
Hollinswood and Randlay Parish Council

Chairman of the Committee: Cllr H Unwin Clerk: Katrina Baker MBE MILCM

FINANCE & AUDIT COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 16th January 2023 at 8.00pm at Hollinswood Neighbourhood Centre.

Present: Councillor H Unwin
Councillor S Vaughan-Hodkinson
Councillor S Unwin
Councillor S Snell
Councillor C Turley
Councillor J Johnson
Councillor L Ricketts

In Attendance: Katrina Baker, Clerk
Councillor Creed

FA23/839

Welcome

Councillor H Unwin welcomed members to the meeting, wished them a Happy New Year, and thanked them for attending.

FA23/840

Apologies

Councillor Holt

Leave of Absence

FA23/841

Declarations of Interest

Councillor S Unwin

Matters relating to RPS and FoHRV

Councillor S Vaughan-Hodkinson

Matters relating to FoHRV, SBPC and FoTTP

Councillor H Unwin

Matters relating to RPS, FoHRV and SBPC

Councillor J Johnson

Matters relating to HPS

Members, resident in the Parish, received a Dispensation to be able to take part in the discussions relating to the budget and precept.

Katrina Baker

Hollinswood Primary School (Governor)

FA23/842

Minutes of the meeting held on 5th December 2022

It was proposed by Cllr S Unwin and seconded by Cllr C Turley, all were in favour and thus it was

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 5th December 2022 are a true record and they will be signed by the Chairman.

Matters Arising

All matters are included on the Agenda.

Financial Reports**a) Current Balances and Investments**

The balances at the end of December had been circulated to all Members. £185,131.64 is available in the Current Account.

b) Payments

A full list of all payments in December had been circulated to Members. Members used this opportunity to ask questions from the details provided including income streams.

c) Loft Ladder and Boards

Members considered a request for funding (up to £2848) to be available to purchase a loft ladder and boards, to be installed at The Pavilion.

Further discussions took place regarding the importance of having suitable and adequate storage provision for the PA system and gazebos, without taking valuable storage provision from user groups. It was therefore, proposed by Councillor Vaughan-Hodkinson, seconded by Councillor Turley, all were in favour and thus it is

RECOMMENDED that funding be available to purchase the aluminium loft ladder and boards, to be installed at the Pavilion as soon as possible.

d) Budget 2023/24

A revised budget had been circulated, taking into consideration the Parish Strategy, as agreed by Members following their strategy meetings.

The Clerk had assessed the commitments further and reduced the budget to £457080 and this included £20,000 allocated for work in Randlay Valley in relation to Ash Dieback.

Councillor Ricketts questioned the funding needed to keep the three community buildings available. However, there was a commitment in the Strategy for this. Although it may be a consideration for 2024/25.

This year's budget had required a precept of £235273 which equated to £159.91 per Band D property. Due to a small increase in housing numbers, this annual figure would raise £236683 in 2023/24.

Members considered the options at length, especially relating to the Randlay Valley expenditure and agreed that this may need to be spread over into the following year as the additional funding would result in an excessive percentage increase for council tax payers in the Parish.

It was agreed to reduce this budget heading to £10,000 this year. With a 4% increase, the revised precept figure would be £256150 which would mean a monthly payment (per Band D property) of £169.81 which equates to an 82p per month increase per property.

Councillor Snell proposed that the Parish Council could request a precept of £266150 to enable funding to be available for the Valley, if required. This would result in an increase of £1.30 per month per Band D property. There was no seconder for this proposal.

It was proposed by Councillor Ricketts and seconded by Councillor Vaughan-Hodkinson that the Parish Council sets its precept at £256,150.00 for 2023/24, all were in favour and therefore it is

RECOMMENDED that Hollinswood & Randlay Parish Council requests TWC to collect a precept of £256,150 on its behalf.

Members agreed that it would be important to explain to local residents why there has been an increase in the precept, especially in relation to the work at Randlay Valley which is necessary, albeit out of our control.

FA23/845

Governance Report

a) Risk Management

Whilst this continues to be monitored closely, the Risk Management Plan is under review and will be circulated to Members as soon as it is completed.

b) Accidents and Near Misses

Hollinswood Neighbourhood Centre – Near Miss

A report had been received from the Wizards Co-Ordinator regarding a near miss involving the mirror in the main hall.

There had been no injury.

The parents of the two boys had confirmed that both had not been hurt in any way.

The mirror has been made safe and the company contacted to undertake the necessary repair.

Members confirmed that it is important that all staff feel comfortable and confident to report all accidents and near misses, when necessary, and that the Parish Council will act appropriately on receipt of the information.

FA23/846

Other Matters

None

FA23/847

Date of the next meeting

27th February 2023

8pm.

Council Chamber

The Chairman thanked Members for their contributions and closed the meeting at 8.55pm.

SignedDate