

# Wheatley Parish Council

## Finance Committee Minutes Monday 18th December

**Present:** Cllrs R Bell (RB), P Gregory (PG), Lamont (DL), Newman (TN) (Chair), M Shields (MS), P Willmott (PW).

**Members of the public:** 1 representative Goodman Nash

No	Item	Action
51.	<b>APOLOGIES for Absence</b> – none	
52.	<b>DECLARATIONS of Interest</b> – TN declared his interest as an SODC councillor.	
53.	<p>Due to the attendance of Steve Shivers (SS) from Goodman Nash it was decided to take Agenda Item 4iii first.</p> <p>SS gave a summary of services provided by Goodman Nash (GN) and potential Central Government Relief on Business Rates. Historic saving would be from 31 Mar 2012 and equated to £8,452 of which GN have proposed 35% fees. The process would be handled by GN and would take approx. 6-8 weeks.</p> <p>WPC would have a zero liability for the next 4 years.</p> <p>It was noted that the Growth board have put a bid forward for Oxfordshire to retain 100% of future business rates, however no decision has been made.</p> <p>MS asked for clarification on risks and GN confirmed RICS membership.</p> <p>PW made a proposal, seconded by RB to agree to this proposal in principle. 4 votes were received in favour with 2 abstentions.</p> <p>Once SS had left a further discussion took place and it was proposed by MS, seconded by PG that a negotiated rate of 20%-25% should be sought with the Clerk given delegated powers to further negotiate up to the original 35%. All voted in favour.</p>	
	<b>Clerk to liaise with Goodman Nash</b>	<b>Clerk</b>
53.	<b>MINUTES AND UPDATES OF THE PREVIOUS FINANCE COMMITTEE</b>	
	i) 19 <sup>th</sup> October 2017 – were agreed and signed by the Chair as a true record of the meeting.	
54.	<b>TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE from the Clerk</b>	
	i. VAS – Clerk provided an update on the three varying quotes received. PG proposed, seconded by PW to accept the Westcotec quote. This was agreed unanimously	
	ii. Play equipment – replacement spinner ordered and awaiting removal and replacement date from HAGS. Total costs of £4,790.64	
	iii. Goodman Nash Correspondence – discussed earlier in the meeting.	
	iv. New Financial Regulations circulated.	
	v. Parish office rent and improvements 4% rent increase from Oct 2017. Painting work nearing completion. The Clerk would also like to install shelving, which was agreed.	
	vi. CIL report 2016-17 not required as no CIL received during this period Planning Committee should investigate any concerns over CIL applicable properties.	

- 55. TO RECEIVE A BUDGET UPDATE FROM WHEATLEY NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN** – received. The committee discussed WNP budget for 2018-19 MS proposed, seconded by DL that £5,000 be allocated for advertising the referendum, this was agreed unanimously.  
It was also clarified that SODC would cover the referendum costs.
- 56. TO RECEIVE A BUDGET UPDATE FROM THE MAPLE TREE CENTRE**  
– circulated with the agenda. Budgets seem healthy.
- 57. RESOLUTION THAT FOLLOWING THE DECISION AT THE FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING ON THE 19TH OCTOBER 2017 AND THE RECEIPT OF FURTHER INFORMATION SUPPLIED BY THE WHEATLEY ARCHIVE GROUP THAT THE AMOUNT TO BE PAID FOR THE CURRENT FINANCIAL YEAR TO 31ST MARCH 2018 AS A CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS THE RENT PAID TO THE MERRY BELLS BE INCREASED TO £1,500 AND THAT A FULL REPORT BE SUBMITTED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE TO ENABLE A MORE PERMANENT AGREEMENT TO BE PUT IN PLACE FOR THE PERIOD 1ST APRIL 2018 ONWARDS.”** - Proposed By RB, seconded by DL. 5 votes were received in favour and 1 abstention.  
**Clerk to arrange cheque to be sent** **Clerk**
- 58. TO REVIEW GRANT APPLICATIONS**  
i. Oxfordshire South & Vale Citizens Advice grant reviewed.  
RB, seconded by PG a grant of £250. This was agreed unanimously  
**Clerk to arrange cheque to be sent** **Clerk**
- 59. TO REVIEW BUDGET FOR 2017-18**  
A review of the current budget was undertaken and it was agreed to maintain the budgets as they are.  
**RECOMMEND BUDGET WITH PRECEPT FOR 2018-19**  
A review of the proposed budget was discussed along with potential projects. TN proposed, seconded by PG that the precept is fixed as previous year. This recommendation will be taken to full council in January 2018.  
**Clerk to add to the agenda** **Clerk**
- 60. Financial management**  
i) Budget 2017/18 (as 11 Dec 2017) – already discussed in item 59.  
ii) Balances – circulated with agenda. RB asked for the presentation to be changed to make it clearer. **RB to discuss this with the Clerk.** PG to review. **Clerk/  
RB  
/PG**  
iii) Reconciled bank statement checked and signed by the TN.
- 61. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS AUTHORISED (INC. PAYMENT CARD)** - circulated with agenda and approved.
- 62. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**  
i) Email from Cllr Johnston re Communities Grants noted
- 63 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION** - none
- 64. DATE OF NEXT MEETING** – Monday 19th February