

LITTLETON & HARESTOCK PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 22 NOVEMBER 2017

Those present: Mr P Cunningham, Mr J Biddlecombe, Mrs H Saunders, Ms K Learney and Mr C Tee (Parish Clerk)

1. **Apologies:** Mr Sallis
2. **Disclosure of Interest:** None
3. **Minutes of previous meeting in September:** The minutes of the last meeting were presented and accepted as a true record. Proposed by: Mrs Saunders and Seconded by: Mr Cunningham.
4. **Current Financial State/consideration of 2018/19 Budget and Precept:** The Parish Clerk explained the current expenditure and reserves position against budget; these were found to be satisfactory, with expenditure expected to be contained within budget. He also had put forward a proposed budget for 2018/19 assuming a 10% increase in the precept based on the following areas of extra expenditure: the loss of the Open Spaces fund money (£10,000 per annum) for playground equipment We have received £3,400 in Rate Support Grant for 2017/18; this is going to halve in 2018/19 to £1,700 and be totally lost to us after that year due to central government cutbacks. There is also the need to consider that if flood mitigation works are approved to take place in Littleton, WCC/HCC will expect the Parish Council to contribute towards those costs in terms of our CIL: we have just received £12,647.58 CIL money from the development in Deane Down Drove and the one in Winslade Road Harestock which I think it would be prudent to set aside for this and possibly a little contribution beyond that. We also have £2,000 of our own reserves available for such an eventuality. Following discussion, it was agreed unanimously to recommend to the full Parish Council in December that there should be another 10% increase in the precept for 2018/19. It was also agreed to put into earmarked reserves the amount left at the end of the financial year unspent in the Harestock Road football field budget; £10,000 at present and in addition to put the recently received £12,647.58 CIL money into earmarked reserves against flood resilience for possible future flood mitigation work in Littleton.
5. **Any Other Business:** The Clerk then mentioned that as is usual at this time of year, the Parish Council recognise the efforts of the unpaid volunteers who help the Parish Council with the award of gift vouchers. £100 for the webmaster, £50 each for the three lady gardeners at Littleton, £50 for the nature reserve warden and £50 for the Flowerdown Barrows warden, a total of £350, plus £50 for the gentleman who has been renovating all the benches at Littleton Recreation Ground for free. This was agreed. There was no other business.