

# MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE ON TUESDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2021 HELD VIRTUALLY VIA ZOOM COMMENCING AT 7.30PM

## 66/21 PRESENT

Cllrs Adam (in the chair), Boswell, Jones, Mannington and Tippen were present. Cllrs Robertson and Turner together with the Clerk were also in attendance.

## 67/21 APOLOGIES

Cllr Stevens had given his apologies. Apologies were also received from Cllrs Barker and Brown although not appointed Members of the Finance Committee.

## 68/21 APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

The Minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2020 were agreed as a true record. They would be signed at the next face to face meeting.

# 69/21 PARISH COUNCILLOR DETAILS

**Declarations of Interest** 

Cllr Boswell declared an interest in Southons Field as neighbouring resident. Changes to Register of Interests

There were no changes to Cllrs Register of Interests

#### **Granting of Dispensation**

There were no requests for dispensation of any item on this agenda

#### 70/21 IDENTIFICATION OF ITEMS INVOLVING PUBLIC SPEAKING No members of the public were in attendance

# 71/21 2020/21 FINANCE YEAR

The Clerk had circulated an updated budget to the end of December 2020 together with updated forecast to the end of the financial year. There was an increase in the training and audit budgets and Cllrs agreed to remove the £2,000 for professional fees for this financial year. It was also proposed, and agreed, that the remainder of the CoVid-19 grant received from MBC (£12,096) would be transferred to capital with any further grants also being transferred. Cllrs wished it minuted that these grants would not be used for any project, other than for those which were CoVid-19 related (ie changes to parish office for clerks' return to work). This would be revisited at the budget meeting in December 2021. No further questions were raised and Cllrs agreed the content.

# 72/21 FINANCIAL PLAN

Cllr Adam screen shared the four-year financial plan and updated it with the revised forecasts. Further discussions on this would follow the 2021/22 budget and precept discussions.

#### 73/21 2021/22 BUDGET

The draft budget and been circulated to Cllrs following the discussions held on 1<sup>st</sup> December. Amendments were made to the expenditure budget for insurance (additional equipment), franking machine rental (purchase of ink), postage (increase in postage in January 2020), Covid-19 expenditure, now PPE expenditure and a separate budget heading for Diffusers. Changes were also made in the income budget: decrease for playing field (reduced games played by football clubs), decrease in interment of ashes (based on 2020/21 figures), increase in Parish Services Scheme and a separate budget heading for Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) income. The document would be updated and recirculated to all Cllrs for ratification at next week's Council Meeting.

#### 74/21 2021/22 PRECEPT

Notification had been received from MBC with information that the tax base for 2021/22 had increased to 2047.4. The Clerk had provided figures of what this would mean if the Band D payment were to remain the same as previous two years (£74.57) and if a 2% increase was added. After discussion it was agreed that the Precept for 2021/22 would remain at £74.57 for Band D properties equating to £152.674.61.

# 75/21 OTHER FINANCIAL ISSUES

## Four-Year Financial Plan

The financial plan was then updated with the budget changes and precept for 2021/22. The Clerk was asked to review and circulate to all Cllrs prior to next week's meeting. Cllr Adam would review the graphs to ensure they worked alongside the amended budget.

### 76/21 INVOICES

The following invoices had been circulated to Cllrs prior to the meeting and were read out by the Clerk: Viking – newsletter and office supplies - £54.34 Auditing Solutions – interim audit - £408.00 KALC – Training - £168.00 KALC – Training - £42.00 Invoices were agreed for payment and Cllrs Boswell and Mannington would authorise on Unity.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.54pm

Date: Signed: Cllr Richard Adam Chairman, Finance Committee Marden Parish Council Parish Office Goudhurst Road Marden 01622 832305 07376 287981 clerk@mardenkent-pc.gov.uk www.mardenkent-pc.gov.uk