

Finance and General Purposes Committee Report for Full Council 17 January 2022

The F&GP Committee met on 10 January 2022 and agreed the following business;

1. to agree the wording of a new Grant Awarding Policy which is attached and recommended for adoption
2. to make grant offers to the Red Triangle Bowls Club (£500) and CPRE (£36) and seek more information from the Giving Community new charity
3. to recommend to full Council the parish council budget for 2022/23 (see attached).

Please note the following:

- a 2% increase on the parish precept which equates to an extra £1.78 for Band D properties
 - this brings the precept to £75,118. The small increase allows for inflation, additional projects intended during the year and to build up our reserves to the recommended level. Inflation is generally higher than 2% but we have sought to minimise the precept increase in light of the financial challenges for our constituents expected during 2022
 - compared to this year the biggest variances are:
 - (a) a small increase in the budget for the village handyman
 - (b) further training for councillors
 - (c) a marked reduction in printing and consumables costs
 - (d) an anticipated reduction in legal fees for new leases
 - (e) a reduction on the budget for grants (but see below)
 - (f) an increase in maintenance costs for the allotments
 - (g) a slight reduction in maintenance costs for the cemetery and Pightle
 - the expected outturn for 2021/22 is likely to show an underspend and the surplus will be added to our reserves
 - the 2022/23 budget shows a planned surplus of around £14,000 but costs will be needed for the village hall drainage and car park repairs, the children's play area refurbishment, any additional costs for the cemetery gate (£1000 included in the budget) and any grants to support major projects such as a carbon reduction initiative
4. this budget seeks to retain the range of services we provide and allows for investment where it is most needed.
 5. A CIL report will be presented to the January 2022 full council meeting.