CHANDLER'S FORD PARISH COUNCIL – POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

14 April 2025

COUNCILLORS PRESENT: Chair Councillor Evans with Councillors Attrill, Beer, Child and Davies.

In Attendance: Hilary Blaker (Clerk)

Public Participation:
One member of the public attended who raised no comments.

1. APOLOGIES
Apologies were received and duly accepted from Councillors Bicknell and Jones. Councillors Abraham, Broadhurst and Scott did not attend.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
Declarations of interest were registered for Cllr Davies relating to agenda item 4f. Whilst Cllr Davies was welcomed to share additional information with the Committee regarding Wessex Cancer Support, he was not permitted to vote.

3. TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE 13 JANUARY 2025 COMMITTEE MEETING AS APPROVED BY FULL COUNCIL ON 20 JANUARY 2025.
Following proposal, seconding and on a show of hands these were ACCEPTED.

4. MATTERS FOR NOTING / RESOLUTION

a) **To discuss and agree the revised Publication Scheme.**
Following proposal, seconding and on a show of hands the revised scheme was agreed with recommendation to Full Council for adoption.

b) **To discuss and agree the revised Balances and Reserves Policy.**
Following proposal, seconding and on a show of hands the revised policy was agreed with recommendation to Full Council for adoption.

c) **To discuss and agree to withdraw the loan balance from Eastleigh Borough Council and transfer into Unity Trust.**
Following discussion regarding the difference in current interest rates between Eastleigh Borough Council loan and Unity Trust, it was agreed, by general consent, to defer the decision until budget setting for financial year 2026/27. This would ensure continued best return for the current balance whilst there is minimal risk to the account. This motion would be carried forward until the November 2025 Committee meeting.

d) **To discuss and agree to transfer £100,000 from April 2025 precept payment into Instant Access Savings Account to earn interest across first quarter 2025/26.**
Following proposal, seconding and on a show of hands this balance transfer was agreed. Some discussion took place regarding delegated powers with a request for changes to be considered to the Terms of Reference when next reviewed.

e) **To discuss and agree to transfer £200 into ear marked reserve, at the request of Planning and Licensing Committee, to meet the costs, as agreed with the EBC Local Area Committee, for the local listing of the United Reformed Church. (Cllr Davies)**
Following proposal, seconding and on a show of hands this was agreed. It was noted that this transfer was to ensure monies allocated within the 2024/25 financial year were carried forward to the new financial year.

f) To discuss and agree grant application from Wessex Cancer Support.
Following much discussion regarding the application, the motion to approve the grant was proposed, seconded and carried by a majority show of hands. One Councillor abstained and one Councillor voted against. It was noted that Wessex Cancer provides valued support to members of our community although their services are only known to those who find themselves in need. While there was overall support of the charity's work, there were differing views on how well the application aligned with the Council's grant criteria, reflecting the complexity of the decision.

5. TO NOTE THE FINANCIAL REPORTS:

i. To NOTE the financial reports, including the bank reconciliation as of 31 March 2025, and
The financial reports were noted, and the bank reconciliation was signed by the Chair of Committee. Some discussion took place regarding allotments and the hidden costs that continue to be subsidised.
Thanks were given to Officers for the management of the budget for the last financial year.

ii. To agree the payments made from the Scribe payment summary as of 31st March 2025.
Following proposal, seconding and on a show of hands the payment summary was agreed.

iii. To note verification of bank reconciliations has been undertaken as per Financial Regulations 2.6
Noted.

6. TO MATTERS TO BE TAKEN TO THE COMMITTEE'S NEXT AGENDA.
No further items were identified.

7. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The date was confirmed as Monday 9 June 2025, 7pm, at Fryern Pavilion.

That being all business, the meeting closed at 8.06 p.m.

Chairman…….....