

WICKHAM MARKET PARISH COUNCIL

CHAIR: IVOR FRENCH

FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSE COMMITTEE

CHAIR: DAVID CHENERY



MINUTES of the meeting of Wickham Market Parish Council Finance & General Purpose Committee held on Monday 10 January 2022 at 19:00

Present from the Council: Cllr Chenery (Chair)
Cllr French
Cllr Cooke
A. Besly (Clerk)

Present from the Public: None

- 1 **Open Public Forum session** None
- 2 **Apologies for Absence:** None
- 3 **Declarations of Interest:** None
- 4 **Approve the draft minutes** of the F&GP Meeting of 1 November 2021
Draft minutes of 1 November were approved as a correct record: **All Agreed**
- 5 **Review draft Grant Awarding Policy with a view to adopting such a policy**
The draft policy was reviewed and it was proposed it should be adopted. **All Agreed**
- 6 **Review and decision on grant applications 2021/22.** Grants for the following organisations were considered:
 - 6.1 **Red Triangle Bowles Club** – request for £500 received. It was proposed this grant be approved. **All Agreed**
 - 6.2 **CPRE – Campaign for the Protection of Rural England** – request for £36. It was proposed this grant be approved. **All Agreed**
 - 6.3 **Citizens Advice Leiston** – no formal request received although the Council has historically donated £400 per year. It was proposed that CAB will be asked to submit a grant request. **All Agreed. Action, Clerk**
 - 6.4 **SARS:** A donation to SARS was discussed. It was proposed that WM First Responders be considered for a grant rather than SARS. **All Agreed**
 - 6.5 **WM First Responders** – have historically received a grant, however, there has been no application yet this year. It was proposed that this organisation is asked to submit a grant application. **All Agreed. Action, Clerk**
 - 6.6 **Giving Community** have asked about a grant. The Clerk will ask them to complete a request **Action, Clerk**
- 7 **Review and decision on Payments schedule:** The Clerk reported that there were two payments to be approved:
 - Suffolk Norse, Grass Cutting at Simons Cross £710.70
 - SALC – Local Council Administration reference book £126.99
 Both payments were authorised. **All Agreed**
- 8 **Reporting items for the next meeting. It was agreed that the following should be added to the agenda for the next meeting**
 - Village Hall Grant. Previously this has been £3,500 per year. There is however, concern that there is insufficient transparency regarding the use of these public funds. The Village Hall should be asked to request a funding grant and provide evidence regarding its use. The Parish Council recognise that the Village Hall is a community asset and should be supported in line with transparency of public funds
- 9 **Date of Next Meeting:** Monday 7 March 2022
- 10 **Exempt/Confidential Items** It was proposed that under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act: **All Agreed**
- 11 **Review of Budget 2022/23 with recommendation for Council in January.** The draft budget was reviewed line by line and it was proposed that the precept be increased by 2% which is significantly less than inflation. All other budget cost lines were agreed so it was further proposed that the F&GP Committee recommend that the Council approves the budget at the next meeting. **All agreed**
- 12 **Review responses to PKF audit queries.** The Clerk presented the documents required by PKF Littlejohn to progress the 2020-21 audit completion and the committee reviewed each response. It was proposed that a recommendation is made that the Council approve these responses. **All Agreed**

Signed.

Cllr David Chenery, Chair.

Date.

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