

# Waterbeach Parish Council

Minutes of the Waterbeach Finance Committee held on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2023 at 7:00pm in the Old Pavilion, Recreation Ground, Waterbeach

**Attendees:** Cllr M Williamson (Chairman), Cllr I Gilzean, Cllr K Grant, Cllr C Rabbett, Cllr D Smart, Cllr J Williams,

**In attendance:** Libby White BEM (Locum Clerk) (arrived at 7.09 pm)  
1 member of the public

Apologies for Absence: None received

## **22/13 Open Forum**

None

## **22/14 Members Interests**

Locum Clerk arrived at 7:09pm

## **22/15 Minutes of Last Meeting**

It was **proposed** by Cllr Williams, seconded by Cllr Rabbett and **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> November 2022 were approved as a true record and to be signed by the Chairman.

**5 in favour, 1 abstention**

## **22/16 Forecasted Budget Figures 31/3/2023**

Council members considered the projected figures for the current financial year, 2022/23, up until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023, over a lengthy discussion. During discussion it was requested that items should be included on the next Full Council meeting agenda as follows:

- To understand why the legal fees have been so high for the financial year.
- To understand why the training budget has not been spent in 2022/23.

During discussion, councillors expressed concern that sometimes money that has been budgeted for a project seems to disappear after year end. The Locum Clerk recommended that the parish council have Earmarked Reserves to easily identify money to be spent on certain projects. The Chairman stated that they had found that fiddly and that it was not how they wanted to work.

After a discussion about projects being agreed but not coming to fruition, the Locum Clerk recommended that the parish council consider an Action Plan/Business Plan for the financial year to help provide a steer for work to be undertaken by the council.

## **22/17 Precept 2023/24**

The committee discussed at length the proposed budget for 2023/24. Having agreed to carry on the meeting past the allotted time stated in Standing Orders, members requested more detail on quotations for projects which have not come forward for consideration including the work to the lychgate, tennis courts, etc.

It was **proposed** by Cllr Rabbett, seconded by Cllr Williams that the precept to be recommended to full council be £217,400 or £100 for a Band D property. This was defeated and the debate continued with a request that the meeting be adjourned until 31<sup>st</sup> January 2023 at 7pm with the figures requested for projects to be brought to the meeting for consideration.

Meeting adjourned at 9.27pm.

Meeting reconvened on 31<sup>st</sup> January at 7.05pm

**Attendees:** Cllr M Williamson (Chairman), Cllr I Gilzean, Cllr K Grant, Cllr C Rabbett, Cllr D Smart, Cllr J Williams,

**In attendance:** Libby White BEM (Locum Clerk)

The discussion on the precept for 2023/24 continued. After a lengthy discussion it was **proposed** by Cllr Grant, seconded by Cllr Williamson and **RESOLVED** that the precept remain at £92 for a Band D property making the total precept to be requested £200,017.

**In favour 4, Against 2, Abstention 0**

***In Favour:*** Cllr Gilzean, Cllr Grant, Cllr Rabbett, Cllr Williamson

***Against:*** Cllr Smart, Cllr Williams

The meeting closed at 9:15pm

Signed: .....

Chairman

Dated: .....