

# Pool-in-Wharfedale Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of Pool-in-Wharfedale Parish Council Finance Committee held via ZOOM.US for the purpose of transacting during the COVID 19 PANDEMIC on Thursday 08 April 2021 at 7.00pm.

**Present:** Councillor Rowling in the Chair also present Cllrs Cooke, Mifsud and Lee.

**In attendance:** Parish Clerk J. Ryan

**FC2021/320 Public Participation**

No members of the public were present.

**FC2021/321 To accept apologies for absence.**

No apologies received.

**FC2021/322 To receive any declarations of personal and prejudicial interests in items on the agenda.**

The clerk asked councillors to note that DCLG guidance in relation to dispensations allowed them to participate in council business connected with council tax. "Any payment of, or liability to pay, council tax does not create a disclosable pecuniary interest as defined in the national rules; hence being a council taxpayer does not mean that you need a dispensation to take part in the business of setting the council tax or precept or local arrangements for council tax support".

**FC2021/323 To approve the minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2021.**

The minutes of the meeting held on the Monday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2021 were approved by the Finance Committee proposed by Councillor Cooke and seconded by Councillor Rowling.

**FC2021/324 To receive information arising from the minutes that is not listed elsewhere on the agenda.**

No matter arisings not covered by agenda items.

**FC2021/325 To review the Terms of Reference for the Finance Committee.**

Councillors considered the Terms of Reference for the Finance Committee and agreed to continue to use them alongside the Council Standing Orders and Financial Regulations.

**FC2021/326 To review the Employee Statement on Local Government Pension Scheme Changes.**

Councillors noted that there have been no significant changes to the scheme since the last review and noted the report. The report will now be forwarded to the pension provider the West Yorkshire Pension Fund.

**FC2021/327 To review and approve the end of year accounts, reports on Income and Expenditure and final account balances.**

The clerk tabled four reports, a Briefing Note on the closure of the Parish Accounts for Financial Year 2020/21, a statement on the end of year accounts 2020-21, a final budget for publication alongside the opening budget (agreed at an earlier meeting) for the year 2021/22 and a cheque book analysis of expenditure over the year.

The clerk took councillors through the main briefing note and highlighted changes in income and expenditure from the original budget for 2020/21. Of particular note was the increase in income following the deposit of a grant for the Pool History Website and an increase in grant income.

Overspends and underspends were highlighted which included increased expenditure relating to the emptying of dog bins, the trees and hedges budget and an underspend on the Wharfedale Greenway budget.

Overall, the budget finished in a slightly better position than the original with a surplus of £4860.62. The final Cash Book Balance on the Main Account is £45142.32 and the final balance on Special Projects Account is £19,880.94. The previous decision to move £5000.00 to the Special Projects Account will now be implemented.

Councillors spent some time discussing the financial implications for 2021/22 of investment in the main playground. It was agreed to hold a special Finance Committee meeting on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2021 at 7.00pm with one agenda item, the redevelopment of the playground.

#### **RESOLVED**

Councillors agreed that the reports be accepted this was moved by Councillor Cooke and seconded by Councillor Rowling.

**FC2021/328 To approve the Internal Auditor for the year 2021/22.**

After some discussion it was agreed, moved by Councillor Cooke, and seconded by Councillor Mifsud that the Council continue to use David Locke & CO of Otley, West Yorkshire as the Internal Auditor.

**FC2021/329 To review the position of Chairman of the Finance Committee.**

Councillor Mifsud informed the Committee that because of pressures of work and family commitments it was impossible for her to carry on as Chairman, Councillor Rowling will act as Chairman for the remainder of the municipal year. The Committee thanked Councillor Mifsud for all her work in the role.

**FC2021/330 To agree items for inclusion on the agenda for the next meeting.**

May Meeting – Parish Playground  
Review Parish Council Action Plan -September meeting  
Review Parish Council Risk Register – September meeting.

**FC2021/331 Date and time of next meeting.**

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Meeting closed at 8.30 pm.