



Minutes of a Meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held at the Eco Hub, Stocks Lane, Gamlingay on Tuesday 27th November 2018 at 7.30pm

Present: Chair P Webb, Councillors S Jones, J Newman, M Ridler, C Smith, M Brown, S Hemmings and S Martin

1. Resolved to receive apologies for absence from councillors J Wright, A Goss, T Gurney, D Finnigan, A Foster, A Kirby and K Warburton.
2. To receive declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda. None.
- 2.1 To receive written requests for dispensations for disc losable pecuniary interests (if any)
- 2.2 To grant any requests for dispensations as appropriate.
3. **Resolved** to approve and sign the Minutes of the F&GP meeting held 6<sup>th</sup> November 2018 and to note the Full Council minutes of 13th November 2018 and to consider any matters arising.
4. To receive any representations from Members of the Public and Press relating to items of business on this agenda during a ten-minute Open Forum. **None**.
5. Finance:
  - i. To consider draft budget and resolve recommendation to full council on precept level 2019-20 after consideration of the following;
    - Reserves policy and update – resolved to accept proposed changes and to note estimated level of unallocated reserves at end of year.
    - S106 funds update – noted. JN suggested community transport money could potentially be used for Stocks Lane cemetery paths, freeing up £5k of carried forward funds for other projects. Clerks to check if this is eligible expenditure.
    - Income charges review – resolved to accept proposed changes.
    - Funding requests - GCC Ltd. Resolved to approve the deficit funding and sinking fund amounts outlined in the request. Noted that the Finance Support Agreement requires GPC to assist GCC with funding as necessary, for the duration of the lease. Councillors requested copies of recent accounts and information from GCC to illustrate how it is addressing the deficit (caused by the loss of the nursery user) to be provided to Full Council. PWLB – around £150k remaining (exact amount to be emailed to councillors for info).
    - Estimated Tax base adjustments – SCDC. Noted.
    - Impact on Band D Council tax – 2019-20. Noted draft one shows a 0.5% increase in precept but impact on band D is a reduction of around £1 per household per year due to increase in number of households.

Items in draft budget were discussed – 3% grass cutting cost uplift noted, some further adjustments may be required to figures. Other adjustments agreed - add £500 for installation of planter at new Primary School. Add £250 to crime prevention for new Crime Working Party. Add £1000 for general maintenance play spaces to include painting youth pavilion. This is to be achieved by removing £4k match funding for gateway feature for Green Sand Ridge walk. Resolved to revise budget to a zero increase for 2019 -20 for consideration by Full Council.

Clerk asked councillors if format/detail of paperwork accompanying draft budget was adequate/clear. Agreed that it was. One suggestion for next year - notes could be incorporated in the Excel spreadsheet on each line next to the budget figures to which they refer.

ii. **Resolved** to approve payments 254 to 266 and revised total on voucher 248



6. **Other matters for resolution:**
7. Items for the next meeting – to resolve budget 2019-20.
8. Dates of next meetings: -Planning and Full Council Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2018, F and GP 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2018. Noted
9. Record Closure time of meeting 20.47