

**PONTESBURY PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Finance & General Purposes Committee**  
**Held at Mary Webb School**  
**At 6.30pm on 4 December 2019**

**PRESENT**

Cllr D Fletcher, Cllr J Pritchard, Cllr N Hignett, Cllr A Hodges, Cllr P Heywood

**CLERK:** Debbie Marais

**No members of the public were present.**

**FGP12.19      APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllr N Lewis, Cllr B Morris, Cllr R Martinali

**FGP13.19      DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS**

None

**FGP14.19      MINUTES OF COUNCIL**

The minutes were submitted and circulated as read. It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee Meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> May 2019 be approved and signed as a correct record

**FGP15.19      PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS**

None

**FGP16.19      TRANSFER OF MONIES TO NEW LLOYDS ACCOUNT FOR COMMUNITY BUILDING**

It was proposed by Cllr J Pritchard and seconded by Cllr P Heywood and:

**RESOLVED** to transfer the remaining monies allocated in the budget agreed for the community building for 2019-20, (minus monies already spent) £17,347.20 to the new account.

**FGP17.19      STREETLIGHT PROJECT**

It was proposed by Cllr N Hignett and seconded by Cllr J Pritchard and **RESOLVED** to make the following recommendations to Full Council Meeting on 13/1/20;

1. Any streetlights that need repairing before April 2020 will be replaced with a LED lamp at a price of £200 per lamp. (estimated £11,000 left in budget to cover repairs, any surplus carried forward for streetlight LED replacement in 2020-21)
2. Plan to do 60 lights in 2020-21 at a charge of £10,800 and then remaining lights (approx. 50) in 2021-22. The total cost of the project will be under £25,000 and so three quotations will be sufficient for financial regulations. Spec to be drawn up in February 2020 by streetlight working group.

3. Consider using CIL Neighbourhood Fund monies or reserves for 2020-21 for replacing 60 lights
4. Budget £6,000 for maintenance to allow for any infrastructure that may need replacing and to replace any further sox lamps that need repairing in 2020-21 with LED.
5. Budget £500 for annual visual survey in April 2020 to be done before decision about which 60 lights replaced with LED lamp, to ensure worst done first

#### **FGP18.19 SMARTWATER PROJECT**

Following discussion of the costings involved in rolling out a Smartwater project in the parish it was decided that a decision on this be deferred until budget setting in November 2020 in order to gauge the level of community interest in the project as in order to gain full benefit from the project there needs to be a high percentage take-up of the packs within the community.

#### **FGP19.19 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

It was proposed by Cllr J Pritchard and seconded by Cllr A Hodges and **RESOLVED to REMOVE exclusion of the Press & Public on the grounds that there were no members of the public present.**

#### **FGP20.19 CLERK HOURS REVIEW**

It was proposed by Cllr P Heywood and seconded by Cllr N Hignett and **RESOLVED to recommend for approval at the Full Council Meeting on 13/1/20 that;**

**Clerks hours be increased to full-time for twelve months, initially, from 1 December 2019 in order to give 1 day per week (based at Pavilion) to oversee the opening/setting up of the new community hub building. The workload and hours would be reviewed by the Personnel Committee meeting in June 2020.**

#### **FGP21.19 CLERK SALARY REVIEW**

It was proposed by Cllr D Fletcher and seconded by Cllr J Pritchard and **RESOLVED to recommend for approval at the Full Council meeting on 13/1/20 that;**

**Clerk be awarded a 2 point pay scale rise from Scale point 24 to Scale point 26 from 1 April 2020, in recognition of additional responsibilities associated with new community building (The Pavilion).**

#### **FGP 22.19 FINANCIAL BUDGET FOR 2020-21**

The Clerk presented members with an outline of expected expenditure for 2020-21 which was reviewed including expenditure for the current and previous financial years. Members were informed that the budget and precept levy for the financial year 2020-21 would need to be approved at the Full Council meeting on 13<sup>TH</sup> January 2020.

It was proposed by Cllr J Pritchard and seconded by Cllr A Hodges and

#### **RESOLVED:**

1. **That the budget as prepared by the Finance & General Purposes Committee be noted**
2. **That the budget forms the basis of the discussions at Full Council on 13<sup>th</sup> January 2020**

The meeting closed at 7.45pm.

**Signed .....**  
**Chairman**

**Date .....**