

# Minutes of Calne Without Parish Council Finance Committee

Zoom

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2020

Calne Without Councillor Attendance

Present (P) Apologies (A) Did not attend (x)

Jim Cook (Chair)	P	Richard French	P
Katharina Kronig	P	Rob Hislop	A
Ed Jones	P	Alan Malpas	P
Sue Baker	A		

## 1 Apologies

Apologies received from Cllrs Baker and Hislop

## 2 Public participation

None

## 3 Declarations of Interest

None

## 4 Minutes

Proposed: Cllr Jones

Seconded: Cllr French

Agreed unanimously: **That the Committee approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> October 2020 as a true and fair reflection of the motions agreed by the Committee and the discussions that took place and that these be signed by the Chairman as such.**

## 5 Budget and Precept request for 2021/22

Cllrs discussed the options presented in the paper which included the budget outline generally accepted by Council on 9<sup>th</sup> November Option 1 plus a precept reduction option 2 and a hybrid of 1 and 2 which reduced the discretionary spending. Cllrs discussed the options and items within the discretionary components that could be changed, and how the options should be presented to Council. Cllrs adopted an approach that discretionary expenditure, project initiation and project delivery would be met from CIL and Sun Edison in the first instance, with running costs for projects already initiated (e.g., planters) being funded by the modest precept increase. Cllrs recognised that this approach would require increases in precept in subsequent years to address the running costs of projects initiated and delivered using CIL and Sun Edison funds. All future projects should show the likely ongoing cost to the Council as well as capital expenditure so that future increases in precept are identified. Papers for Council are also to include a "change nothing" option as Option 4. The Committee concluded the general reserve is accepted as adequate at £17860 and that no further restoration of reserves is required. Reserves can be used for unbudgeted necessary expenditure in 2021/22 and restoration considered in 2022/21 when the impact of the Covid-19 on local authority funding is clearer.

Proposed: Cllr Jones

Seconded: Cllr French

25/11/2020

30/11/2020

1.0

1.1

First Draft

Revised

Agreed unanimously: **That subject to explanations of the changes made a revised option 3 with a total running cost budget of £29,682 be put forward as the Finance Committee preferred option when the budget paper is presented to Council on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2020.**

## **6 Bank Mandates and Credit Card Application – Update**

The Clerk reported that the account with the Bath Building Society had successfully been opened and the transfer from Unity Trust Bank would take place once all the paperwork had been received. The Lloyds Bank credit card and bank mandate change has been submitted as had the mandate change for the Nationwide savings account.

## **7 Other Matters**

Cllrs Cook and Malpas, in response to a recent IT issue, raised the possibility of Finance Committee taking on delegated powers to approve spending on some budget heads within set parameters to enable a faster response to problems. Subject to be taken to Council for consideration in December.

Cllr Cook advised members of the Committee that the purchase of an improved O365 licence approved under the playground project to enable the Council to produce an online survey form would have the added benefit of improved capability for the Clerk to store information in the cloud.

DRAFT