

**FINCHAMPSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
FINANCE & GENERAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE  
4 PM ON 5 JANUARY 2022  
By Microsoft Teams video conference**

---

**PRESENT:** Cllr R. Woof, Chair. Cllr G. Jukes OBE, Vice Chair.  
Cllrs S. Bromley; R. Cundy; D. Cornish; S. McDonald; G. Veitch & S. Weeks.  
  
K. Dagnall, Clerk.  
C. Warke, Deputy Clerk.

**519/2022 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

No apologies were received.

**520/2022 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations were received.

**521/2022 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting held on 24 November 2021 were agreed as a true record. These will be signed retrospectively as soon as circumstances allow.

**522/2022 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES / OTHER MATTERS**

**474/2021 Assets**

Images are still to be added to the Asset Management software.

The 2021 asset inspections are complete, the Clerk will be collating the outcomes and details of any minor works required. No major issues have been identified.

The Clerk has contacted the Wokingham Borough Council (WBC) Conservation Officer regarding maintenance of the Dozzells Well stone on Fleet Hill.

**478/2021 FBC Youth work**

The Finchampstead Baptist Church has been asked for details of activities, the added value the Parish Council contribution brings to the service, and future plans. A response is expected by the end of January.

**481/2021 Forum / Public Protection Partnership (PPP)**

A meeting is still to be arranged with Wokingham Borough Council (WBC) to discuss the potential impact on the Parish of the work of the PPP transferring to WBC.

Cllr Weeks advised that a leaflet is being produced to promote the WBC Local Plan Update consultation and particularly to raise awareness of the Rooks Nest Farm development proposals. It was agreed that this should be funded through the Council's promotion budget.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION**

No members of the public were present.

**523/2022 FINANCIAL POSITION OF THE COUNCIL**

**Unity Trust Bank current account**

The balance on 29 December 2021 is £66,386.

**CCLA Public Sector Deposit Fund**

£719,394 is currently held in the Fund. The yield on 6 December 2021 was 0.0483%.

### **CCLA Property Fund**

£25,000 was invested in the Fund in August 2017. Information on current prices and dividend yields was circulated. The investment is stable and continues to be reviewed regularly.

A report showing the current position with income and expenditure was circulated. No issues were raised.

Current projections indicate an underspend of around £2000 at year end.

### **524/2022 BUDGET PROPOSALS FOR 2022/23**

A draft version of the budget was circulated.

The proposed budget of £187,365 and a Precept of £177,365 were agreed, subject to the approval of the Council at its January meeting.

With the proposed Precept of £177,365 the tax levied on a Band D property in 2022/23 will be £28.17. The comparable figure for 2021/22 is £27.93.

The £10,000 required to balance the budget will be taken from Council reserves.

Ear Marked Reserves of £13,000 were agreed.

### **525/2022 COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY (CIL) FUNDS**

A report was circulated showing the current funds, expenditure to date this year and current commitments.

The current balance is £689,428. Current commitments total £186,000.

Details of projects proposed by WBC were circulated.

- CCTV to combat fly tipping – an amended proposal has been requested from WBC and will be considered at a future meeting.
- Outdoor gym for the FBC Playing Fields – it was agreed that the project would not be supported.

A further project relating to survey and design work for the War Memorial junction was discussed at the previous meeting. It was noted that in the planning process for the Arborfield Strategic Development Location the need for improvements to the junction were highlighted and budgetary provision was made for this. Cllr Weeks has contacted WBC to establish the level of funding available for the junction and is awaiting a response.

Further consideration will then be given to committing Parish Council funds to the project.

The Gorse Ride Schools have submitted a request for support for two outdoor shelters and play equipment for the schools. The Clerk has requested further information in order that this can be fully considered by the Committee.

It was agreed that providing support for appropriate projects at local schools would be a good use of CIL funds. Procedures and guidelines relating to this will be discussed at the next Committee meeting.

The report circulated noted several additional projects which are likely to come forward for consideration in the coming months.

The WBC Annual CIL Infrastructure Statement was circulated to all Councillors in December 2021.

### **526/2022 GRANT APPLICATIONS AND DONATIONS TO LOCAL ORGANISATIONS**

The Council previously agreed that as in 2020/21, normal procedures would be amended to allow grant applications to be considered on an adhoc basis throughout 2021/22.

Several grants and donations have already been approved and ratified by the Council. An application has now been received from the Link Visiting Scheme and details were circulated.

It was agreed that Link Visiting should be awarded a grant of £920, subject to approval by Main Council at its meeting on 19 January 2022.

It was noted that this grant award will result in an overspend of £250 on the overall grants and donations budget for 2021/22.

**527/2022 FORUM**

No matters were raised.

**528/2022 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on 30 March 2022.

The agenda will include a review of the Council’s Project List; discussion on the potential provision of CIL funds for projects at local schools, and updates on Council Management matters and Working Group activities.

*These minutes are subject to final approval at the next meeting of the Committee.*

**FINANCE & GENERAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE 5 JANUARY 2022**

**SUMMARY OF ACTIONS**

| MINUTE REFERENCE | ACTION                                                                                                                                                                                                          | RESPONSIBLE PERSON(S) |
|------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 522/2022         | Add images to asset management software                                                                                                                                                                         | Clerk                 |
| 522/2022         | Collate asset inspection outcomes and arrange any works                                                                                                                                                         | Clerk                 |
| 522/2022         | PPP transfer to WBC. Arrange meeting for GJ/RW/SW/DC/KD with appropriate WBC lead / consultant                                                                                                                  | Clerk                 |
| 524/2022         | 2022/23 budget / precept demand to January Council for approval                                                                                                                                                 | Clerk                 |
| 525/2022         | CIL bids: Revised CCTV proposal and Gorse Ride Schools proposal to be considered at the next meeting (plus other projects as appropriate) WBC to be advised that FPC does not support the outdoor gym proposal. | Clerk                 |
| 525/2022         | CIL bid for War Memorial junction redesign. Follow up response from WBC re funds allocated to the project.                                                                                                      | SW                    |
| 526/2022         | Link Visiting grant to January Council for approval                                                                                                                                                             | Clerk                 |
| 528/2022         | March meeting agenda: Review project list; CIL bids; Council management matters and working group activities; Borough Parish Charter; CIL funding for school projects.                                          |                       |