

Worth Parish Council

Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee Meeting held on 7th April 2025 commencing at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr Scott (Chairman) Cllr Phillips (Vice Chairman)
Cllr Casella Cllr Coote
Cllr Kipps
Mrs L Bannister (Chief Officer) 1 member of the public

The meeting commenced at 7.58pm

148 Public Question Time

No questions were raised.

149 Apologies

Apologies were noted and accepted from Cllrs Dorey, King, Hodsdon, Lord, Pointer, Williams and Wilson.

150 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Phillips declared an interest in item 156 b, as a member of the body who is a tenant of the building.

151 Minutes

It was RESOLVED to approve the Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 3rd March 2025. These were duly signed by Cllr Scott.

152 Chairman's Announcements

None.

153 Correspondence List

The following were NOTED:

- a. Thank you letter from 4Sight Vision Support.
- b. Thank you letter from Air Ambulance.
- c. Changes to interest rates for Barclays.

154 Accounts and Financial Matters

Financial information

Financial information was included in the meeting pack. It was RESOLVED that the financial information was a true representation of the current financial situation.

Bank Reconciliations

It was NOTED that the bank reconciliations to 31st March have been completed and signed by Cllr Casella.

RBS subscription

It was RESOLVED to approve the annual cost of £528 plus VAT for an additional subscription to the accounts package.

Energy contracts

It was NOTED that three-year energy contracts have been entered with British Gas Lite for the feeder pillars and allotment store. These have a 15p per day lower standing charge, and a similar pence per kWh unit charge.

Tree survey

It was RESOLVED to approve the quote of £580 plus VAT to survey the trees on Land West of Francis Court.

Grants

It was RESOLVED to approve the following grants:
All Saints' Church, Crawley Down - £350

Street lights

It was RESOLVED to approve the following:

- Payment of £9,238 plus VAT to UKPN to manage the electricity connection to replace four street light columns (quotes attached)
- Payment of £5,400 plus VAT to Streelights to replace the columns
- Other required repairs up to a value of £6,000 plus VAT – note that remaining repairs are on a two-year rolling programme
- Application to REPOWER Balcombe for a grant of up to £5,000 to begin the replacement of lanterns with LEDs

Fund transfer

The fund transfer of £30,000 from Natwest to Unity Bank Trust on 19th March was NOTED.

Direct Debit payments

The following payments were APPROVED:

COMPANY	SERVICE	REGULARITY	COST
Castle Water	Allotment water	Monthly	Variable
EE Mobile	Broadband at Copthorne Pavilion	Monthly	£30.00
EDF	Streetlight electricity	Quarterly	Variable
EDF	Feeder pillars	Monthly	Variable
Tesco	Mobile phone	Monthly	£18.99
Tesco	Mobile phone	Monthly	£24.99
PWLB	Loan for Parish Hub	Twice Yearly	£4,863.00
Ipal	Youth registration	Monthly	£150.00

155 End of financial year

The report was NOTED and it was RESOLVED to approve the following changes to earmarked reserves:

Fund	Current balance	Proposed changes	End balance
Neighbourhood Plans	4,310		4,310
CCTV	47,817		47,817
Lashmere	5,000		5,000
Copthorne WP	7,377	-7,377	0
Crawley Down WP	11,490		11,490
CD play area	3,250		3,250
Donation Cop Play	9,915		17,292
Litter equipment	282		282
Bowers Place	72,936		72,936
Grounds vehicles	0	5,000	5,000
Elections	0	3,000	3,000

156 Section 106 Monies

- a. The report was NOTED.
- b. It was RESOLVED to approve the S106 application for new shutters and a new door security system for Copthorne Pavilion.

157 Projects

The update circulated by the Assistant Clerk (Projects) was NOTED.

CCTV

It was RESOLVED to delegate authority to the Chief Officer, in consultation with the Chairman

of the Council/Finance and General Purposes Committee to approve the UKPN charges up to the amount of £10,000.

Copthorne Recreation Ground

It was RESOLVED to delegate authority to the Chief Officer to agree the tender process, including who to seek formal tenders from.

158 Policy

It was RESOLVED to recommend to Council that the following policies are approved:

- a. Data Protection Policy
- b. Internal Privacy Policy

159 Matters for Consideration submitted by the Village Working Parties

No items were submitted.

160 Consideration of items for discussion by the Village Working Parties

Working Parties were asked to review small parcels of land owned by WPC, to consider how these might be used and how S106 contributions might be applied.

161 Date of the next meeting

The date of the next meeting is Monday 12th May in the Parish Hub, Copthorne.

Meeting closed at 8.18 pm.

Chairman: _____

Date: _____