

CHANDLER'S FORD PARISH COUNCIL – POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

7 DECEMBER 2020

Virtually

COUNCILLORS PRESENT: Chairman Cllr Child; Councillors Atkinson, Bicknell, Bourne, Dolbear, Evans, Holden-Brown, Johnson and Ricketts

In Attendance: Cllr Pragnell and Duncan Murray (Parish Clerk).

Public Participation:

There were no members of the public present.

1. APOLOGIES

Cllr Broadhurst, and had sent his apologies.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

3. TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE'S MEETING OF 17 FEBRUARY 2020 AGREED AT THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING OF 17 AUGUST 2020.

These were ACCEPTED. Outstanding items from February's meeting were asked to be taken to the next meeting as per item 7.

4. MATTERS FOR RESOLUTION

a. to review the first draft of the 2021-2022 budget.

Members discussed the draft budget proposals noting the loss of the final tranche of the Council Tax Support Grant and that the resultant loss of income would necessitate an increase. 1percent of current Precept was noted at £4,950, and the reduction of the tax base for calculations was noted (around 136 dwellings).

A non-voting Member requested further analysis of trading income versus expenditure. The Clerk replied that the income and expenditure did give a gross operating profit analysis. For clarity the qualified accountant present gave a formal definition of Gross Operating Profit (GOP) as 'Income less staff and utilities etc gives the GOP, then the surplus is used for interest payments then the residual surplus is used for capital and a sinking fund set aside for future repairs'. It was noted also that the way Councils have to arrange their accounting is different to corporations. The Clerk was asked to bring forwards summaries of the individual pavilions in the final drafts. To which he commented that he would also be putting forwards options of what additional level of Precept funding was required to provide (unrestricted) funds to support the Council in 2021-2022 to cope with further Covid-19 restrictions as he could not foresee further government support (for councils) in the coming financial year.

b. to make a recommendation to Full Council to agree the Covid-19 updates to the 2020-2021 finance/operating Risk Assessment.

The Clerk drew Members' attention to the addition of Covid-19 Risk Management in both the Business Activities and Precept Setting areas of the operations/financial management of the Parish Council's risk assessment documentation. Following proposal, seconding and on a show of hands these were AGREED to progress to Full Council in January as a RECOMMENDATION for adoption.

5. TO NOTE THE FINANCIAL REPORTS:

i. to note the finance reports for the first half-year, and to 31 October

- ii. **to agree the payments made from the SAGE payment summary, to authorise payments due, to sign cheques.**

Following proposal and seconding and on a show of hands the reports were NOTED, and payments AGREED.

6. TO MATTERS TO BE TAKEN TO THE COMMITTEE'S NEXT AGENDA.

An update on the emails for Cllrs, reports from Working Groups (including Policy reviews) and a potential newsletter.

9. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The date was confirmed as Monday 15 February 2021 virtually.

That being all the business the meeting closed at 7.50p.m.

Chairman.....