

LITTLETON & HARESTOCK PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 6 MARCH 2019

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

1. **Apologies:** None
2. **Disclosure of Interest:** None.
3. **Minutes of previous meeting (20th Nov 2018):** The minutes of the last meeting were presented and accepted as a true record. It was proposed by Cllr P Cunningham and seconded by Mr J Biddlecombe that these be accepted. **RESOLVED - That the minutes of the meeting of 20th November 2018 be approved.**

4. Matters arising

The Parish Clerk provided a historical list of water bills a number of in response to the concerns on high water usage raised during the last meeting. The most recent bills had been estimated and the current actual reading is less than the estimations. Billing now needs to be rectified by Business Stream. The clerk also reported that the Business Stream engineer confirmed that we do not have a leak. The clerk reported that she had contacted the MOD with regard to re-arranging the lease on the Harestock football field and is waiting for feedback.

Cllr P Cunningham reported that the precept increase for Littleton and Harestock is 1.8%, which compares well with the average of 4.6% in the area.

5. Current Financial State:

The Parish Clerk explained the current expenditure and receipts received; these were found to be satisfactory, with expenditure expected to be contained within budget. It was noted that the bill for the Flashing speed sign is due this month, and Mr John Biddlecombe agreed to forward the clerk information about the rota and original agreement.

The reserves position against budget was discussed, and the clerk proposed to add the CIL receipts of £6642.52 for 2018-19 into earmarked reserves, and to remove the Pension scheme exposure earmarked reserve of £15,000 as this is no longer needed. This was then agreed.

6. Sports Club Agreement

Mr J Biddlecombe reported that the sports club agreement was currently being finalised, there were some final questions being resolved which were considered to be minor issues. The grounds maintenance update is also being finalised with a small update needed to remove the work clearing the drains and weed killing around the memorial hall as this will now be paid for separately.

7. Hampshire Pension Fund

Cllr P Cunningham reported that he had received an actuary report from the Hampshire County Pension Scheme which shows a surplus, and therefore the council do not need to pay any deficit. Unfortunately due to Hampshire's Pension funding strategy they are not going to pay an exit credit.

8. Transparency

The Parish clerk reported that future minutes and agendas for the finance meeting will be now placed on the website and agendas will also go on the parish notice boards to allow parishioners to be able to attend.

9. Financial Regulations / Authority to spend the budget

The Parish Clerk provided a new draft financial regulations based on the model on the HALC website. This was reviewed, together with the proposal for the authority to spend money and the clerk will revise the document in time for it to be submitted to the April Parish Council meeting for approval.

10. Any Other Business:

The next meeting was re-arranged to 8th May at 9:30.