WORTH Parish Council

Chief Officer to the Council: Mrs Leanne Bannister

Council Offices

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To: Members of the Finance & General Purposes Committee

26th August 2025

Notice of Meeting

You are summoned to the **Finance & General Purposes Committee** meeting of Worth Parish Council to be held on **Monday 1**st **September 2025 at approximately 8.00pm** in the Glebe Centre, Crawley Down when the following business will be considered and transacted. This meeting will follow the Planning & Highways Committee, so the start time is approximate, and Members should be available by 7.45pm.

Mrs L Bannister CHIEF OFFICER

AGENDA

1. **Public Question Time -** to receive, and act upon if considered necessary, comments made by members of the public. This item will last for a maximum of 15 minutes with individual contribution up to a maximum of 3 minutes.

Members of the public are welcome to ask questions of the Council on matters that arise under its remit. The question should not be a statement, and it would be appreciated to be kept short, to maximise the time for other questions. The chairman will call the question from those who are indicating that they wish to speak.

Members of the public will only be allowed to speak at any other time during the meeting at the discretion of the Chairman, and will be governed by the rules set out in the Council's Standing Orders at all times.

- 2. **Apologies** to **receive** and **approve** apologies for absence.
- 3. **Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary and Other Interests –** to **receive** any declarations of interest from Councillors.
- 4. **Minutes** to **approve** the Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting held on Monday 7th July 2025 (<u>attached</u>).
- 5. **Chairman's Announcements** to **receive** any announcements by the Chairman of the Finance & General Purposes Committee.
- 6. **Correspondence list –** to **note** correspondence received since the last meeting:
 - a. <u>CCLA</u> acquisition
 - b. <u>CCLA</u> changes to charges
- 7. Accounts & Financial Matters to consider the following matters:
 - a. To **resolve** to receive and approve expenditure/income lists and reports on the current financial situation (<u>attached</u>).
 - b. To **confirm** that bank reconciliations to 31st July and 31st August have been completed.
 - c. **Trees** to **approve** the quote of £240 plus VAT from PJC Consultancy to have three additional trees monitored. These were identified in the annual survey as requiring

- annual assessment. The Chief Officer does not have the authority to approve this cost as the budget for Land Management is over budget for this financial year.
- d. **Salaries** to note the pay agreement for this financial year has been reached, resulting in an increase to the staff costs of £6,271. This is within the budget allowed for staff costs, and is lower than expected.
- e. **Grants** to consider the following grant applications. Note the amount remaining in the grants budget is £4,485.
 - **CDRA** £750 to support the running of Gig on the Green
 - **St Catherine's Hospice** £750 towards care costs
- 8. **Financial Services Compensation Scheme** in order to be eligible for this, the budget needs to be below £430,950. As the precept is now higher than this amount, Worth Parish Council is no longer covered by this protection. It is therefore recommended that the Council continues to spread the risk between several financial institutions, but notes that it no longer needs to stick strictly to the £85,000 maximum balance within each institution.
- 9. **Section 106 Monies** to **receive** an update on the status of current agreements (attached for <u>Copthorne</u> and <u>Crawley Down</u>).
- 10. **External Audit** to note that the External Audit has completed their review of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return, with no comments or concerns raised (<u>attached</u>).
- 11. **Projects** to **receive** updates on the following projects, and **consider** the recommendations in the report (projects tracker <u>attached</u>):
 - Bowers Place parking (<u>attached</u>)
 - CCTV (<u>attached</u>)
 - Copthorne Recreation Ground (as above)
- 12. Matters for Consideration submitted by the Village Working Parties, or by the Worth Parish Council Working Party to note activities to date, and to receive any recommendations.
- 13. Consideration of items for discussion by the Village Working Parties, or by the Worth Parish Council Working Party to consider and agree items to pass to the two Village Working Parties, or to the Worth Parish Council Working Party for discussion at their meetings, these to be put on a future Council/Committee agenda if necessary.
- 14. **Date of the next meeting**: Thursday 2nd October at the Glebe, Crawley Down.

ALL MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HAVE THE RIGHT TO ATTEND, AND ARE WELCOME AT MEETINGS