

MEETING OF CHANDLER'S FORD PARISH COUNCIL

7.00 PM 29 JANUARY 2018 FRYERN PAVILION, GREENWAYS, CHANDLER'S FORD

COUNCILLORS PRESENT: Councillors: Aubry, Boyes, Bicknell, Broadhurst (Chairman for the meeting), Bull (until 7.50pm), Cox, Duguid, Foulds, Grajewski, Hughes, Johnson, Jolly, Leslie, Pragnell, Scott and Simmonds.

In Attendance: Duncan Murray (Parish Clerk) and Sukey Spurlock (Assistant Clerk)

Public Participation:

There were 2 members of the public none of whom spoke.

772 APOLOGIES

These were received from Cllrs Atkinson and Luffman. As the Chairman was not present Cllr Broadhurst as Vice Chairman took the Chair for the meeting.

773 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

774 COMMUNITY SAFETY – UPDATE

Although there were no local police on duty that evening the Clerk informed Members of the most recent crime figures that had been supplied earlier that day: -Recent Burglary figures show – November x 14, December x 5, January x 3

Overall against previous 90 days.

All theft offences including businesses /shops up from 80 to 97

Violence against the person down 64 to 50

Criminal Damage up 16 to 25

Public Order down 16 to 11.

It was commented by Members that it would be beneficial to have a police presence at meetings as although the statistics were helpful there were questions that it would be useful to have answers to. The Chairman offered that questions should be sent to the Clerk to be forwarded to the police for answers.

775 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

There was none, however it was noted that the Chairman was attending a family funeral.

776 TO APPROVE/ACCEPT MINUTES OF MEETINGS

- a) to agree the minutes of meeting of the Parish Council held on 30 October 2017,
- b) to agree the minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on 27 November 2017,
- c) to agree the confidential minute of the extraordinary meeting of the Parish Council held on 27 November 2017,
- d) to note the confidential file note from the informal meeting between the Design Team and Cllr Boyes as authorised by Council,
- e) to agree the minutes of the Asset Management Committee's meeting of 8 January 2018 and accept the minutes of that committee's meeting of 13 November 2017,
- f) to agree the confidential minutes of the HR Committee's meeting of 14 November 2017,
- g) to agree the minutes of the Policy and Finance Committee's meeting of 15 January 2018 and to accept the minutes of that committee's meeting of 20 November 2017 and to note the financial reports including the 3rd Quarter figures, payments made and payments due, and
- h) to accept the confidential minute of the Policy and Finance Committee's meeting of 20 November 2017.

Each minute was gone through for accuracy, with the only corrections being Full Council 30 October minute point 758 Chairman's Report removing the " 's " from Martin's and the HR minutes of 14 November where the end time was corrected to 11.30am. Following proposal and seconding, and on a show of hands on each meeting minute they were all AGREED or ACCEPTED or NOTED as appropriate.

777. TO RECEIVE THE FINAL DRAFT BUDGET FROM THE RESPONSIBLE FINANCE OFFICER FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2018-2019 THAT HAS RECEIVED APPROVAL AT COMMITTEE STAGES. TO DISCUSS AND AGREE TO SET THE BUDGET FIGURES AS RECOMMENDED IN THE FINAL DRAFT, AND TO SET THE PRECEPT AT £50.27 FOR A BAND D PROPERTY, REPRESENTING A 0% INCREASE AND AGREE THE FINAL FIGURES OF:

PRECEPT:	£458,195.97	
CTSG:	£ 21,578.90	(COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT GRANT)
TOTAL:	£479,774.87	

Following proposal and seconding the discussion on the Budget and Precept for 2018 – 2019 was opened.

In addition to the briefing note previously circulated to all Members, the Clerk made comment on the current levels of income at the Fryern Pavilion from lettings and football being at 132% of budget and a cautionary note about the levels of the General and Restricted Funds. Further he commented on the Contingency being at a 5.6% risk management level representing £30,000.

At the invitation of the Chairman Members asked questions about the funding proposed for the First Responders which was confirmed at £1,500 and the potential for an increase to the Precept of 5% being suggested for 2019-2020. The Clerk responded in terms of the inflationary increases by then having a potential 10% impact on the direct costs excluding the Asset Improvement fund, play area improvements fund and the contingency and that a 5% increase to the whole precept would cover these inflationary effects. The Clerk also commented that he was giving precautionary advice about what might be proposed in the next budget rather than what will be, as there were too many unknowns at the current point in time.

There being no more debate required it was AGREED, on a show of hands, that the Budget and Precept be set at the levels of PRECEPT: £458,195.97; CTSG (Council Tax Support Grant): £21,578.90 giving a total of: £479,774.87 a Band D rate of £50.27 representing a 0% increase.

778. TO DISCUSS AND AGREE A RESPONSE TO THE CONSULTATION ON EBC'S LOCAL GOVERNANCE REVIEW TO THE DCLG.

Following a short debate it was, following proposal and seconding and on a show of hands, AGREED that the Clerk respond as per the briefing note that no further reduction of representation at Borough level would be desirable and that the representation at Parish Council wards was working well and should not be changed.

779. TO FINALISE THE DRAFT MEETING DATES FOR 2018.

The operational and purdah reasons for the proposed changes were explained by the Clerk and following proposal, seconding and on a show of hands the revised draft meeting schedule was AGREED.

770 MOTION FROM CLLR PRAGNELL:

THAT THIS COUNCIL SHOULD DEVELOP PROPOSALS FOR PROJECTS TO PURSUE, IN THE EVENT THAT THE HILTINGBURY PAVILION IS NOT PROGRESSED.

Cllr Pragnell introduced his motion explaining that due to the escalating costs of the proposed sports hall and refurbishment and there was nothing left to fall back on if it didn't go ahead and the £400k grant would be lost. Before the motion was seconded Cllr Grajewski proposed an amendment under Standing Order 10 .a.(iv) that this item be moved to the Asset Management Committee (AMC). This amendment was seconded by Cllr Hughes. Following clarification of procedural matters, it was requested it move the matter to the AMC for consideration as that was where asset responsibilities primarily were. It was questioned whether any proposals would necessarily come back to full council, and the status of the grant. The Clerk confirmed that all proposals costing over £60k were required to be authorised by Full Council and that the grant was authorised by EBC's Cabinet for the sports hall project. The Council's Aspiration List was mentioned as being within the AMC's remit and being the projects that had already been considered as worthwhile to pursue.

Cllr Grajewski closed the debate by reiterating that alternatives should be discussed initially at AMC and asked Members for their support. On a show of hands, the motion was carried and the item referred to AMC for consideration.

771. TO AGREE THE RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE COMMITTEES:

- a) to agree the RECOMMENDATION from Policy and Finance, and Asset Management Committees to accept the Internal Auditor's Interim Report from their first visit, and
- b) to agree the RECOMMENDATION from the HR Committee that the Facilities Manager is confirmed in post and a replacement caretaker is recruited.

Following proposal, seconding and on a show of hands each item was UNANIMOUSLY AGREED.

772 MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

Cllr Pragnell:

Question 1

What is the ceiling cost of the Hiltingbury Pavilion Improvement proposal, above which the PC will not progress the project?

It would be pre-determination to answer before the meeting is held at which any final investment decision is made. CFPC would need to know if we have Authorisation to Borrow before making a decision on the tenders returned and put forwards by its agents.

The RFO is charged with making a recommendation for councillors to consider as to the affordability of the project AT THAT TIME with the current cost of borrowing, the limit of authorised borrowing, the grant availability, the reserves held and likely inputs to the reserves as well as the projected cash-flow of managing the anticipated contract costs. From this report councillors engage in their debate and come to their own conclusion, with an open mind as to what they think they should do, for the benefit of the community, and within their fiduciary duty.

IF this question COULD be answered in advance of the final decision meeting, it would have to be a confidential item, as before 31 January tenders would still be open.

Question 2

What percentage of our projected income from Hiltingbury Pavilion is likely to be exempt from VAT?

None – we are opted into VAT, which means VAT on the building/extension costs is reclaimed in full, and all figures in the Business Case (both income and expenditure) are ex VAT.

However, any Parish Council that regularly trades (usually taken as over £100 in a financial year) is also required to be registered for VAT (VAT Notice 749).

CLlr Duguid:

The Clerk is asked to confirm the timetable for the Hilt Pavilion decision to come before full Council. This to include all backup papers, proposed public announcements and to enable all Councillors to have a chance to clear their diaries for this most important decision.

This would be discussed with the finalisation of the Draft Meeting Dates on the 29th Jan, but must be before 22 March 2018 or after 10 May 2018 (as the schedule in this briefing note shows).

Anyway, the minimum notice period for a Full Council meeting is set down in the Local Government Act 1972 s243 as 3 clear days, not including the day of the notice, the day of the meeting, Sundays, or a public holiday.

Date and place of next scheduled meeting: 12 March 2018 at Fryern Pavilion, Greenways, Chandler's Ford.

That being all the business the meeting was closed at 8.06pm.

Chairman.....