

**Minutes of the Finance and Governance Committee Held on 12th March 2024  
in the Lower Hall, Farnsfield Village Centre at 6.30pm**

**Attendance:** Councillor Savage (Chair), Councillor M Shakeshaft, Councillor Cracknell, Councillor Thompson

**24.08. Apologies:** No apologies

**24.09. Declarations of Interest:**

Cllr Savage declared a pecuniary interest for the Allotment Water Bills item.

**24.10: Meeting accepted the minutes** of the previous meeting of 9<sup>th</sup> January 2024 as accurate. Proposed by Councillor Thompson, seconded by Councillor Cracknell.

No matters rising.

24.05 Cllr Thompson commented that for clarity, there will be 2 disabled bays in the Hadleigh Park car park located in the middle to maximise the space around the perimeter.

**23.11: Public Participation**

Chair suspended SOs for this item to allow public participation.

Resident asked about item. 24.12, split role of Clerk. Is this temporary or permanent. If temporary and why an additional laptop is required. Proposed cost appears excessive.

Resident asked about item. 24.14 re transport survey. Appears to say those lonely and isolated but will be of benefit for all of the community as well. Residents commented on the previous work that had taken place and the importance of learning from that work. Resident urged TLC Group to do a combination of online and paper approaches to gathering people's views. These comments will be fed back to the TLC group for consideration.

Resident raised that for item 24.12 – wording indicates decision has been made.

Resident raised an apparent discrepancy between potential bill and later confirmed bill for FAA.

Resident queried the basis for determining a Declaration of Interest. Clerk advised to look at the website where there is further information.

Chair reinstated the SOs.

**24.12. Purchase of a laptop:**

A proposal was received to agree to the purchase of an addition laptop for Council business should we require it up to a maximum cost of £1000. Cllr M Shakeshaft suggested value be

reduced from £1000 to £600. Cllr Savage proposed that a ceiling of £600 was agreed and this was seconded by Cllr M Shakeshaft. This was agreed by 3 Councillors with one abstention.

#### **24.13. Financial reporting**

A proposal was received to review financial reporting arrangements to make reporting more open and transparent, highlight any variances in spend and reallocate resources as required. Also will allow more accurate forecasting. Review to take account of Financial Regulations which will be due for reviewing. Nationally consultation of review of Financial Regulations is underway.

Cllr Thompson requested that actuals v budget are readily available enabling better forecasting and management. A simple version using a small number of major headings.

This was proposed by Cllr Savage, seconded by Cllr M Shakeshaft. All agreed. 4-0.

#### **24.14. TLC Group Travel survey**

A proposal was received from the TLC working group to authorise a spend up to £100 to assist undertake a survey regarding community transport. Cllr M Shakeshaft proposed we agree the request and ask the TLC Group to report back on how the funds are used to maximise the reach of the survey. This was seconded by Cllr Thompson. Supported unanimously.

#### **24.15 Allotment Water Bill**

Cllr Savage declared an interest in this item and left the room

$144.2 \times 18.85 = £266.40$

Annual bill for the service charge etc is £93.60 divided by 2 £46.80 = £ £313.20

Proposal that we accept this process of calculation going forwards. Cllr Cracknell, seconded by Cllr Thompson. Agreed 3-0.

It was noted that any bills in dispute should none the less be paid while the situation is remedied.

Cllr Savage returned and closed the meeting.

**Chair Signed**

**Dated:**

**Name:** Sally Savage