



# FERNHURST PARISH COUNCIL

## Finance Committee Meeting Minutes Wednesday 18 October 2023

A meeting of the **Finance Committee** took place at Fernhurst Village Hall

**Wednesday 18 October 2023** at 6.00pm

**Councillors Present:** Mr W Black, (Chairman), Mrs H Bicknell, Mrs M Jenkins, Mr C Lloyd.

**F/17/23 Apologies For Absence:** Mr J Buchanan, Mr S Flatt, Mr M Giffin, Mr G Inns, Ms S Strongman.

**F/18/23 Declarations Of Interest:** None.

**F/19/23 Minutes of the Previous Meeting held on 12 July 2023 were approved.**

**Proposed:** Cllr Bicknell, seconded, Cllr Lloyd.

### **F20/23 Review of External Audit Report 2022/2023**

The report was reviewed and the deficiencies identified primarily resolved around the lack of a functioning website. The responses to the findings of the External Auditor's Report were reviewed and deemed satisfactory. The council noted the NALC "recommendations" on levels of reserves but continues to make its own informed decisions.

**F/21/23 Review of Income/Expenditure and Balance Sheet to 30 September 2023:** The positions regarding income and expenditure to date and the balance sheet at 30 September were considered satisfactory. All of the council tax precept income, as is customary, had been received by 30 September but the majority of the expenditure will occur in the second half of the year.

### **F/22/23 Review Of Budget 2023/2024**

A review of the budget was undertaken and considered satisfactory.

### **F/23/23 Draft Budget 2024/2025**

A review of the Draft Budget proposed an increase in the budget for Entertaining from £2,500 to £3,000.

**F/24/23 Council Banking Facilities:** The annual review of the Council's Banking Mandate was completed and deemed satisfactory.

Cllr Bicknell advised that it had proven impossible to move the council's National Savings & Investments account from a postal basis to an online basis. A higher paying notice deposit account with NatWest bank had been identified and Cllr Bicknell had agreed to attempt to open the account on behalf of FPC. **Action: (Clerk / Cllr Bicknell)**

**F/25/23 Verification of Council Assets:** The annual verification of the Council's assets was completed.

**Date of next meeting: 17 January 2024.**

**Signed.....**

**Chairman**