

**Finance Committee Meeting
Minutes of the meeting held at 7.30pm on 4th December 2013
In the Committee Room at the Village Hall, Braeside Road, St Leonards**

Members Present:, Cllr R Warman, Chairman

Cllr R Bryan

Cllr M Dyer

Cllr R Dudman

Cllr Mrs A Warman

In attendance: Mrs Ann Jacobs, Clerk to Council

317. Public Open Forum: None.

318. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest:- none

319. Apologies: Cllr B Goringe. Cllr Mrs J House had been attending training today.

320. Minutes of the Finance Committee meeting - The Minutes of the meeting held on 6th November 2013 pages 52 & 53 were approved and signed as a correct record. Proposed by Cllr M Dyer, seconded by Cllr Mrs A Warman. Agreed unanimously.

321. Matters Arising from the Minutes:

1. Thank you letters and receipts received from Greyfriars, CAB East Dorset and Victim Support were noted.
2. Min. 278 The Clerk reported that the cost of calls for setting and un-setting the alarm system was working out at £140 per annum. The Insurance Company has confirmed that it does not require a monitored system. The Clerk is putting a specification together and obtaining quotations to alter the system.

322. Schedule of payments for cheques 004137-004155 and 004156-004173 including Aviva pension direct debit for October were discussed. A copy of which had been circulated to each Member, and a public access version is placed with these Minutes in the Minute Book see Appendix A. The schedule was approved unanimously. Proposed by Cllr Mrs A Warman, seconded by Cllr M Dyer.

RESOLVED: That the schedule of payments for cheque numbers 004137-004155 and 004156-004173 including Aviva pension direct debit for October were approved.

323. Bank Reconciliations -

The Clerk submitted for information bank reconciliations for the end of October, a copy of which, had been circulated to each Member and placed with these Minutes in the Minute Book see Appendix B. It was proposed for acceptance by Cllr R Bryan, seconded by Cllr M Dyer. Agreed unanimously.

RESOLVED: That the bank reconciliations for the end of October 2013 be approved.

Members noted that the AIB bond was up for renewal on 23rd December 2013 the interest rate offered for a 6 month bond was 0.80% whilst the Santander account with instant access was due to increase to 1% from 27th January. The Clerk was asked to investigate what the other banks are offering as a rate. The reserves Committee will need to meet and review the investments. The Clerk was asked to find out whether Cllr C House was still willing to be on the Reserves Committee following his recent resignation from the Finance Committee if not Cllr Mrs J House as Vice Chairman should be asked if she was willing to assist.

324. Budget Vs Expenditure Figures: Budget vs Expenditure figures to 27.11.13 were noted

325. Precept 2014/2015: - The Clerk circulated a draft proposed budget for 2014/2015 increased overall by 2.9% on last year this was discussed. It was noted that the grant amount from EDDC was still unknown. Members agreed to recommend the budget in principle to full Council subject

to adjustment once the grant situation with EDDC is known. Proposed by Cllr M Dyer, seconded by Cllr R Bryan. Agreed unanimously.

RESOLVED: To recommend the budget in principle to full Council subject to adjustment once the grant situation with EDDC is known

- 326. Advertising Policy** – A draft policy was circulated to Members and discussed. Members asked for two amendments: to include “no illuminated signs will be permitted” and to insert the words “for approval” at the end of the second paragraph. The draft was then agreed unanimously, to be recommended to full Council for adoption. Proposed by Cllr R Bryan, seconded by Cllr R Dudman.

RESOLVED: The draft policy, as amended to be recommended to full Council for adoption.

327. Exchange of Information:

1. Next meeting 5th March 2014
2. Cllr Mrs A Warman reported receipt of a petition from residents of Bracken Close complaining about the lack of grass cuts of their verges. This has been presented to Judith Plumley who is dealing with it as a complaint. Cllr Mrs Warman will give an update once known.
3. Members were concerned about the potential budgetary impact if District and County pass on duties to Parishes such as ditch clearance and road sweeping. It was pointed out to Officers that Parishes do not have the resources or skills. The Clerk was asked to put a review of contingency sums to the next meetings as these may need increasing.

Meeting closed at 7.45pm

Chairman