



Meeting held via 'Zoom' video conferencing due to ongoing Covid-19 situation.

Councillors in attendance: Chairman: Steve Williamson (SW), Adrian Collins (AC), Max Harwood (MH) and Gerard McCloskey (GM).

Clerk: Debbie Harknett.

There were no members of the public in attendance.

Meeting started at 7.30pm.

Chairman: Steve Williamson  
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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) **Apologies for absence** - n/a.
- 3) **Declarations of interest** – none.
- 4) **Minutes of last meeting** – The minutes of the meeting held on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2020 were approved to be signed as a true record.
- 5) **Representations from the public** - none.
- 6) **Chairman's report** – covered later.
- 7) **Review of expenditure against budget 2020/21** **and**
- 8) **Draft budget 2021/22**
  - a) SW went through the budget/expenditure and expected amounts to the year-end.
  - b) Clerks salary is over budget because of additional hours worked for various reasons including the Covid crisis, outdoor gym, setting up website and laptop issues.
  - c) SW reminded the meeting there are funds in reserves towards the land registration. MH added he called MacDonald Oates about the delays. While it was accepted Fyning Recreation Ground would take longer (and therefore probably cost more than the original £350 quote) there is no reason Rake Recreation Ground hadn't been started as the Clerk has passed on the documents months ago. After discussion, it was agreed MH will chase in two weeks or we will move elsewhere.
  - d) Legal costs for the outdoor gym are still unknown and will include the provision of the licence (which is for the initial year) and the lease. Concern was expressed it has become more complicated than thought necessary and it was hoped that we wouldn't incur additional charges from both the halls and our solicitors because of it.
  - e) Equipment purchase overspend includes the cost of the new laptop.
  - f) SW noted there is no expected additional costs for the NP, especially as it is currently impossible to hold a public meeting with display material. He understands that the SDNP meet the cost of a referendum which could be combined with next May's local election.
  - g) There was some discussion about the need for an advertising/promotion budget but it was agreed it wasn't necessary to include this year.
  - h) AC explained RATA funds need to cover the cost of entrance gateways and the bus shelter materials as it is due to be built by the WSCC Volunteers. He added, a requirement of the community highways scheme is some community involvement and they may do some fundraising next year.
  - i) It was agreed reserves will still be above the ideal amount (same as the precept) and therefore if there was insufficient amounts within the new budget funds could be taken

from reserves towards new equipment or repairs but preferably not for grants or salary.

- j) After discussion, SW's proposal of **resolution 'to recommend budget for approval at full council'** was seconded by GM and unanimously approved.

**9) Consider purchase of additional speed indicator device**

- a) Clerk reminded the meeting current RATA funds stand at £4,776. As the bus shelter is unlikely to be installed until the end of the current financial year at the earliest its cost could be met from next year's budget.
- b) AC explained the SID has been very well received and he is pleased to have now got a volunteer for managing in Rogate. There are 8 locations to be covered by the device so on a rota basis it would spend two weeks at each site approximately 3 times a year. If a second device were purchased there would be one for use in Rake/Hillbrow and one for use along the A272 in Rogate. He has been approached by both Trotton and Stedham PC's with a view to sharing a device and is currently talking to them.
- c) We are still waiting for the two new posts to be installed by Balfour Beatty but these have already been paid for.
- d) After discussion, SW's proposal of **resolution 'to purchase a second SID (with fixings and batteries) from Elivos at a cost of £1,900 from RATA funds'** was seconded by GM and unanimously approved to go to full council.

**10) Consider refurbishment of Bull Hill finger post**

- a) SW reported he met with Tim Ralph from Ralph Restorations to look at the sign, site, do some exploratory digging and to discuss the refurbishment of the post which was hit by an HGV over 10 years ago.
- b) This is the last known damaged finger post in the village as the other three were refurbished a couple of years ago.
- c) As well as being made upright the sign requires 3 new arms and a top (he still has the 'Rogate PC' mould) and it likely to cost about £2,000. Tim expects costs to rise in January by 10-20% and currently has some time available as much work is done in his workshop.
- d) After discussion, GM's proposal of **resolution 'to appoint Ralph Restorations to refurbish the Bull Hill finger post at a cost of no more than £2,200 from RATA funds'** was seconded by SW and unanimously approved to go to full council.

**11) Date of next meeting** - The next Finance Committee Meeting was scheduled to be held at 7.30pm on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021 via 'Zoom' video conferencing if needed otherwise it would be in March.

**12) SW** reminded the meeting about his hand-over of the chairmanship (though he will remain on the committee); even though he is currently vice-chairman GM suggested AC was better placed. Agreed to discuss further.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.46pm.

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**Chairman**

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**Date**