

GRETTON PARISH COUNCIL
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Minutes of the Meeting of Gretton Parish Council Finance Committee
held on **Tuesday 5th December 2023 at 7.00 pm** at The Baptist Church, Gretton. NN17 3DB

Present: Cllrs Lilley, Wright, Fox and the Clerk (C Watts).

23/102F To receive and approve apologies for absence

RESOLVED: None

23/103F To receive declarations of interest under the Council's Code of Conduct related to business on the agenda.

RESOLVED: No declarations made.

23/104F: To discuss the Budget and finalise for approval at the next Parish Council Meeting
Cllr Lilley thanked Cllr Wright for preparing the budget and sending to the Finance Committee for review.

TVAS quotes have been received where the cost is £3088 each. Cllr Thompson has confirmed that the grant that will be applied for is for a maximum of £5000. The Parish Council would need to cover potentially £2000.

Cllr Lilley ran a report from Cllr Wright's numbers and after removing all Projects and Grants the projected running costs stand at £37,145. This shows that with a precept being set at 40K any projects that want to be undertaken grants will need to be applied for wherever possible.

In relation to projects the Sewage issue on the recreation ground was raised by Cllr Fox that this needs to be a priority. Cllr Wright was asked if he had received all quotes. He shared he is still waiting on one to come in. Ones received so far are approx. £14K and 19K.

Application for a community grant to be investigated.

The Parish Council have budgeted for 10K and Cllr Wright asked if the Parish Council would reconsider an offer from the SSC to cover the difference. Cllr Wright raised that if the time taken to apply for a grant could delay the work being done until the summer months this is when the club makes their money. Work being carried out in the summer could result in closure for a period of time, therefore reduce revenue.

Cllr Lilley to prepare a proposal to take to Parish Council with options.

Cllr Lilley asked if there was agreement that the Precept be set at 40K? This would leave a contingency of approximately 7.5% for unknown increases and costs not known at this time.

The Finance Committee agreed this was a fair amount for the Precept to be set at.

Cllr Lilley to prepare something for the Councillors outlining the Budget before the next Parish Council meeting so it can be moved on for the voting and approval process before submission of the precept by the clerk.

RESOLVED: Approved

23/105F: To discuss the pay rise agreement reached by the NU and NEB to implement to the current clerk and pay backdated amounts to current and previous clerk

It was confirmed that the increase was from £14.21 to £15.21 to be backdated and paid to the clerk from her start date. The clerk to share the calculations with Cllr Wright for checking and approval before payment is made.

The ruling that was discussed is that the Parish Council do not have to pay the previous clerk unless they approach and request it.

RESOLVED: Approved

23/106F: Councillor's questions

Cllr Wright to contact bank to follow up on Card readers and bank card for Cllr Lilley and the Clerk
Cllr Fox has shared that Steve Ellis will inspect the areas on the Recreation ground in line with the insurance.

Anglian Water (Wave) These bills are not direct debit. Invoices are only received in paper format.
The Clerk to look into the additional charges and the account online to gain access.

Cllr Lilley received the draft Minutes of the July 23 Finance meeting from the previous clerk. The current clerk to remove the draft wording for these minutes to be signed.

The clerk shared the Finance reports for September and October for review by Cllr Wright

The clerk shared that she would be posting the agenda and the minutes for the Parish Council meeting in the notice boards tomorrow (6th December)

Hedge at Fullwell still has not been cut. The Clerk to contact NNC

RESOLVED: Approved

23/107F Close

The meeting finished at 8.05pm

RESOLVED: Approved

Signed: _____

Cllr.Lilley, Chair, Finance Committee and Gretton Parish Council.

Date: