did not receive the precept return on time and therefore, they used the original figure of £115,992 which the Clerk provisionally suggested would be figure for the 2019/20 precept rather than the £115,178 agreed at Full Council on 12th February 2019. The difference of £814 was to be taken from reserves.

Cllr Charles Smith was very disappointed that the error had occurred and was unhappy that TWC went ahead and published the council tax letters without checking with the Clerk that the figure was correct.

18/1060 Date & Venue of the next meeting

To be agreed

Meeting finished at 6.40pm.

Signed.....
Chair.

Date