

**Minutes of Shevington Parish Council
Finance Committee Meeting
Held Wednesday 6 December 2023
7:40 pm - The Community Centre at Vicarage Lane Fields**

Present: Councillor Jessica Diggle (Vice Chairman), Councillors John Whiteley, Michael Grines and Helen Thompson; Councillor Christopher Horridge via MS Teams)
Two members of the public

Officer in Attendance: Mrs Krystyna Pilkington (Clerk)

1. Apologies

Cllrs Janet Brown, Bill McKnight, and Mike Crosby

2. Declaration of Interests

Cllr Chris Horridge w.r.t. Item No.6

3. Minutes of the Last Finance Committee Meeting (1 November 2023)

Resolved: The Minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on 1 November 2023 were approved as a true and correct record.

4. Quarterly Budget Monitoring

The quarterly budget monitoring report was received and discussed. It was reported that most cost centres were on line. There were two exceptions to this: the 'Plants & Planters' and 'Allotments' cost centres. Both were showing overspends.

Resolved: The Committee approved the following virements:

- (a) £430 from the 'Contingency' cost centre to the 'Plants & Planters' cost centre to cover the overspend;
- (b) £469 from the 'Allotment reserve' to the 'Allotment' cost centre to partially cover the overspend – the balance of the overspend (£81) would be covered through a virement of £81 from 2024-25 rental income as it arrived.

The current rate of interest being received via the bank's Business Reserve account was discussed. The Clerk was asked to look into the rates of interest being paid via the savings accounts available at other banks.

5. Preliminary Budget Planning 2024-25

The first draft of the budget plan for 2024-25 and an explanatory document were received and discussed.

Resolved: The Committee provisionally recommended a 4% increase to expenditure cost centres.

6. Allotment Rent Review

Rents for allotments at Forest Fold were reviewed.

Resolved: The Committee agreed that the rent for the first 100 square metres should remain unchanged, but approved a 5% increase to the charge per additional square metre of land rented.

7. Financial Aid Applications

The Committee considered a grant application from Shevington Village Bowling Club. Some of the documentation required when submitting an application had not been supplied, so the Clerk was instructed to ask the SVBC to provide it. Once the additional documentation had been received, the Committee would consider the application again.

8. Dates of Next Meetings

24 January (Finance Committee followed by Council)

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8:43pm.

Chairman