

**Minutes of Shevington Parish Council  
Finance Committee Meeting  
Held Wednesday 1 September 2021  
8:35 pm – Virtual Meeting**

**Present:** Councillor William McKnight (Chairman), Councillors Ira Whiteley, John Whiteley, Jessica Higham, Vicky Galligan, Michael Grimes, Michael Crosby and Christopher Horridge  
Two members of the public

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

**1. Apologies**

Cllr John Ball

**2. Declaration of Interests**

None.

**3. Minutes of the Last Finance Committee Meeting (2 June 2021)**

**Resolved:** The Minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on 2 June 2021 were approved as a true and correct record.

**4. Quarterly Budget Monitoring**

The updated quarterly budget monitoring report was received, discussed and accepted. Most cost centres were on line. Overspends in one cost centre meant that a virement would need to be recommended to the Full Council.

**5. Virements**

**Resolved:** The following virement was recommended to the Full Council for approval: £550 from the 'Memorial Park Development reserve' to the 'Memorial Park Development' cost centre to cover the overspend.

**6. BT Direct Debit**

**Resolved:** The Committee recommended to the Full Council that a Direct Debit facility be set up with respect to the Parish Council's current account to enable the quarterly telephone bill from BT to be settled directly.

## 7. Remembrance Sunday

**Resolved:** The Committee recommended to the Full Council that

- (a) A donation of £150 should be made to the Royal British Legion for the wreaths laid on behalf of the residents of the Parish on Remembrance Sunday.
- (b) A donation of £50 should be made to a Charity of the bugler's choice.

## 8. Christmas Shop-Front Competition

**Resolved:** The Committee recommended that the prizes awarded should consist of donations of £60, £40 and £30 to Charities chosen by the first three prizewinners.

## 9. Christmas Decorations

Christmas decorations and the quality of the work of Wigan Council's operatives when dressing the trees were discussed. Members were of the view that significant improvements were needed in this area.

**Resolved:** The Committee recommended to Full Council that the following quotations from Wigan Council's Street Lighting section be approved:

- (a) For carrying out the functions in relation to the Christmas lights on the Christmas trees for Shevington centre, Crooke Village, Shevington Moor and Appley Bridge at a cost of £2,508.22.
- (b) For installing and removing the wraparound garlands for lamp standards in Appley Bridge and Shevington Moor at a cost of £1,600.

TOTAL = £4,108.22.

The Street Lighting officer had confirmed that £1,100 were available from Wigan Council's Christmas Decorations budget towards these costs, so the net cost to the Parish Council for the above would be £3,008.22.

It was agreed that a review of Christmas decorations should be carried out early in 2022.

## 10. Barrel Planters at Appley Bridge Station

The Committee discussed the Parish Council's role as the adopter of Appley Bridge Station and agreed that the position in relation to adoption should be re-considered in 2022.

**Resolved:** The Committee recommended that the Council approve an expenditure of up to £60 on compost and Winter plants for two replacement barrel planters at Appley Bridge Station.

The planters would be maintained on behalf of the Parish Council by members of Appley Bridge in Bloom.

## **11. Bowling Green Watering Facility**

The bowling club at Forest Fold had asked if the Parish Council would be willing to purchase a travelling sprinkler to be used on the bowling green when necessary. As the grass needed to be watered in the evenings for a limited time when it was dry to keep green, the members were willing to carry out the watering. They would do it in consultation with the greenkeeper, who was willing to give them his hose to use for this purpose.

It was reported that good quality robust travelling sprinklers suitable for this type of operation cost approximately £100 (inc VAT). Members discussed the request. It was suggested that the bowling club should apply to the Brighton Borough Fund for a grant. The application would meet the criteria and might receive support from the district councillors.

## **12. Financial Aid Applications**

None

## **13. Dates of Next Meetings**

29 September (Council); 6 October (Policy & General Purposes Committee)

There being no further business the Chairman closed the Meeting at 9:15 pm

**Chairman**