FINCHAMPSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE & GENERAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE 7.30PM ON 13 MARCH 2024

At the FBC Centre, Gorse Ride North, Finchampstead

PRESENT: Councillor R. Woof, Chair. Councillor G. Jukes OBE, Vice Chair.

Councillors E. Allen; S. Bromley; S. McDonald; S. Weeks & G. Veitch.

K. Lang, Deputy Clerk.

374/2024 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors D. Cornish; R. Cundy G. Evans;

375/2024 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations were made.

376/2024 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 09 January 2024 were agreed as a true record and were signed by Cllr Woof.

377/2024 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

297/2024 Transfer of funds

The name on both bank accounts has now been changed and this transfer can be arranged.

298/2024 Draft budget

The budget was approved at Main Council.

301/2024

Engagement

Deputy Clerk to send a report showing website and Facebook statistics every 3 months.

Canva

Deputy Clerk to purchase Canva now the credit cards have arrived.

302/2024

Payment approval

Cllr Woof documenting this process.

CIL Strategy

To be discussed later in the meeting.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

No members of the public were present.

378/2024 FINANCIAL POSITION OF THE COUNCIL

Unity Trust Bank current account

The balance on 10 March 2024 was £587,327.81

A transfer of c. £500,000 to the CCLA deposit fund to be arranged.

CCLA Public Sector Deposit Fund

The balance on 29 February 2023 was £1,849,304.74

CCLA Property Fund

£25,000 was invested in the Fund in August 2017. The investment remains stable.

Income and Expenditure to date

Report circulated showing the current position.

379/2024 GRANT AWARDS FOR 2023/24

Grant applications were considered, and the following awards agreed, subject to approval from the Council at its meeting on 28 March 2023.

Organisation	Project	Grant requested	Committee recommendation
Sebastian's action Trust	To assist with funding an inclusive event for children with life limiting conditions and their families.	£500	The committee recommended awarding the full amount.
Life Education Wessex & Thames Valley (LEW&TV)	The cost to deliver our health programmes to schools is £530 a day; schools contribute approximately 70% of this, and we need to raise the shortfall. We will be spending 4 days visiting the school, which equates to a shortfall of £620. We do not expect your Council to contribute the whole of the difference, but obviously that would be fantastic if you were able. Nevertheless, any contribution you could make would be very would make a real difference to outcomes for local children and families	£620	The committee recommended an award of the full amount.

380/2024 COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY (CIL) FUNDS

The current balance is £2,236,930.51

Income and Expenditure to date

- War Memorial relocation project (final payment) £7645
- Waverley Way play area £14,000
- Gorse Ride School £42,500
- Nine Mile Ride Primary £10,000
- War memorial Junction improvements £35,000
- Allotment water troughs £1,150
- Ratepayers Hall Solar Panels £17,337
- Allotment Gares £2,600
- St James' Church £12,000
- California Association OHP £482.50
- Allotment Sign £415.81
- Allotment Sign £210

TOTAL £143,340.31

Current approved commitments include:

- California Country park improvements (provisional allocation)
- California Crossroads improvements
- War Memorial junction improvements (provisional allocation)

Cllr McDonald updated the committee following a project meeting with WBC on the California Lakeside Improvements. The WBC project manager has returned from a period of extended leave.

Cllr Bowers attended the meeting and will continue to do so to ensure that the site will be fully accessible for the disabled and visually impaired.

The public consultation should start w/c 13/05 and last for around 4 weeks.

The procurement process will be starting imminently which should take around 3 months.

WBC are taking expert advice from the Wildlife trust regarding the protected Penny Royal species.

Regular progress meetings with WBC will be scheduled, and a further update will be available following the next meeting.

The following applications were considered for CIL funding: Finchampstead Sports Club

Groundsman and changing facilities.

The committee is seeking legal advice due to the conditions set out by the Football Foundation who are the one of the other funders of this project. Cllrs Woof and Jukes will discuss these conditions with the Foundation via Teams meeting when this can be set up.

Resurfacing of Range Road £84,000

The Committee recommended this is added to the agenda for the next Rights of Way Committee meeting.

381/2024 COUNCIL MANAGEMENT MATTERS AND WORKING GROUP ACTIVITIES

Cllr Jukes was appointed as the data protection officer.

Policy Review

- The data protection policy needs to be reviewed.
- The Financial regulations are being updated currently and will be reviewed.
- Standing orders to be reviewed.

382/2024 FORUM

Cllr Jukes attended a local nature recovery strategy meeting recently, Finchampstead falls into the Berkshire area which is run by Windsor and Maidenhead. One of the things mentioned was highlighting areas of biodiversity net gain, Cllr Jukes has contacted Maidenhead to discuss further.

Cllr Allen is keen to move forward with a CIL strategy, all Cllr's will be invited to a brainstorming session over the next few weeks to discuss ideas for spending the CIL funds. Deputy Clerk to arrange.

383/2024 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on 8 May 2024.

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

FINANCE & GENERAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE 09 JANUARY 2024

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

MINUTE REFERENC E	ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON(S)
297/2024	Financial Position – A transfer from the Unity Trust account to the CCLA deposit fund of around £500,000 to be arranged.	RW/Deputy Clerk
301/2024	Deputy Clerk to send a report showing website and Facebook statistics every 3 months.	Deputy Clerk
301/2024	Deputy Clerk to investigate the licence options for Canva.	Deputy Clerk
380/2024	Legal advice is being sought on the grant for the Finchampstead sports club.	RW/GJ

380/2024	The resurfacing of Range Road will be added to the agenda for the next rights of way committee meeting.	Deputy Clerk
381/2024	The data protection policy to be reviewed.	GJ
381/2024	The financial regulations update to be completed.	GJ
381/2024	Standing orders to be reviewed.	RW, GJ, SM
382/2024	Cllr Jukes contacting Maidenhead Council to discuss the local nature recovery strategy and biodiversity net gain.	GJ
382/2024	Further discussions to be had on a CIL strategy and a meeting to be arranged.	Deputy Clerk