

## Wheathampstead Parish Council

### Finance Committee Meeting

23 April 2018 – 19:30

Present:	Councillors	D Davies	Chairman
		L Halford	
		S Haynes	
		D Johnston	
		T Ryan	
		J Warren	Clerk to the Council
		Press	0
		Public	0

#### 5598-18 Apologies

Apologies had been received from Councillors J Booth, E Habib, O McKenzie and P Woodhams (personal reasons)

#### 5599-18 Public Speaking

None.

#### 5600-18 Specific Declarations of Interest & Dispensations

Councillor Haynes declared a personal interest in Minute 5604-18 as he assisted the Wheathampstead Dramatic Society as sound engineer.

#### 5601-18 Minutes of Finance Committee of 24 January 2018

Councillor Johnston proposed, seconded by Councillor Halford and, and it was agreed that the Minutes of the meeting held on 24 January 2018 be approved.

##### Resolved:

**To confirm the Minutes of the meeting held on 24 January 2018 to be a true and fair account and for these to be signed by the Chairman.**

#### 5602-18 Bank Report

Statements and reconciled bank reports for all accounts were circulated and were noted to correspond.

##### Resolved:

**To note the reports.**

#### 5603-18 Pension Report

The triennial actuarial LGPS pension valuation report as circulated identified that Wheathampstead Parish Council (WPC) owed an additional strain payment of £5,000 due within 2018-19. This had not been budgeted for.

The Chairman proposed, and it was agreed, that this liability be paid as a one-off lump sum payment.

Further information was sought after the meeting. It was confirmed that this was specific to WPC's liabilities for staff pension payments resulting from salary increases over the expected rate for the town

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and parishes pool group. Payment was due within the year so as not to impact upon other pool members.

### **Resolved:**

**To pay the pension strain liability as a one-off lump sum payment.**

### **5604-18 Hire subsidy requests**

Consideration was given to facility hire, particularly that of the Memorial Hall, in light of overlapping hirers and booking misunderstandings. Bookings needed to be clearer and enforced to avoid booking clashes and assist accurate diary management. Grant funding of un-booked usage would be more transparent.

Councillor Johnston proposed, seconded by Councillor Haynes, and it was agreed that booking times be strictly adhered to. Organisations which anticipated difficulties in paying the appropriate payment charge to cover their booking period be invited to apply for a grant towards hall hire costs, which in 2018 would be looked upon favourably. In future years booking fees would need to be funded using their own funds, potentially supplemented by grants from other bodies which may include the Parish Council.

Booking times to be enforced effective from June 2018.

A request from the Wheathampstead Dramatic Society had been received, further details were being sought. Councillor Halford proposed, seconded by Councillor Ryan, and it was agreed that a meeting be sought to include where possible Councillors Halford, Haynes and Johnston and the Clerk.

### **Resolved:**

- **That booking times be strictly adhered to.**
- **Grant applications be invited towards hire costs from organisations which anticipated difficulties in paying the appropriate payment charge to cover their booking**
- **In future years booking fees would need to be funded using organisations' own funds, potentially supplemented by grants from other bodies which may include the Parish Council.**
- **To arrange a meeting with the Wheathampstead Dramatic Society**

### **5605-18 Budget review 2017-18**

A draft outturn budget report for 2017-8 had been circulated and was noted.

### **Resolved:**

**To note the report.**

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**5606-18 Budget review 2018-19**

The budget for the new financial year had been circulated, transactions were not shown as the previous year had yet to be closed.

**Resolved:**

**To note the report.**

**The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 20:25**

**Dated this                      day of                      2018**

**Chairman**