

Gnosall Parish Council

Minutes of the Resources Committee Meeting held on 6th December 2018 at 7.30pm in the Parish Office

Present: Cllr K Ingram (in the chair), Cllr M Booth, Cllr G Gregory
Cllr C Emsley, Cllr Payne, Cllr Greatrex and Jayne Cooper, Clerk

Press and Public – none present

1	To receive apologies and record absences Apologies received from Cllr Abbott. Cllr Green had resigned from Council therefore there are now 2 vacancies on this committee.	
2	To receive any declarations of interest Cllr Booth declared an interest as the Parish Council's representative on GLEAN. Cllr Emsley declared an interest as his daughter is an employee at Rosebuds Nursery.	
3	To receive and confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 17th October 2018 The minutes were approved as a true and accurate record.	
4	To deal with any matters arising not dealt with elsewhere on the agenda New boiler in GG's Youth Club – Council approved the purchase of a new boiler at a special council meeting held on 24 th October. This boiler had since been supplied and fitted within the allocated budget. Terms of Reference The Terms of Reference were reviewed, an annual financial risk assessment would be added to the list of duties and the words "whichever is the greatest" to the section relating to the quorum. The amendments were approved and would be submitted for consideration to the next Procedures Review Committee.	
5	To report back on a meeting regarding the renewal of Rosebuds Lease The Clerk, Chair of Grosvenor Committee and Chair of Resources had met to discuss various options for the renewal of Rosebuds lease. Grosvenor Committee members, at a meeting held on 4 th December had considered the options and agreed that the owner of Rosebuds Nursery should be offered a lease with sliding scale of rent increase depending on the length of the lease. It would be favourable to both Rosebuds owner and the Parish Council for a 5 year lease to be agreed, the rent increase would be 1.5% per annum. This was also agreed by Resources Committee members. A meeting with the nursery owner would be planned for the New Year.	

6	<p>To review expected expenditure to complete the library project and agree which budgets would be used</p> <p>Council, at its meeting held on 12th November, had agreed to fund the remaining work needed to complete the library up to £8000.00. It was noted that GLEAN had continued to fund raise and had passed on funds to the Parish Council to help meet final costs. £500 is expected from Councillor Mark Winnington from his County Councillor's fund.</p> <p>The final costings are to complete the access ramp, the step outside the fire exit and the tidying up the site. Linden Homes had verbally agreed to complete the building work on the ramp as a community project. Most of the building work on the ramp had been carried out by a local builder on a voluntary good will basis for which both GLEAN and the Parish council were grateful. Cllr Greatrex and Cllr Emsley had also helped. Illuminating the ramp is a requirement to meet building regulations and the Parish Council's Handyman would be asked to carry out and this work that would need to be certified, on completion, by a qualified electrician for which there would be a cost.</p> <p>It was accepted that there may also be an additional cost to supply and install a burglar alarm. Various options were discussed. The company that installed an alarm on the parish office to be asked whether an extension to the parish office alarm is possible otherwise there would be a need to fit a separate alarm to the library and also youth club buildings.</p> <p>It was proposed funds to complete the project would be met from unspent reserve funds that had been allocated for the surfacing of the allotment road. This was seconded and a vote taken with 5 councillors voting in favour. Cllr Booth abstained from the vote.</p>	
7	<p>To receive reports from other committees on proposed income and expenditure in 2019/20, to continue with budget preparation and consider the precept and concurrent grant requirements for 2019/20</p> <p>Work continued on finalising a budget for 2019/20. Grosvenor Centre, Open Spaces and Personnel Committees had met in the previous week and presented planned income and expenditure for the year 2019/20 to Resources Committee to consider.</p> <p>Personnel expenditure would increase by £2000. This was accepted. Open Spaces expenditure would increase by £5000 (additional maintenance, additional facilities, and reduction in the grass cutting grant from SCC). This was accepted. Grosvenor Centre expenditure had also increased mainly utility expenses. This was accepted.</p> <p>JWH had been asked whether or not he could take on the maintenance of church grounds in Knightley and Moreton. He is not able to do this. It was proposed, seconded and agreed that the churchyard maintenance budget be increased to £900. This was agreed with 4 councillor's voting in favour and one against. Cllr Greatrex abstained.</p> <p>Council, at its meeting on 12th November, had agreed that Resources Committee should consider a new project to purchase traffic speed safety signs at a cost of around £3500. This was considered but not agreed bearing in mind the ongoing projects needing completing in 2019/20.</p>	

	<p>Members also considered a donation to the library project. It was proposed that as the annual running costs for the library are unknown, when the library has been operating for 10 months (January 2019- October 2019) GLEAN would be in a position to provide the Council with a set of accounts for Council to make a informed decision whether or not to recommend a donation in the financial year 2020/21. This was seconded and a vote taken with 4 members voting in favour and 2 abstentions.</p> <p>Based on budget figures, the amount of funds held in the bank and building society, the precept was then considered. Various options prepared by the Chair of Resources and the Clerk were presented based on information received from Stafford Borough Council on the tax base figure. The Clerk read out an extract from an SPCA bulletin on how council's should decide its budget and precept. This was noted.</p> <p>Following very careful consideration, it was proposed to increase the precept to £74,264.76, a 10% increase equating to £35.51 per annum for a Band D property (an increase of 26.62pence per month or 6.21pence per week). This was seconded. Councillors voted unanimously in favour of this proposal. Council to consider this recommendation at its meeting on 10th December.</p> <p>There was a proposal to reduce Open Spaces expenditure from £12,000 to £11,000. This proposal was not seconded.</p> <p>The budget was therefore agreed with income at £128,294, expenditure £148,702 (a deficit of £20,408).</p> <p>The concurrent grant would be the same as in previous years at £3690.000</p> <p>Publicity would be arranged to explain how and why the precept had been agreed.</p>	
8	<p>To report on any funding applications</p> <p>There were no funding applications to report on.</p>	
9	<p>To consider any requests for donations</p> <p>One request had been received from Gnosall Scouts to support fund raising to send a local scout member to the 24th world jamboree in USA.</p> <p>The Clerk reminded councillors that a similar request had been received in 2015 and a donation awarded. It was proposed that £150 should be awarded. This was seconded. There was an amendment to the proposal to make a donation of £125. This was seconded. A vote on the amendment was taken with 3 councillors in favour and 3 against. There was vote on the first proposal (for £150) with 3 voting in favour and 3 against. The Chairman's vote in favour of the proposal for £150 was carried.</p>	
10	<p>To deal with correspondence referred by main Council</p> <p>There was no correspondence</p>	
11	<p>To confirm the time and date of the next meeting</p> <p>TBC</p>	

The meeting closed at 9.20pm