BRISTON PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Office

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Minutes of the meeting of Briston’s Finance & General Purpose Committee held on Monday 19 October 2020 at 7pm. Because of the restrictions due to the Coronavirus pandemic this meeting was held on Zoom and participants joined from their places of residence.

Present: Cllr Ian Chilton Chairman

 Cllr Pete Moulton Vice Chairman

 Cllrs Mrs Noeleen Woodhouse

 Cllr Martyn Barr

 Cllr Mrs Hayley Quinsey

 Cllr Terry Girling

In attendance Cllr Graham Pickhaver

 One member of the public

Clerk: Mrs Jenny English

**2020/35 To consider and accept apologies for absence**

All members present

**2020/36 To record declarations of interest from members in any items on the agenda**

None

**2020/37 To approve the minutes of the Finance & General Purpose Committee held on 12 October 2020**

Proposed Cllr Barr, seconded Cllr Girling. **Approved**

**2020/38 To discuss matters arising from the minutes of the Finance & General Purpose Committee held on 12 October 2020**

2020/08 Clerk reported that she had received a letter from Barclays saying that the mandate had been changed

2020/20 Still to be discussed

2020/22 Ongoing

2020/23 Cllr Barr to collect next week

2020/34 Clerk still waiting for cheque book. Will chase Barclays if not received by end of week.

**2020/39 To continue discussions on Briston Parish Council’s precept for 2021/2022 and approve final figure and supporting evidence for this figure to present to the meeting of Briston parish Council to be held on 2 November 2020.**

Cllr Chilton presented and explained the revised files which incorporated the costs for various items provided by the clerk.

Cllr Mrs Woodhouse asked that the two litter bins to replace the dog bins go into the 2020/2021 payments. These were added and the files updated.

It was reported that in March 2019 there was approximately £14,000 left in the bank. This figure was about £20,000 at the end of March 2020. £56,880 is the revised figure for the precept required for 2021/2022.

Projects:

Village gates budgeted from March 2021 so can come out of the project fund for 2020/2021.

New benches: Costs revised to allow for three at £298.96 each and one for the bus shelter at £360.10

Play area at Plantation Hill Estate: Cllr Chilton suggested that £10,000 come from the Surveyors Trust Fund and the rest from the Parish Council. There was some uncertainty over whether the full council could get together and whether they would all vote for this money to be taken from the Surveyors Trust Fund as required by the Document of Administration.

New project spend £10,594.54

Total parish spend £55,167

Forecast underspend £20,748

Transfer to CCLA for earmarked reserves £5,000

Buffer to be left in bank £10,000

Precept subsidy £5,748

Leaving a precept of £49,419 which is a reduction of 6.1% against the current financial year.

Cllr Mrs Quinsey asked who could apply for grant from the Surveyors Trust Fund. Cllr Chilton said that anyone in the village could apply as long as the project would be of benefit to the village.

Cllr Graham Pickhaver asked if there should be some sort of criteria for applications.

The clerk said that a policy and application form is needed. This will be put on the agenda for the next meeting of the Finance and General Purpose Committee.

Cllr Girling said that the parish council always started the financial year with at least £10,000 in the bank. He thought that knocking this back was the wrong way to go and the precept should not be subsidised.

Cllr Mrs Woodhouse said that 2020 had been a very strange year and lots of people had stayed locally. The parish council should try and get one project finished and this should be the play area on Plantation Hill. Cllr Mrs Quinsey asked if this project was to happen now and the clerk said that she thought it should commence in April 2021.

Cllr Girling proposed that the following proposal be presented to the parish council meeting on 2 November 2020 for approval: ‘That the level for the 2021/2022 precept is £52,613 and the precept for the following financial year is kept at this level.’ Seconded by Cllr Chilton **Approved**

Cllr Chilton will re-circulate his files and spread sheets.

**2020/40 To invite public participation**

There was no comment from the member of the public present.

The meeting closed at 19.50

Signed:

Dated: