## NEWTON POPPLEFORD AND HARPFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Finance Committee held on Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> January 2023 at the Pavilion, Back Lane, Newton Poppleford commencing at 7.00pm.

Present: Cllrs. Walker (Chair), Burhop (VC), Carpenter, Dalton and Tribble

Jacqui Baldwin (Clerk and RFO)

Prior to the commencement of the meeting Chair outlined the Fire Regulations and evacuation procedure. There being no members of the public present a Public Forum did not take place.

			Action
FC22/65		To consider apologies for absence and approve if accepted (LGA 1972 S.85(1))	
		Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr. Tillotson.	
FC22/66		Declarations of interest from members / Dispensations afforded	
		None made.	
FC22/67		To consider and, if thought fit, approve the Minutes of the Finance Committee of the Council held on 12 <sup>th</sup> December 2022	
		Chair proposed that the Minutes be approved as a true record of the	
		meeting. Seconded by Cllr. Dalton and resolved unanimously.	
		To consider Matters Arising from those Minutes:	
		No matters arising not dealt with elsewhere on the Agenda.	
FC22/68		BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED:	
	Α	To carry out a review of Parish reserve funds:	
		Cllr. Burhop proposed that the WC Refurbishment Fund should be reduced by	
		£15,000 as a reflection of the revision to the refurbishment plans. The	
		released funds to be transferred to the Play Equipment Sinking Fund, the	
		Amenity Repairs Fund and General Reserves. Actual sums to be agreed prior	
		to the commencement of the next financial year. The Cemetery Wall Repair	
		Fund to be removed as work complete. Jubilee Event Reserve to be replaced	
		by Coronation Event fund for which £5,000 has been budgeted.	
	В	Flood alleviation works in Webbers Meadow	
		Chair expressed concern that the Jubilee copse in Webbers Meadow had	
		been under water for several weeks which may cause the young trees to die.	
		It was suggested that the dumping of topsoil from the MUGA into Webbers	
		Meadow had hindered the natural drainage. Cllr. Burhop confirmed that the	
		MUGA contractors had been requested to do this as a green solution to the	
		issue of topsoil disposal.	
		It was agreed that carrying out any alleviation works may make matters	
		worse and it would be better to allow the water to drain away naturally.	
		Clerk was requested to contact the MUGA contractors for their advice.	Cler
		Chair requested an update on the repairs to the footbridge in Webbers	
		Meadow. Cllr. Burhop confirmed that the contractors estimate had been	

	accepted but the work could not be carried out until water levels had receded significantly. With regard to the debris from the clearance of the Venn Ottery stream, Cllr. Burhop advised that the appointed contractor would be removing this in February.	
С	To review the draft Risk Assessment for 2023  Clerk had circulated a draft of the 2023/24 Risk Assessment prior to the meeting. After discussion, revisions to Physical Risks and Financial Risks were proposed to be integrated into the draft working document. Management Risks to be reviewed by the Policy and Personnel Committee as agreed in 2022.	
	Clerk to update draft document and circulate. Clerk to add review of Management Risks to PPC February Agenda	Clerk
D	<ul> <li>i) Retention         Noted that the retention sum of £2,829.90 has been added to the list of Council's Reserves for 2023/24.     </li> <li>ii) S.106/CIL Funds         Cllr. Burhop confirmed that contact had been made with the S.106 Officer at EDDC. A face to face meeting is not possible as the officer is working from home but a virtual meeting to discuss available funds will be arranged. Noted that £1,900 remains in the fund allocated to this project by EDDC.     </li> <li>iii) Floodlighting         Clerk confirmed that requests for quotations had been sent to the three contractors recommended by the MUGA Project Manager. It is estimated that the cost will be in the region of £15,000.     </li> <li>iv) Additional works/Maintenance         Cllr. Burhop suggested that it may be necessary to purchase a power sweeper to carry out regular maintenance on the playing surface.     </li> </ul>	
	Clerk to investigate the cost of a power sweeper.  v) Booking system  It was proposed by Cllr. Burhop that Full Council be asked to consider approving a 3-month trial of the Sportskey booking software through March, April and May.  Clerk to add to the agenda for the January Full Council meeting.  Cllr. Tribble to contact Sportskey to ascertain best possible price	Clerk Clerk SPT
E	for trial period.  To carry out a review of Cemetery Fees Chair proposed that there should be no increase to cemetery fees for the financial year 2023/34. Seconded by Cllr. Dalton. Resolved with 3 votes in favour, one abstention and one vote against.  Chair noted a request from a resident to receive a refund for the purchase of a burial plot in Venn Ottery Road cemetery that is no longer required.  Chair proposed that the appropriate fee be refunded, seconded by Cllr.  Tribble and resolved unanimously.	
F	Clerk to note and action.  To approve submission of the Annual Parish Paths Partnership (P3) Grant Forms	Clerk

		Clerk advised that a meeting had taken place with the Honorary Footpath Warden to discuss the grant application for the coming year. A quotation is awaited for remedial works to Back Brook/Footpath 3 and, when this has been received, the application forms will be submitted.	
	G	Plans for the Coronation Celebration event in May 2023 It was agreed that a Coronation Event committee should be formed to organise events to take place on Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> May. Events to be considered: dog show, fun day, fancy dress and cake decorating competitions, quiz.  Clerk to add to the agenda for discussion by Full Council in January	Clerk
FC22/69		To review and note payments for January 2023 Chair proposed that payments totalling £4,779.99 be approved for payment. Seconded by Cllr. Carpenter and resolved unanimously. Clerk to note and action.	Clerk
FC22/70		Matters considered as urgent by presiding Chair for discussion only None raised.	
FC22/71		To agree date, time and venue of next meeting The next meeting will take place at the Pavilion at 7.00pm on 20 <sup>th</sup> February 2023. Cllr. Burhop advised that venues for future Parish Council meetings would be an agenda item at the January Full Council meeting.	

With no further business to consider, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 8.55pm.