Wheathampstead Parish Council Finance Committee 9 January 2017 19.30

Present Councillors D Davies Chairman

G Clark A Dante L Halford S Haynes D Johnston T Reason J Shardlow P Wilby

P Woodhams

Julia Warren Clerk Press 0 Public 0

4922-17 Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors A Brewster (SADC meeting) and E Habib (personal reasons).

4923-17 Public Speaking

None.

4924-1 Specific Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

As an allotment holder Councillor Haynes declared an interest in Minute 4927-17 and abstained from voting.

4925-17 Minutes of meeting of 9 November 2016

Councillor Shardlow proposed, seconded by Councillor Woodhams, and it was agreed that the Minutes of the meeting held on 9 November be approved.

Resolved To confirm the Minutes of the meeting

held on 9 November 2016 to be a true and fair account and for these to be

signed by the Chairman.

4926-17 Bank report

Reconciled bank reports and statements as circulated were noted.

4927-17 Review of fees and charges **2017-2018**

Further to Minute 4857-16, which approved all charges increase by approximately 2% for 2017-18, specific figures had been circulated. The Chairman proposed, and it was agreed that these

be approved.

Allotment holders were given a year's notice of rental charges. It was noted that the Allotment Committee of 13 December 2016, Minute 4913-16 recommended a 2% increase for 2018-19. A discussion on allotment rent for 2018-19 followed. Allotment rents had remained static at £4 per pole (£40 per full size plot) since 2013-14, ie for 5 years. Councillor Dante proposed, seconded by Councillor Wilby, and it was agreed that allotment rents for 2018-19 be raised by 2% to a round £4.10 per pole, £41 for a full size plot. Tenants to be advised with their 2017-18 invoices.

Resolved

- 1 That all charges as circulated and discussed be approved, this being the 2% increase agreed at Minute 4857-16.
- 2 That allotment rent be increased to £4.10 per pole for 2018-19 and that tenants be advised with their 2017-18 invoices.

4928-17 Budget project for 2017-2018

Councillors had been asked to consider ideas for potential projects for inclusion in the 2016-17 budget.

Councillor Johnston informed the Committee that to date no new projects had been suggested on top of the ones already budgeted for.

Resolved To note the report

4929-17 Budget 2017-18 Recommendation

A draft budget for 2017-8 had been prepared including balances at 31 December 2016 and estimated income and expenditure to year end shown against current budgets. The current year's budget was reviewed and budget for 2017-18 considered in context.

It was noted that the grant previously made from central government to St Albans District Council for parishes caused by the Localised Council Tax Support Scheme (LCTS) was no longer available.

The draft budget was considered in detail and a few amendments made resulting in a 2.6% increase on band D.

Councillor Shardlow proposed, seconded by Councillor Wilby and unanimously agreed that the budget as discussed be recommended for approval to Council on 26 January, namely £487, 835 gross budget. and £223,091 precept requirement

Resolved To recommend to Council approval for 2017-18 budget of £487,835.

4930-17 Precept 2017-18 Recommendation

Consequent to budget deliberations at Minute 4929-17 the Chairman proposed, and it was unanimously agreed that a precept recommendation of £237,971 be made to Council. It was noted that this represented a 2.6% increase on Band D properties.

Resolved To recommend to Council approval for

2017-18 precept requirement of £237,971.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 21.55

Dated this day of 2017

Chairman