

Mrs J Nolan Clerk to the Council The Parish Council Community Centre Bell Lane, Ackworth Pontefract, WF7 7JH

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Minutes of Finance & General Purposes Committee held on Monday 27th January 2025 @ 6PM.

Attendance

Cllr Carolyn Hall – Chair Cllr Martin Roberts Cllr Sharon Maiden Cllr Suzy Sherratt Cllr John Bell

Clerk J Nolan

0 Members of the Public Present

1. Apologies

- 1.1 To receive apologies for absence given in advance of the meeting
- 1.2 To consider the approval of reasons given for absence
- 1.1 Apologies were received in respect of Cllr Balfour.
- **1.2** The committee had considered and **approved** the reason given by Cllr Balfour.

2. Declarations of Interests and Dispensations

- **2.1** To receive any declarations of interest not already declared under the Council's Code of conduct or a member's Register of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests on items on the agenda
- 2.2 To receive, consider and decide upon any written applications for dispensation for disclosable pecuniary interest
- 2.3 To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate

2.1/2.2/2.3 None to receive.

- 3. To note the minutes for the Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting held on 25th November 2024.
- **3.1** The committee **noted** the meeting minutes.

4. To receive information on the following ongoing matters arising – Clerks Update

- 4.1 To confirm appointment of the Council selected supplier Fresh Air Fitness and installation/delivery plan
- **4.2** To note that the review of the independent financial advisor is in progress and will be added directly to a future Council meeting.
- **4.3** To note that the review of the Grounds Maintenance contract is in progress and will be added directly to a future Council meeting.

- **4.1** The Clerk provided a verbal update which included confirmation of a supplier site visit and an estimated implementation target date of April 2025.
- **4.2** The update was **noted**.
- 4.3 The update was noted.

5. Financial Matters

- **5.1** To receive a proposal from the staff team regarding a possible income source for Carr Bridge Pavilion and Car Park for exploration and consider recommendation to Council.
- **5.1** The Clerk provided a verbal proposal of ideas relating to the facilitation of the Pavilion Car Park becoming a weekday hireable space for non-static refreshment vendors.

The committee **recommended** that the Clerk and staff team be given authority to review with Ackworth School and Wakefield Council and if a viable option to bring back a scoped proposal to this committee for further review.

6. Committee Administration

- 6.1 To consider the appointment of an additional member of this committee to complete internal checks alongside the existing councillor as part of a larger review of the effectiveness of internal controls.6.2 To note that the new volunteers' event, provisionally earmarked for February 2025, will be re-reviewed at the next meeting of the Village Events & Communications Subcommittee and will be scheduled in line with the new financial year.
- **6.1** Cllr Martin Roberts was **appointed** to become the second member to complete internal checks on behalf of the committee.
- 6.2 The event change was noted.
- 7. TO CONSIDER FOR APPROVAL THAT THE PRESS AND THE PUBLIC BE EXCLUDED FROM THE REMAINDER OF THE MEETING ON THE GROUNDS THAT PUBLICITY WOULD BE PREJUDICIAL TO THE CONFIDENTAIL NATURE OF THE BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED ON THE FOLLOWING AGENDA ITEMS. PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETING ACT 1960)
- 7.1 It was agreed to move to the private section of the meeting. No public present.
- 8. To review quotes and recommend a supplier to complete the year end Rialtas close-down and roll over for 24/25.
- 8.1 Quotes had previously been circulated.

The committee reviewed and **recommended** a 4-year quote from ACCLC Ltd (Metta Media) at an annual fixed inflation rate of 2.6% an annual cost of £676 ex VAT as this provided better value for money over the 3-year quote from Rialtas at an annual cost of £870 ex VAT.

- 9. To review an allotments debt and to make recommendation to Council.
- 9.1 A discussion took place.

It was **recommended** that recovery via a small claims court should be pursued at an estimated initial cost of £50 to recover the outstanding debt of £496.96.

Time Closed: 18:40