

**Minutes of Shevington Parish Council  
Finance Committee Meeting  
Held Wednesday 4 November 2020  
8:30pm – Virtual Meeting**

**Present:** Councillor I Whiteley (Chairman), Councillors W McKnight, J Whiteley, J Higham, V Galligan and M Grimes  
No members of the public.

**Officer in Attendance:** Mrs K Pilkington (Clerk)

**1. Apologies**

Cllrs J Ball, C Horridge and M Crosby

**2. Declaration of Interests**

None

**3. Minutes of the Last Finance Committee Meeting (2 September 2020)**

**Resolved:** The Minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on 2 September 2020 were approved as a true and correct record.

**4. Preliminary Budget Preparation**

A document containing preliminary suggestions for the 2021/22 budget and accompanying notes had been previously circulated. The contents of the documents were discussed. It was agreed that the percentage increases to the 2020/21 cost centres should be reduced to 1% wherever possible

**5. LALC Annual Accounts 2019-20**

The LALC annual accounts for 2019-20 were received and noted.

**6. Finance Training**

Information about the Finance Workshop to be delivered by Parish & Town Training Lancashire via Zoom was noted. Members wishing to join the training session should let the Clerk know.

**7. Financial Aid Applications**

None

## 8. Dates of Next Meetings

25 November (Council); 2 December (Policy & GP and Finance Committees)

### CONFIDENTIAL ITEM

**Resolved:** That, in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it was advisable in the public interest that the press and public be excluded and they were instructed to withdraw.

*There were no members of the public present.*

## 9. Hedge Maintenance at Vicarage Lane Fields

Quotations for hedge maintenance along the boundaries of Vicarage Lane Fields were considered.

- (a) **Resolved:** The quote of £735 from Envirocare MS Ltd for tidying up the western and northern boundaries of Vicarage Lane Fields by carrying out low level pruning of hedging, strimming overgrown grass, nettles, brambles, etc was accepted and approved.
- (b) **Resolved:** The quote of £990 from Envirocare MS Ltd for carrying out a hard prune-back of the tree branches that are adjacent to the allotment area was accepted and approved.

## 10. Christmas Decorations

It was reported that all 28 light strings used to decorate the Christmas trees had either failed completely or had dimmed. The transformers and spines were working. The cost of each replacement string was £47.

**Resolved:** The Committee approved the purchase of 28 light strings from Blachere Illuminations at a cost of **£1,316**.

## 11. Winter Gritting Services

Quotations had been received from Envirocare MS Ltd for:

1. Reactive snow clearing at the Clerk's request of the footpaths in Memorial Park and of Gathurst Lane car park on a pay as you go basis at £168 for the first hour and subsequently £73.50 per hour;
2. Gritting of the footpaths in Memorial Park and of Gathurst Lane car park in response to a phone call from the Clerk on a pay as you go basis at £126 per hour.

**Resolved:** The above quotations were accepted and approved.

## **12. Bowling Green Maintenance Contract**

**Resolved:** The contract to the value of £3,290 for the maintenance of the bowling green was awarded to Bailey's Landscapes.

## **13. Equality of Opportunity Issue**

For a variety of reasons a member had so far not been able to access virtual meetings. Members discussed how such access could be enabled and agreed that the Clerk should sound the member out in relation to several options that were available. Cllr V Galligan would undertake further research to try to find a way to resolve the issue.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the Meeting at 9:02 pm.

**Chairman**