CENTRAL SWINDON NORTH PARISH COUNCIL

FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 6th June 2023 7.00pm at the Reading Rooms, 32 The Circle, Pinehurst and via Zoom Link

Present
Cllr D Patey - Chair
Cllr P Exell – Vice Chair
Cllr J. Yeowell
Cllr M. Lucas
Cllr J Ballman

Dispensation (Section 85, Local Government Act 1972).
Cllr S Exell

Officers
E Till (Head of Finance and Governance)
A Reeves (Clerk)

FGP124 **Apologies**
Apologies received from Ian Milne from Penhill Walking Group.

FGP125 **Declarations of Interest & Applications for Dispensation**
None received.

FGP126 **Minutes of the previous meeting.**

RESOLVED: The Minutes for the Finance & General Purposes Committee for Tuesday 4th April 2023 are approved as an accurate record.

FGP127 **Transactions Logs**

RESOLVED: Cllr P Exell confirmed the GPC Transaction Logs for March 2023

FGP 128 **Budget Report**

RESOLVED: Councillors **NOTED** the March 2023 report.

FGP 129 **Payments Lists**

RESOLVED: Councillors **NOTED** the November 2023 Payments List report.

RESOLVED: Councillors **NOTED** the March 2023 Payments List report.

FGP 130 **Ear Marked Reserves**

Cllr P Exell queried the £30.00 spend from CIL/S106 EMR 376.

E Till responded that she would investigate where that had gone and bring to FGP next month.

Cllr J Yeowell queried how much is still needed in EMR 387 to purchase the bus shelter.

Cllr D Patey asked if that has been spent yet.

Cllr P Exell queried the £16,000.00 in EMR 388 Ward Allowance brought forward. How much underspend do we have.

A Reeves commented that if there is no underspend then this will not be available and will be discussed when we get to Year End.

Cllr M Lucas queried if some of the EMR's could be removed now as they are at zero.

RESOLVED: Councillors **NOTED** the balances as at 30th April 2023 in the EMR.

Cllr J Ballman joins the meeting.

FGP 131 **Ward Allowance Update**

RESOLVED: Councillors **NOTED** the current Ward Allowances Balances report.

FGP 132 **Grant Application Request**

The Penhill Walking Group have requested £348.00 for one years room rental at JMH.

Members **RESOLVED** and **APPROVED** £348.00 of the request.

The Swindon Big Knit have requested £400.00 for yarn to make baby clothes and blankets.

Members **RESOLVED** and **APPROVED** £400.00 of the request.

Step out Swindon have requested £500.00 to help towards the purchase of a mobile defibrillator.

Members **RESOLVED** and **APPROVED** £500.00 of the request.

FGP 133 **Petty Cash Reconciliation**

RESOLVED: Councillors **NOTED** the Petty Cash transactions from September 2022- March 2023.

A Reeves queried if the Petty Cash was still being used.

E Till confirmed the Petty Cash is no longer active.

FGP 134 **PWLB Play Areas**

A discussion was held on the proposal to borrow £300,000.00 over 20 years to refurbish play areas.

RESOLVED: Councillors felt additional scrutiny is required on the entire range of Council estate liabilities. Any PWLB proposal should include allotments, community centres, depots, changing rooms and play areas combined.

As with the MMP, the proposal provides a phased, capitalised maintenance regime without a disproportionate rise in the precept supported revenue budget. With this in mind, Councillors supported the prospect of using a PWLB facility as a liability restructuring tool.

Councillors however felt this revised proposal, without looking at the entire estate, increases the prospect of servicing multiple concurrent loans, without sufficiently mitigating the risk of repairs having to be managed through the revenue budget.

The L&R Committee were asked to pass the matter back to the new Assets & Maintenance Committee for further consideration.

FGP 135 **Year End Budget Report**

Councillors **REVIEWED** the Year End Budget Report.

The Chair queried if the underspend money for Councillors Ward Allowance comes from the overall budget underspend or just Ward Allowance underspend.

The Chair **PROPOSED** that the Year End Budget Report be sent to Full Council for final approval.

RESOLVED: to send the Year End Budget Report to Full Council for final approval.

Meeting Closed: 20.23

Signed.....

Date.....4/7/23.....

Chair of the Committee