



MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE ON 15 JANUARY 2024

Present Cllrs F King (Chairman), V Buosi, P Dodgson; J McClung, Clerk/RFO

24/F/001 **Apologies for Absence**

Cllr E Best

24/F/002 **Declarations of Interest**

24/F/008 – Cllr King, Village Hall hedges

24/F/003 **Minutes of the Previous Meeting of the Committee**

The minutes of the meeting on 4th October 2023 were approved by the Committee and signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record.

24/F/004 **Expenditure Against Budget**

- a) Members received and approved a detailed report on expenditure against budget to 31st December 2023.
- b) Members received and approved a summary of Ear Marked reserves to 31st December 2023.

24/F/005 **Bank Accounts**

- a) Members received a summary of the Council's bank statement. It was noted that the Council's General Reserves are low and that spend outside of the budget should be limited for the time being.
- b) Members discussed the possible consolidation of the Council's two Lloyds savings accounts. It was agreed that the Bequest fund should remain in a separate account. No action to be taken.

24/F/006 **Strategic Documents for Review**

- a) Financial Regulations: Members agreed to amend clause 4.1 of the regulations, as set out in the appendix, and as recommended by the internal auditor. Committee to recommend to Full Council that the Regulations are amended and adopted for a further 12 months.
- b) Investment and Banking Policy: Members received and approved a draft policy. Committee to recommend to Full Council that the policy is adopted at its meeting on 16 January 2024.

24/F/007 **WHPC Community Grants**

Members received an application for a grant of £2000 from West Horsley Place Trust to help complete its Sensory Garden project. Committee to recommend to Full Council that the grant is approved providing the application is amended to include the wording "*Once completed, the garden will be open to the public, for free. Access to the sensory garden will remain free in perpetuity for West Horsley residents.*"

24/F/008 **Village Hall Hedges**

It was noted that the Village Hall Facilities Manager is going to do the work, and therefore the matter of funding is no longer an issue.

Chairman's Initials: _____

24/F/009 Annual Subscriptions

Members reviewed the 2023/24 subscriptions and agreed to recommend to Full Council that the following are continued in 2024/25:

- 1. Surrey Association of Local Council/National Association of Local Councils
- 2. Society of Local Council Clerks
- 3. Association of Local Council Clerks
- 4. Campaign to Protect Rural England
- 5. Surrey Hill Society
- 6. London Green Belt Council

The Committee recommends the following memberships are not renewed:

- 1. Guildford Residents Association
- 2. Guildford Environmental Forum

24/F/010 Climate Change

Members discussed options for supporting the Horsleys CAN group in 2024/25. This matter to be deferred until the next Finance Committee meeting.

24/F/011 S106 Updates

None to report

24/F/012 Date of Next Finance Committee Meeting

Wednesday 10 April 2024 at 9.30am in the Rubin Room.

24/F/013 Any Other Matters

Cllr Booth still has funding available for capital improvements projects from his Councillor Community Fund for 2023/24. This matter to be discussed under Any Other Matters at the Full Council meeting on 16 January. Finance Committee to propose an application is made for funding towards its Village Gateway Signs project. If Full Council is in agreement, an Extraordinary Finance Committee meeting will be held to approve the application.

The meeting was closed at 10:35am.

Signed by the Chairman of the Finance Committee as a true and accurate record:

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Date:

Chairman's Initials: _____