



Councillors in attendance: Chairman: Paddy Walker (PW), Elizabeth Brown (EB), Fiona Dix (FD), Max Harwood (MH), Sue May (SM) and Steve Williamson (SW). Clerk: Debbie Harknett.  
There were no members of the public in attendance. Meeting started at 7.30pm.

Chairman: Paddy Walker  
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Clerk: Debbie Harknett  
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- 1) **Recording of the meeting** – it was noted that the meeting would not be recorded.
- 2) **Representations from the public** - None.
- 3) **Apologies for absence** - None.
- 4) **Declarations of interest** - MH expressed an interest in Rogate School and SW in Rake Hall/playground project.
- 5) **Minutes of last meeting** - The minutes of the last meeting held on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2018 were approved and signed as a true record.
- 6) **Chairman's report** -  
PW went through the minutes of the last meeting updating any actions:
  - a) RATA - FD explained the Council have accepted a quote from Lewis Landscaping for the installation of the planters, additional hedge cutting and painting of the railings. The purchase of hi-vis jackets for Rake speedwatch group and payment of the hall for a police training session has also been approved.
  - b) RATA are talking to the owner of the house behind the village centre bus shelter and FD/MH are going to agree the design of a shelter that allows some of the garden to be returned to the house. Payment of £3,000 from RATA funds has been agreed.
  - c) EB noted the council have approved the purchase of a new school sign to a total cost of £300 subject to design and location approval. While it appears the R&T may also be offering some financial support it was agreed to leave in the RATA budget as there could also be installation costs.
  - d) MH reported has found a contractor who has offered to do the coppicing at Terwick Wood in return for the logs, subject to the contract being checked, amended and agreed by him and The Clerk.
  - e) SW noted that we have a responsibility to remove rhododendrons from parish land and we should be trying to do it.
  - f) SW noted the youth club grant is to cover the youth worker's salary at an expected cost of £1,800 per year. Current year expenditure to come from reserves.

FD arrived.

  - g) PW updated the meeting following discussions with Rogate and Terwick PCC's. Both thanked the Council for the grants recently awarded and were happy with the amounts received. There was some discussion as to the situation, council responsibility, whether or not 'good value' was obtained for the graveyard upkeep. It was agreed to wait for their accounts but in the meantime budget as per the amounts granted this year.
  - h) It was noted that SW is still in discussion about St. Peters Road part of Operation Watershed.
- 7) **Review of expenditure against budget for 2018/19** and
- 8) **Draft budget 2019/20**  
PW went through the expenditure year-to-date, expected and the budget proposals that were circulated.
  - a) SW noted the full council had approved maintaining the annual precept at £30,925, subject to any requirement to support the buses.

- b) FD's suggestion the CAB grant be increased from £250 to £300 was supported and it was suggested a member attend their AGM.
- c) It was agreed the overspend in equipment purchase, play area maintenance, property maintenance and youth club grant will be met from reserves.
- d) SW noted there is an election next year which will incur costs (dependent on other elections being held on the same day) and training for any new councillors.
- e) MH explained play area maintenance has been overspent this year and is likely to increase as more bits need to be repaired or replaced; the budget needs to allow for this. The play area on the recreation ground was installed in 2010 and is very well used.
- f) EB requested that the website payments are looked at. It was agreed they should not be paid via her credit card on a monthly basis as they currently are. The Clerk reminded the meeting she had looked at alternatives earlier in the year but after obtaining a quote it was increased significantly in order to provide additional email addresses for each councillor. It was agreed the Clerk should re-investigate with Farrow Creative as additional email addresses are no longer required.
- g) SW's suggestion the finger post at Canhouse Lane could be reinstated from RATA funds was unanimously supported as they are proving to be an attractive addition to the village. SW is trying to locate any of the remains from the original sign.
- h) As part of RATA FD's suggestion of notices 'Not an HGV sat nav route' for Fyning and Garbitt's lanes was discussed. She will obtain some prices and it was agreed to try.
- i) EB read a grant request from Little Angels who now have older children attending the play sessions. They would like to purchase an additional table and a farm yard base/building to go with animals they already have. EB's proposal of **resolution 'to give a grant of £250 to Little Angels'** was seconded by SW and unanimously approved.
- j) The Clerk informed the meeting there was only £110 left in the grant budget after the allocation to Rake playground project so it was unanimously agreed to move £200 unused budget from councillor expenses to grants.
- k) PW read a grant request from the Vicar for his discretionary fund supporting needy people in the parish. It was agreed that as this makes payments to individuals it is outside of the parish council remit.
- l) EB read a grant request from Midhurst food bank that has been supporting some families from the village for the last four years. All Councillors felt it was a very good cause but there was much discussion and concern as to whether or not we could support this type of grant. The Clerk suggested the only way may be through an S137 payment but she would need to confirm it was suitable. The committee voted 3 in favour of a £250 donation and 3 abstaining so no recommendation was made. It was agreed to take the decision to the full council as well as asking for suggestions as to any other ways the council could help to support the scheme – perhaps asking the shop or church to have a collection point was one.
- m) SW explained the timing of information about bus funding is wrong as the county council set their budget after the parishes. If they expect parishes to contribute, they will need to provide information to meet our deadlines or ask for consideration in the future and continue funding for another year while options are investigated.
- n) The budget at £30,925 was approved to go before December's full council meeting.

**9) Date of next meeting** – The next Finance Committee Meeting was scheduled to be held at 7.30pm on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2019 in Rogate Village Hall Pavilion.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.00pm.

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**Chairman**

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**Date**