

Pool-in-Wharfedale Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of Pool-in-Wharfedale Parish Council Finance Committee held at the Methodist Rooms, Manor Gardens, Main Street, Pool-in-Wharfedale on Monday 10th January 2022 at 6.30 pm.

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

In attendance: Parish Clerk J. Ryan

FC2022/333 Public Participation

No members of the public were present.

FC2022/334 To accept apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Councillor Mifsud.

FC2022/335 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."

FC2022/336 To approve the minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 8th April 2021.

The minutes of the meeting held on the Thursday 8th April 2021 were approved by the Finance Committee proposed by Councillor Rowling and seconded by Councillor Cooke.

FC2022/337 To receive information arising from the minutes that is not listed elsewhere on the agenda.

No matters arising not covered by agenda items.

FC2022/338 To review the original Budget for 2021-22 and the projected Outturn for 2021-22.

The Clerk circulated a report on the projected outturn budget for 2021-22 which showed that despite a significant increase in expenditure to accommodate the purchase of new equipment for the playground the overall budget for the year looked to result in a small surplus and without the use of resources from the Special Projects Fund. This has been managed by an increase in income largely resulting from grants from Leeds City Council and underspending on certain budget headings. Overall the Council looks to be in a good position looking towards the next financial year.

FC2022/339 To make a recommendation to the Full Council meeting on the Precept for the financial year 2022-23.

Councillors discussed a briefing note circulated by the clerk which outlined the effect of various increases in Precept on next years budget, including a 0% rise. In the light of the information provided on the Outturn Budget for 2021-22, the possible impact on expenditure of rising inflation and the desire to continue to refurbish the parish playgrounds Councillors whilst acknowledging the serious energy crisis and on going pandemic believed a rise in Precept was acceptable for the coming financial year.

Councillors believed a rise of 4% was reasonable and that the impact on Band D taxpayers of an extra £1.88 a year was not extravagant. The 4% increase will raise just £2742.00. Also it is worth noting that the Councillors did not raise the Precept last year because of the impact of the Pandemic at the time.

RESOLVED

It was moved by Councillor Rowling and Seconded by Councillor Cooke that the Finance Committee ask the full Council Meeting to approve a Recommendation to increase the Precept by 4% for the financial year 2022-23.

FC2022/340 To review and make any recommendations to the Five-Year Financial Strategy.

Councillors reviewed the Strategy and asked the clerk to update the document which will be presented to Council at a later date.

FC2022/341 To agree items for inclusion on the agenda for the next meeting.

Budget for 2022-23
Review Parish Council Action Plan
Review Parish Council Risk Register

FC2022/342 Date and time of next meeting.

The next meeting will be held on March 14th 2022 at 6.30 pm at Old Pool Bank Village Hall.

Meeting closed at 7.20 pm.