

## **CHANDLER'S FORD PARISH COUNCIL – POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**21 FEBRUARY 2022**

**COUNCILLORS PRESENT:** Chairman Cllr Child; Councillors Atkinson, Broadhurst, Holden-Brown and Ricketts

**In Attendance:** Duncan Murray (Parish Clerk) and Hilary Blaker (Deputy Finance Officer [DFO]).

### **Public Participation:**

There was one member of the public present Mr Jeff Dunn, Site Representative Eagle Close Allotments. He wanted to comment on the proposed Allotment Officer position. He said that since the Parish Council had taken over the management of the allotments Eagle Close had changed from 25 tenants to more than 50 and as the remaining large plots were given up this would increase by a further amount maybe to 60 tenants. On top of this there were the remaining large plots at Ramalley Allotments. He commented that he felt the Council were doing the right thing creating a dedicated role, with a new person, embracing technology and moving forwards. He also mentioned that he had spent quite a lot of time with the Chair of the Allotments Sub-Committee doing the Site Reps' Role Description which ran to 2.5 pages, and when they finished, he looked at it and said "Wow, we do all that!"

### **1. APOLOGIES**

There were apologies from Cllrs Bicknell, Bourne, Dolbear, Evans and Johnson.

### **2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were none.

### **3. TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE 15 NOVEMBER 2021 COMMITTEE MEETING ALREADY AGREED AT FULL COUNCIL 13 DECEMBER 2021.**

These were ACCEPTED.

### **4. MATTERS FOR RESOLUTION**

#### **a. To discuss and agree the policy framework for the proposed Allotment Officer post.**

The Clerk commented on his report, particularly picking up on GDPR compliance, data security and the provision of a better audit trail for actual allotment costs. Members asked questions about current policies and their applicability, including working from home and herbicide application. Another Member commented that he valued Mr Dunn's input as he had a lot of experience running allotments and had previously been the Chair of the Eastleigh Allotments Association for many years. He also said that newer houses had smaller gardens and younger allotment holders preferred the smaller plots as they didn't have many free hours a week to work them.

Following proposal, seconding and on a show of hands it was AGREED to make a RECOMMENDATION to Council that the proposals were within current policy frameworks.

#### **b. To agree to the release of the budgeted grant for Chandler's Ford First Responders for 2021-2022 of £1,500.00.**

The Clerk confirmed that £1,500 was in the budget as restricted funds for the First Responders.

Following proposal, seconding and on a show of hands the payment of £1,500.00 for Chandler's Ford First Responders was AGREED.

#### **c. To discuss and agree whether to support the grant application for CAB Eastleigh for £950.00.**

It was noted that the Eastleigh CAB had supported 354 households across the parish with about 1,500 issues in 2021. Following proposal, seconding and on a show of hands the grant for £950.00 was AGREED.

## 5. TO NOTE THE FINANCIAL REPORTS:

### i. To receive the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter's financial reports.

These were received, the key differences Actual to Budget were noted as follows:

**Income:** Despite the impacts of the Omicron variant (and Delta before that) trading was relatively buoyant exceeding the quarter's targets by £4.5k at Fryern and £5.8k at Hiltingbury. Year to Date up £2.4k and £4.8k respectively. Unbudgeted s106 grants totalled £36k. Some of these receipts were with regards to previous expenditure (in 2019-2020).

**Expenditure:** Hiltingbury was higher than budgeted for – primarily due to investigations to the structure of the car park at £5.6k and the re-sealing of the semi-sprung floors. Fryern had the CCTV power source replaced.

**Overheads:** Advertising costs were up due to the provision and distribution of a flyer including lights and wall mounted trees as part of the Welcome Back Fund (so far £5.4k being refunded on or around 31 March). Salaries are below budget due to the annual salary award still not having been agreed at the national level.

**YTD:** Overheads are up on budget due to the release of the retention to Acheson @ £71k which would otherwise mean that the figure was actually £29k under budget.

### ii. To receive the reconciled Reserves statement.

The Reserves statement was received (it had previously been accepted as part of the budget setting process) the continued lack of a response from Humphry's was noted and the Clerk agreed with Members that this was more than unsatisfactory and that he was undertaking a search for alternative provision.

### iii. to agree the payments made from the SAGE payment summary, to authorise payments due, to sign cheques.

Following proposal, seconding and on a show of hands these were AGREED.

## 6. MOTION FROM CLLR BROADHURST

"That this Council: -

- a) Expresses its support for the '20's Plenty for Hampshire' campaign
- b) Calls on Hampshire County Council to implement the 20mph limit throughout the area covered by Chandler's Ford Parish Council.
- c) Requests Hampshire County Council to make the 20mph Speed limit the default in the County in streets where people live, work, shop, play or learn; leaving a 30mph limit as an exception on roads where consideration of the needs of vulnerable road users demands a higher limit."

This was seconded by Cllr Holden-Brown.

Cllr Broadhurst introduced his motion explaining the rationale behind the '20 is Plenty' campaign, citing child and other vulnerable people's road safety and likelihood to survive following a collision. He also commented that the police were now willing to enforce 20mph zones and that the County Council had set up a Working Group to look at the possibility of introducing such a policy.

A question was asked about the meaning of the latter part of (c) above "...leaving a 30mph limit as an exception on roads where consideration of the needs of vulnerable road users demands a higher limit." Following an explanation, it was suggested that it would be

clearer if it read "*...leaving a 30mph limit as an exception in built up areas.*" This was accepted by the proposer and seconder.

Following a show of hands, the motion was AGREED, and the Clerk asked to write to HCC.

**7. TO MATTERS TO BE TAKEN TO THE COMMITTEE'S NEXT AGENDA.**

Alternative accounting provision.

**9. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The date was confirmed as Monday 11 April 2022, in person at Fryern Pavilion.

That being all the business the meeting closed at 8.05p.m.

Chairman.....