

## **Worth Parish Council**

### **Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee Meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> July 2026 commencing at 8.36 pm**

|                 |                                                                                                  |                                                                                     |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Present:</b> | Cllr Phillips (Chair)<br>Cllr Casella<br>Cllr Gibson<br>Cllr King<br>Cllr Pointer<br>Cllr Wilson | Cllr Scott (Vice Chair)<br>Cllr Coote<br>Cllr Hodsdon<br>Cllr Lord<br>Cllr Williams |
|                 | Mrs L Bannister (Chief Officer)                                                                  | Cllr Dorey and Cllr Kipps as non-committee members<br>1x member of the public       |

#### **015 Public Question Time**

Cllr Gibson gave an update that following the AGM for the Crawley Down Village Hall, a meeting has still not been held between the developer/trustees/MSDC. This was due to be held within a month and that time has now expired. Cllr Gibson requested that Worth Parish Council now gets involved in the matter.

The Chair requested that Crawley Down Working Party discuss this matter and make a recommendation back to the relevant Committee/Full Council.

#### **016 Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllr Bingle.

#### **017 Declarations of Interest**

None.

#### **018 Minutes**

It was RESOLVED to approve the Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2026.

#### **019 Chairman's Announcements**

None.

#### **020 Correspondence List**

Nothing to note.

#### **021 Accounts and Financial Matters**

- a. It was RESOLVED that the financial information was a true representation of the current financial situation. The following was NOTED:
  - The Hall Hire expenditure is incorrect – part of this should have been paid from the youth budget.
  - The Maintenance expenditure in Recreation Grounds should have been paid from the Pavilion budget. It is due to be reclaimed from S106.
- b. It was NOTED that bank reconciliations to 30<sup>th</sup> June have been completed and signed by Cllr Casella.

#### **022 Section 106 Monies**

The reports were NOTED.

#### **023 Street light electricity**

It was NOTED that EDF Energy has invoiced £25,384.18. This represents energy used during a period when the council believed the account was de-energised. A formal complaint has been made to EDF Energy, with a request that the invoices are either cancelled or heavily discounted

due to their failure to notify the Council that the supply had been re-energised.

#### **024 Bank accounts**

It was RESOLVED to:

- a. Add Cllr Casella and Cllr Phillips as signatories to the CCLA account.
- b. Make the changes as shown in the table below:

| <b>Account</b>        | <b>Action</b>                                                                                           |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Unity – current       | Retain<br>Keep one week's cashflow in here only                                                         |
| Natwest – current     | Close<br>Transfer funds to Unity savings                                                                |
| Barclays – current    | Close<br>Transfer funds to Unity savings                                                                |
| Barclays – savings    | Close<br>Transfer funds to CCLA                                                                         |
| Cambridge             | Close<br>Transfer funds to CCLA                                                                         |
| CCLA                  | Retain<br>Majority of funds are kept here and transferred to the Unity savings account every 3-4 months |
| Unity – savings       | Open<br>Keep remainder of funds in here                                                                 |
| Unit – corporate card | Set up                                                                                                  |

#### **025 Projects**

- a. Bowers Place – it was NOTED that the S278 agreement has now completed. A resident has noted that they have an accessible parking space outside their home and this needs to remain available during construction.
- b. Copthorne Recreation Ground – It was NOTED that:
  - A second interim invoice has been received from Warwick Landscaping for the value of £68,008.37 plus VAT.
  - There is a S106 claim in with MSDC for £94,657.74.
  - The electricity supply has been installed, with the CCTV scheduled for installation late July/early August.
  - Proludic began work today (6<sup>th</sup> July).
  - An electricity contract has been entered with British Gas at a rate of 30.64 p/kWh, and a standing charge of 43.01 p/day.
  - £151,387.46 has been spent since the last meeting.
- c. Operation Watershed – it was NOTED that construction is now complete. A final report from GTA Civils is awaited.
- d. Projects Tracker – The status of ongoing/planned projects was NOTED.

#### **026 Policies**

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

- a. Fixed Asset Capitalisation
- b. Freedom of Information and Publication Scheme
- c. General Data Protection Training Policy
- d. Investment Policy – some typos to correct
- e. Member Officer Relations Protocol
- f. Open Space Policy – with following additions:
  - Prohibition of motorcycles, electric scooters and vehicles on open spaces
  - Animals to be under full control of owners, particularly around school times

#### **027 Complaints Panel**

It was RESOLVED to appoint Cllrs Hodsdon, Casella and Cruickshank to the Complaints Panel.

**028 Matters for Consideration submitted by the Village and Worth Parish Council Working Parties**

Nothing submitted.

**029 Consideration of items for discussion by the Village and Worth Parish Council Working Parties**

Crawley Down Working Party to discuss the Village Hall, as noted in item 015 above.

**030 Date of the next meeting**

The date of the next meeting is Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September at the Parish Hub, Copthorne.

*Meeting closed at 9.11 pm*

Chairman: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_