

Worth Parish Council
Minutes of the General Purposes & Finance Committee Meeting held on
February 7th 2022 commencing at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr Phillips (Chairman)
Cllr Casella
Cllr Dorey
Cllr Hitchcock
Cllr Gibson
Cllr Mayor
Cllr Webb
Mrs T Cruickshank (Deputy Clerk)
Mrs E Smith (RFO)
1 members of the public

82 Public Question Time

The Chairman welcomed all the meeting. Cllr King attended as a member of the public.

83 Apologies

Apologies were noted and accepted from Cllrs Cruickshank, Coote, Scott and Pointer

84 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of pecuniary or other interests.

85 Minutes

It was AGREED by all present that the Minutes of the General Purposes & Finance Committee meeting held on 10th January 2022 were a true and correct record.

86 Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman reminded the committee about the virtual mapping project meeting on Wednesday 9th at 10:00am via Teams. The Deputy Clerk asked any councillors who hadn't received an invite and would like to attend to contact her.

MSDC representatives are holding a mapping workshop session at the Parish Hub on Saturday 12th February between 10am and 12pm.

Cllr Gibson commented that the council should make good representation at the mapping meeting.

87 Correspondence List

The Correspondence List was NOTED.

88 Accounts and Financial Matters

The Chairman referred to details of income and expenditure, bank balances and reserves, as circulated.

Total receipts for January 2022 of £15,955.63 excl. VAT
Total payments for January 2022 of £38,948.48 excl. VAT
Bank Balances as at 31st January 2022 of £407,075.34 of which
Earmarked reserves of £141,552.36.

The current financial situation of the Council was NOTED

Cllr Phillips asked the RFO to explain the credit showing in cost code 4600/600, the RFO explained that the figure shown in the actual year to date column was for 6 months. The credit in the current

month column is due to the Oct-Dec accrual being reversed but the invoice for that period has not been posted yet.

Cllr Gibson asked for clarification on certain funds in the council's Ear Marked Reserves which the RFO supplied.

Additions to the Council Web Page

The Chairman referred to the Deputy Clerks report.

The Communications & IT Administrator has spoken to Vision ICT the Website provider to ascertain which additions to the WPC website are available.

A search button can be added to the home page at a cost of £75.00.

The committee AGREED to incorporate a search button to the current homepage.

There is an option for a 'sign up to newsletters' this could be achieved either by the addition of a bespoke form or by adding a tick box next to the 'enquires@' email address, the cost for this would be £75.00.

The Committee AGREED to incorporate a sign up to newsletter function in the form of a tick box.

The Administrator had also asked if the Website had the capability to provide survey facilities, this is something the website provider can help with although they suggested the use of Survey Monkey which is free.

Councillors AGREED to the use of Survey Monkey for future surveys.

Cllr Mayor asked if there was the ability to see how many views the WPC website was getting. The Deputy Clerk will ask the Communications & IT Administrator to investigate this.

8 Council Premises and Land

Electric Charge Points

The Clerk attended a webinar 'West Sussex ChargePoint Network – Opportunities for Community Landowners' on the 27th of January hosted by Connected Kerb. The Clerk is making initial investigations into the installation of 2 charge points in the two Crawley Down Carparks.

Councillors NOTED this.

Copthorne Carnival 2022

The Carnival Committee has formally sought permission from the Council to hold the 2021 Carnival on the Green on 25th June 2022.

The Deputy Clerk advised the Committee that any decision of this Committee may be rescinded dependent on Government Covid guidance re public gatherings in force at the time.

It was AGREED by all present that the permission was granted for a Carnival to be held on Copthorne Green on any suitable date in 2022, with compliance to any Covid guidance in force at the time.

90 Update on Community Governance Review

Cllr Phillips gave an update.

The Clerk has arranged four public meetings, two at The Haven Centre, Crawley Down on 4th March and 1st April and two at The Parish Hub, Copthorne on 16th March and 13th April both between the hours of 7.30-9.30pm.

Cllr Denham St Pinnock has agreed to chair these meetings.

WPC have produced a flyer which is to be included in the MSDC CGR consultation documentation.

90 Matters for Consideration submitted by the Infrastructure and Environment Working Parties

No matters were brought forward.

91 Consideration of items for discussion by the Environment & Infrastructure Working Parties

Cllr Webb asked if the committee could have sight of the WPC CGR information flyer before the start of the public consultation on 14th February. Cllr Dorey said the WPC flyer would not be shared in advance of the 14th February.

92 Date of the next meeting

The next meeting will be on 7th March 2022, at a venue to be confirmed

Meeting closed at 07.42 pm.

Chairman: _____

Date: _____