



SPEEN PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT SPEEN PAVILION SPEEN RECREATION GROUND ON WEDNESDAY 25TH JANUARY 2023
STARTING AT 7PM

Present	Parish Councillors	Cllr Amirtharaj (Vice Chair), Cllr Dudman, Cllr Booth, Cllr Newell-Hart, Cllr Phillips, Cllr Butter, Cllr Clifford, Cllr Hunt
	In Attendance	
	Members of the Public	None Present
	Clerk & RFO	Jean Lindsay

Resolution	Item	Action
Resolved	<p>1. Apologies: Cllr Gourley Cllr Wilson Cllr Doherty</p> <p>2. Declaration of Interests: None to declare</p> <p>3. Open Session: No members of the public present</p> <p>4. Minutes – to approve the Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 12-10-22(draft) Proposer: Cllr Amirtharaj Seconder: Cllr Dudman Abstention 2 In Favour: 6</p>	
Resolved	<p>5. Financial Report Clerk as RFO</p> <p>5.1 Balance in bank as at 31-12-23 reported as £64,376.95</p> <p>5.2 To retrospectively note payments for October, November and December 2022 All Councillors noted payments made.</p>	
Resolved	<p>5.3 Proposal: To accept Finance Reports to 31-10-22 Proposer: Cllr Dudman Seconder: Cllr Clifford All in Favour</p>	
Resolved	<p>5.4 Proposal: To accept Finance Reports to 30-11-22 Proposer: Cllr Amirtharaj Seconder: Cllr Hunt All in Favour</p>	
Resolved	<p>5.5 Proposal: To accept Finance Reports to 31-12-22 Proposer: Cllr Amirtharaj Seconder: Cllr Butter All in Favour</p>	
Resolved	<p>5.6 Proposal: To accept Budget v Actuals Report (Q3) Proposer: Cllr Amirtharaj Seconder: Cllr Dudman All in Favour</p>	
	<p>6. Finance Committee</p> <p>6.1 Minutes – to receive the Minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on 09-11-</p>	

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Resolved	<p>22 (approved) and 14-12-22 (draft)</p> <p>The Minutes were duly noted by all Councillors</p> <p>6.2 Earmarked Reserves</p> <p>Proposal: To approve the following budget accruals be allocated to Earmarked Reserves as recommended by Finance Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Election Expenses - £3925 • IT Hardware Replacement (Clerk's laptop and Printer - £2000) • Clerk Operation Costs (Office Furniture) - £952 <p>The Clerk advised a report of budget accruals over the last 5 years had been presented to the Finance Committee for their review.</p> <p>Cllr Dudman advised these accruals currently sat within the total amount of Unallocated Reserves and should therefore be visible as Earmarked Reserves.</p> <p>Proposer: Cllr Clifford Seconder: Cllr Dudman All In Favour</p> <p>Clerk to send January financial report to Full Council to provide visibility of revised Unallocated Reserves.</p>	Clerk
Resolved	<p>6.3 2023/24 Budget</p> <p>6.3.1 Proposal: To approve 2023/24 Budget £66,652 as recommended by Finance Committee</p> <p>Cllr Dudman outlined areas of the budget where increases had been applied based on rising costs and likely increases to contracts due to be renewed during 2023/24.</p> <p>All members of the Council noted the comments submitted by the Chair and agreed a robust budget process had been carried out by the Finance Committee resulting in a well balanced budget.</p> <p>Proposer: Cllr Booth Seconder: Cllr Hunt All in Favour</p>	
Resolved	<p>6.3.2 Proposal: To approve 2023/24 General Reserves be set at £16,640 being 25% of 2023/24 Budget (£66,652) as recommended by Finance Committee</p> <p>Proposer: Cllr Dudman Seconder: Cllr Phillips All in Favour</p>	
Resolved	<p>6.3.3 Proposal: To approve transfer of £4000 from Unallocated Reserves to 2023/24 Budget to reduce level of Precept as recommended by Finance Committee</p> <p>Proposer: Cllr Amirtharaj Seconder: Cllr Newell-Hart All in Favour:</p>	
Resolved	<p>6.4 2023/24 Precept</p> <p>Proposal: To approve 2023/24 Precept £62,562 as recommend by Finance Committee</p> <p>Proposer: Cllr Amirtharaj Seconder: Cllr Newell-Hart All in Favour:</p> <p>7. District Ward Report</p> <p>All Councillors noted the report and the Review of 2022 from Cllr Doherty</p>	



	<p>8. Development</p> <p>8.1 Parish Improvement Plan</p> <p>Cllr Clifford advised the WP would be meeting in the next two weeks to focus on the defibrillator project together with discussing other potential projects such as a water fountain at Speen Recreation Ground.</p> <p>Councillors expressed concern regarding vandalism of a water fountain and suggested consideration be given to an external tap with a spring tap.</p> <p>8.2 B4000 Pavement</p> <p>Cllr Phillips advised an update from WBC had been received stating as clearance work had been completed the detailed design was now in its final stages. WBC hope to have a set of plans by early February to be sent to the DfT for approval to construct.</p> <p>9. Maintenance and Repairs</p> <p>The Clerk advised a hand grip on the climbing wall of the Multiplay Junior at Speen Recreation Ground had broken due to decay exposing a rusty screw which CJM Services had made safe as a matter of urgency. The Clerk added there were several other hand grips split and decaying and had requested quotes for replacements.</p> <p>The Clerk further advised although there were no high risk issues there were several low risk items due to timber decay which would advance over time and requested the Improvements WP considered the replacement of timber play equipment as potential long term projects to plan for.</p> <p>10. 2023 Elections</p> <p>The Clerk reminded Councillors of the upcoming elections and that the pre-election period of sensitivity previously known as purdah commenced on 22nd March.</p> <p>11. Correspondence: To receive & consider correspondence (all relevant correspondence is circulated electronically on receipt and where possible dealt with by the Clerk)</p> <p>The Clerk advised The Lions Club Newbury had requested approval to hold their annual fete at Speen Recreation Ground on Saturday 10th June and that the Civil War Society would like to fire a cannon.</p> <p>All members of the Council agreed to the request subject to local residents being advised regarding the cannon.</p> <p>Clerk to advise The Lions Club.</p> <p>12. Matters for consideration and information arising after the preparation of this Agenda which the Chair agrees to take as urgent (all Councillors)</p> <p>Cllr Dudman asked all Councillors to review WBC's Local Plan and to email comments to him in advance of a discussion to put together SPC's response to the consultation.</p> <p>Cllr Hunt advised he took part in several WBC surveys and when asked indicated he was responding as a Parish Councillor rather than a resident.</p> <p>Clerk to check with WBC whether this information was interrupted as comments from SPC or an individual.</p> <p>Cllr Dudman advised CSW continued to operate but only on Grove Road and he planned to advertise the existence of the CSW group on Nextdoor to see if any other areas were of concern to parishioners.</p> <p>Cllr Dudman added there was currently a team of six and a leaflet drop has been carried out.</p> <p>Cllr Phillips advised Stockcross Post Office had re-opened.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>All Cllrs</p>
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Signed:	Name (print): Position:	Date:
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Abbreviations Used:

- SPC = Speen Parish Council
- WBC = West Berkshire Council
- WP = Working Party
- DfT = Department for Transport
- DLUHC = Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities

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