

Peterston-super-Ely Community Council
Cyngor Cymuned a Llanbedr-y-Fro

Minutes of the Finance Sub Committee Meeting held at 5:00pm on Tuesday 21st December, 2021 remotely on Zoom

Present: Cllr D Field, Cllr J Drysdale & Cllr Moody-Jones

Also Present: Tor Trundle (Clerk to the Council)

5 Apologies

There were no apologies.

6 Consideration of progress on reviewing current Council contracts

The Village Maintenance sub-committee had met earlier in the month and cutting processes had been discussed. The Finance Sub- Committee reviewed the following areas:

Verges – currently the contractor mows both sides of the river, from the white bridge to the end of road leading to Wyndham Park way. The Committee asked if the Clerk could clarify if both these areas are definitely under the jurisdiction of the Community Council. It was also felt that it would be beneficial to only cut on the side of the bollards that enables pedestrians to use as a footpath and the area closer to the road could be left to grow wild. It was suggested that an area around 6ft wide be cut and that the area closer to the river only cut at certain times and in line with the conditions associated with sites of special scientific interest (SSSI) and NRW. Areas around and in front of the benches would need to be maintained. Cllr Moody-Jones confirmed he had a plan that he would circulate to the Clerk to be included with the request for quotation.

Churchyard – The Churchyard committee had met and agreed the areas that could be mowed less, moving forward.

Playground – Normal mowing but attention would need to be made to the carpet which had been damaged by the mower and maintenance with regards to the hedge once this was planted around the fence,

Playing field – the current contractor had provided notice and it was agreed that certain areas would now be left to become wild. These would be section near the railway line and over to the right-hand side of the MUGA. Areas around the benches would be maintained to ensure the seating was still accessible.

It was generally agreed that it would be good to seek a framework from the contractors that allowed the Community Council to request certain practices at certain times, rather than maintain a strict regular schedule. The Clerk would set out a request for quotation and allow the Finance Committee to review. It was hoped that the process could be achieved prior to the end of the financial year.

Action: Clerk to clarify the Community Council's jurisdiction on verge cuts. Cllr Moody-Jones to forward plan of the riverbank to the Clerk.

7 Review current budget in relation to 2021/22 and consider appropriate precept and reserve levels for 2022/23

The Sub-Committee reviewed the receipts and the expenditure. Cllr Drysdale wondered if the budget could be presented in a slightly different format and the Clerk confirmed she

would ensure that the distinction between this year's budget and next year was clearer. Cllr Drysdale asked about the grant received in respect of the Wind turbine and why it was classed as a grant and not as a different form of receipt. The Clerk confirmed that she would contact the Clerk at St Georges and check. The Cllrs asked about the replacement of the salt in the bins around the village. No reports had been received of any that needed filling currently. In relation to the maintenance fees for the MUGA, it was suggested that the Clerk contact the new treasurer of TaSC.

It was suggested that a line be included in the budget for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee event that would be held in the summer. The Clerk would add a line and a figure for £500 was suggested for approval by the Council in January. The level of reserves were discussed and Cllr Drysdale felt that it may be appropriate to place the grant received from St Georges placed in a sub-control account for use for repairs on the playing field or playground. It was felt that an appropriate amount, in total £2000 be placed to one side for any future repairs that may be required.

The precept was also discussed and it was agreed that it would be appropriate to ask the Community Council to leave the precept at £23,000. This would ensure that the current general reserve would be maintained at an appropriate level in line with recommendations by the External Auditors and it would allow for the Community Council to continue to place a figure of £2000 aside each year.

Action: The Clerk would contact St George's Clerk to determine why the receipt is classed as a grant. The Clerk would amend the budget review to ensure it was clear between this year and next year's budget. The Clerk would contact TaSC's treasurer to discuss MUGA expenditure. A line would be included for the Jubilee event and this set at £500. The Precept would be proposed at the January meeting for £23,000. A sub-control account would also be suggested for future playground and playing field repairs and maintenance and that £2000 be set aside each year as a minimum.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 18:10pm

Chair _____

Date _____