

Minutes of the Finance Committee
held on Monday 20th November 2023
at The Pavilion London Road

Members: Cllr Mrs P Bosley (Chairman) Cllr I Bosley, Cllr S Gray, Cllr D King, Cllr Mrs M Richards, Cllr Mrs V Bennett, Cllr P Chalk, Cllr R McCarthy, Cllr Mrs J Watchorn, Cllr R Seal

Apologies Cllr G Christie

Declarations of interest - No declarations of interest declared

Financial Summary

A full set of accounts showing budget headings was given to all members. The Chairman gave a full explanation regarding the Councils budgeting processes and explained allocated funds. Comprehensive accounts have to be held as a Parish Council.

1. Public Works Loan Board re payments

It was explained by the Chairman that in February 2013 the Parish Council took out a loan for 25 year fixed rate of 4.29% of £290,000 to pay towards the new Village Hall building, with the Parish Council paying loan repayments totalling £19,024.52 a year. The hall makes no payments to this loan however all rents received for lets is put back into the upkeep and repairs of the building. The Village Hall Management Committee has a Lease from the Parish Council to manage and run the hall and is a registered charity. The Parish Council retains the freehold.

In addition to the Public Worlds Loan board the hall was funded as follows

Village Hall Bank Account	
(Monies from old village hall sale and fundraising)	£ 277,747.00
Parish Council	£ 250,000.00
KCC grant awarded	£ 50,000.00
SDC – Grant applied for	£ 10,000.00

Totalling £877,747.00

Cllr Chalk arrived

Cllr I Bosley explained that there could be an option to repay some of the loan back early and had expressed that the Parish Council could use funds from the Parish Council property fund to make these payments. Cllr Seal and Cllr McCarthy expressed concern that more Council funds would be used to pay for something when they are only the owners of the land and lease the building. At this stage Parish Council were not considering any additional payment and had other projects including the purchase of burial ground land that would use funds.

2. Lease Agreement between Parish Council and Village Hall:

The Parish Council own the land that the Village Hall sits on as freeholders. Although Village hall maintain the bunding and car park as users it is not owned by the hall. There is also a counterpart lease between the Village Hall Management Committee and the West Kingsdown Boxing Club agreed in 2016. The Management Committee consists of representatives of users of the hall, two parishioners, five representatives of the Parish Council. An Annual General Meeting is held each year in July when parishioners and officers are elected.

3.To consider Grant Applications received from:

Friends of West Kingsdown Primary school	Not awarded
Boxing Club	£100.00
Kingsdown Racers	£100.00
West Kingsdown Pre School	Not awarded funds
Community Cupboard	£300.00
St Edmunds Church leading lights	£25.00
St.Edmunds Church toddler group	£25.00
We are Beams	Not awarded

Proposed by Cllr I Boley and seconded by Cllr King grants totalling £550.00 should be paid
ALL IN FAVOUR

NB Budget for Grant Scheme £1,000 leaving £450 in the budget pot

4. New Requests for works

All Members should be involved in decisions, and it would be the correct procedure to bring any ideas to the Members of the Public and Councillors part of the full Parish Council meeting for full discussion. Then appropriate action or quotes can then be obtained by the clerk to be included on future agenda papers
AGREED

5 .Clerks salary - Confidential minutes tabled for Members

Clerks National scale – the scale and pay award has been agreed from National Association of Local Councils for 2023/24 and will see an increase in the clerks salary of 5.76% back dated till 1st April arrears to appear on November Payroll.

The Clerk is currently paid on national agreements between the NALC and the SLCC at LC2 (Point 31) at 78.5 % of full time rate, (29 hours per week).

Pension details for reference

KCC Employers pension contribution from 1 April 2012/23 remained at 22.5%.employers contribution and 6.5 % employees rate
Annual rate of employer pension contribution is currently calculated at £544 per month

The Clerk left the meeting