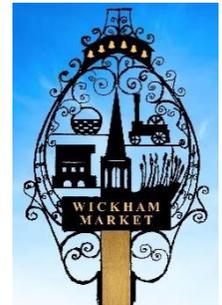


# WICKHAM MARKET PARISH COUNCIL

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 9 January 2023 at 19:30

- 1 **Present from the Council**  
Cllr Chenery (Chair)  
Cllr French  
Cllr Cooke  
Cllr Dempsey-Gray  
A. Besly (Clerk)
- 2 **Present from the Public**  
None
- 3 **Open Public Forum session**  
None
- 4 **Apologies for Absence:**  
None
- 5 **Declarations of Interest:**  
Item 8.3: Cllr Cooke, Non Pecuniary interest as a member of the Archive Centre
- 6 **Approve the draft minutes** of the F&GP Meeting of 24 October 2022  
Draft minutes of 24 October 2022 were approved as a correct record: **All Agreed**
- 7 **Chair's Report:** Nothing to report beyond the agenda items
- 8 **Review and decision on grant applications**
  - 8.1 Consider donation request from Suffolk Accident Rescue Service (SARS): [Circulated](#)  
As it was considered that SARS was a good organisation for Wickham Market Parish Council to support it was proposed that a donation of £450 should be made. **All agreed**
  - 8.2 Consider grant application from Citizens Advice East Suffolk: [Circulated](#)  
It was proposed that the grant application of £450 be approved. **All Agreed**
  - 8.3 Consider grant application from Wickham Market Archives Centre: [Circulated](#)  
Cllr Cooke did not take part in this discussion. It was recognised that moving the archives centre to the Library site is a good move for the parish so it was proposed that the grant application for £2,000 be approved. **Agreed by all participating councillors**
- 9 **Finance update.** The finance report and bank reconciliation had been published. There were no questions
- 10 **Payments Schedule.** The payments schedule has been published. All payments show the authority for the payment. The Clerk highlighted that individuals' salaries were not shown here, but shown as an aggregated figure on the financial summary to meet transparency requirements. There were no questions
- 11 **Review of draft 2023-24 Budget including Precept request:** [Published](#)  
**The Precept was discussed** and it was proposed that the Committee's recommendation to the Full Council is that there should be no increase to a Band D property, thus the parish element does not create a higher charge than 2022-23. **All Agreed**  
It was proposed that the newsletter highlight that there would be no increase for the Parish Council. **All Agreed**  
It was further proposed that the Clerk request an estimate of the council tax for residents moving into Wickham Gate during the year. **All Agreed**  
**The Budget was then reviewed** and it was proposed that the following changes be made and recommended to the full council for approval:
  - **Add £10k for Grants Received.** This is likely to be supported by applications for the Play Area, Newsletter and Climate Change
  - **Add £2k for a Community Choir** grant application
  - **Increase Cemetery receipts to £10k** which will be supported by a review in internment fees in order to allow the Cemetery to not make a loss
  - **Increase maintenance by £500** to cover costs for tree planting, memorial garden and free standing planters**All Agreed.** The Clerk will update the figures and narrative and circulate as v3
  - **VAT Reclaim has been increased** to reflect the likely outcome of 2022-23 VAT payment
- 12 **Reporting items for the next meeting.** There were no further reporting items
- 13 **Date of next meeting:** Monday 6 March 2023

Signed.

Cllr David Chenery, Chair.

Date.

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