

Goudhurst Parish Council



FINANCE COMMITTEE

Minutes of a Meeting held on 05 July 2022 at 6.30pm in Goudhurst Village Hall

Present: Cllrs Craig Broom, Antony Harris (Chairman) and David Knight.
Mrs Claire Reed, Clerk; Mrs Panetta Horn, RFO; Anthony Farnfield Deputy Clerk.

Apologies were received from Cllrs Chris Ditton (illness) and Phil Kirkby.

Declarations of Interest: There were none.

Changes to financial procedures to ensure compliance with Council's Financial Regulations.

The Committee considered the RFO's report and accept the findings. The committee discussed the proposals in details but agreed unnecessary bureaucracy should be avoided. It was **agreed** that only invoices for exceptional items i.e. expenditure outside of agreed budget provision or contract would be sent to signatories with the list of payments for approval. It was further agreed that the Financial Regulations should be reviewed and amended where necessary to reflect these changes.

Requests for project expenditure and budget allocation.

The draft budget prepared by the RFO was reviewed at length. It was agreed to make budget provision, under the heading of community projects for:

- The production of map layers to reflect the adopted NDP, for the planning authority;
- Memorial safety testing;
- Electric Vehicle charge points up to a maximum of £6,000;
- CCTV to cover the church wall;
- A replacement bench for the chestnut tree on The Plain;
- Parish Events (Goudhurst Open Day, Christmas Shopping etc.)

A number of other community projects were added to budget without provision. It is the intention of the Committee to make provision for these items in future budgets.

Revised budget for 2022-23

It was agreed that the draft budget will be edited by the RFO, in conjunction with the Clerk, to reflect the agreed budget allocation. The final budget will be reviewed and agreed at the next Finance meeting.

Timescales for the 2023-24 budget

It was agreed that the Finance Committee will hold an initial budget meeting in September 2022 to review project proposals for 2023-24 and to make a decision on the tendering process for maintenance contracts.

The next meeting of the Finance Committee will be held on Tuesday 06 September at 6.30pm in Goudhurst Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm

Claire Reed
Clerk