



OLD CLEEVE PARISH COUCIL
MINUTES OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT THE COLT
HOUSE, LINTON, OLD CLEEVE TA24 6HT ON 17 NOVEMBER 2023 AT
11.45AM.

Present: Cllr Williams (Chair), Cllr Johnson-Smith, Cllr Webb, Cllr Duncan, Andrea Johnson (Clerk)

F012/1123 Apologies for absence

No apologies were received.

F013/1123 Declarations of Interest/Dispensations

Cllr Williams declared an interest in the Blue Anchor Toilets Community Interest Company, which appeared in the draft budget. It was noted that no charge had been made by Cllr Williams for the use of the premises for the meeting.

F014/1123 Minutes of the meeting held on 26 July 2023

Following a proposal by Cllr Duncan, seconded by Cllr Johnson-Smith, it was **resolved** that the Chair should sign the minutes as a correct record of the meeting. Cllr Webb abstained as he was absent from the meeting on 26 July 2023.

F015/1123 NatWest bank accounts

It was unanimously **resolved** to transfer all the funds held at NatWest Bank to the Parish Council's accounts at Unity Trust Bank and to close the NatWest accounts. Proposed Cllr Duncan, seconded Cllr Webb. **Action:** Clerk to arrange transfer of the funds.

F016/1123 Unity bank accounts

Following a proposal by Cllr Duncan, seconded by Cllr Williams, it was unanimously **resolved** that Cllr Johnson-Smith should be added as a signatory to the Unity bank accounts. **Action:** Clerk to arrange.

F017/1123 Pay Agreement

The revised national pay scales were noted. Following a proposal by Cllr Duncan, seconded by Cllr Williams, it was unanimously **resolved** that that these be adopted, backdated to 1 April 2023 and any outstanding amounts due to the Clerk and the former Clerk should be paid through the Council's payroll. **Action:** Clerk to arrange.

F018/1123 Reserves

It was noted that interest had been accrued in the earmarked funds which the Clerk would arrange to be transferred to general reserves. Following a proposal by Cllr Duncan,

seconded by Cllr Webb, it was unanimously resolved that the following amounts which were earmarked in the 2023/24 budget should be transferred to Ringfenced accounts:

War Memorial	£500.00
MUGA	£2160.00
Bus shelter	£300.00
Defibrillator	£200.00

In addition, the Committee would recommend to the Parish Council that £100 should be transferred to Ringfenced funds in respect of election fees. **Action:** Clerk to arrange.

F019/1123 **Somerset Council letter dated 8 November 2023 entitled asset and service devolution**

The Committee reviewed the list of assets and services which Somerset Council was suggesting could be devolved. It was noted that the Parish Council was already managing some of the assets and services, some could be managed reactively, and others were not relevant to Old Cleeve Parish Council.

The Committee agreed that the No28 bus service and the mobile library were both vital services for the Parish. The Committee wanted to better understand the extent to which Somerset Council currently subsidised these services for parishioners, their usage by parishioners and any future plans for the mobile library. **Action:** Clerk to obtain further details.

F020/1123 **Budget**

The proposed draft budget was reviewed. Subject to some minor amendments it was proposed by Cllr Duncan, seconded by Cllr Williams, and unanimously **resolved** that the draft budget should be recommended to Old Cleeve Parish Council at its meeting in December. **Action:** Clerk to update and recirculate the budget.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 13.45pm.

Signed.....