

# Weldon Parish Council



## Minutes of Finance Committee Meeting held on Thursday 17th October 2024 at Weldon Village Academy, 10:00

Present	John Cooke, Janet Gibson, Angela Page, Kane Taylor
Also Present	Claire Ducker (Clerk)

- FC.505**      **Apologies** - none received
- FC.506**      **Declarations of Interest** - Cllr Gibson raised an interest in the allotment fees as she is a holder of an allotment, Clerk Ducker raised an interest in the discussion of the Clerk's pension contributions
- FC.507**      The **minutes of the meeting held on 18th September 2024** were approved and signed by Cllr Taylor
- FC.508**      **Clerk Report** – following Full Council Meeting held on Monday 7th October 2024 there is currently £210,694.23 across both bank accounts. We are waiting on a VAT Claim refund of £1,046.04.  
It was agreed that the Clerk's salary to be processed and paid prior to the Full Council meeting being held on Monday 4th November 2024.
- FC.509**      **Grant applications** - no new grants received. To review rules in the grant policy., slight amendments may be needed. Weldon in Bloom to submit a grant application for their costs for 2024/2025.
- FC.510**      **Decide % contribution for Clerk's Pension** - following the agreement at Full Council Meeting held on Monday 7th October Weldon Parish Council would contribute into a private pension held with Royal London. Cllr Gibson suggested an employer contribution of 8% with Clerk Ducker employee contribution being 5%. This was all agreed. Clerk Ducker to bring to the Full Council meeting (4th November) the costs involved.
- FC.511**      **Future projects** -
- Weldon in Bloom committee to look at plans for projects and budget for the whole year, sustaining itself by applying for a grant and looking for sponsorship. Ensure WinB and Maintenance are not mixed and budgets are separate for these. Cllr Page may be able to source tools for WinB.
  - Christmas lights - look into purchasing solar or battery operated lights for this year until mains electricity is installed on the green. Cllr Page to investigate on prices.  
Approach Boughton Estates for a Christmas tree with routes for future years, possibly install where the tank is once this is removed.
  - VE Day - budget of £5k approved, Weldon British Legion to work with us
    - Use of church marquee will save a spend of £2k
    - use the 10 benches granted to Weldon Fete currently used at Weldon Cricket club to save of costs for seating
    - Road closure approx £3k

- Piper and choirs cost approx £750
- Weldon Wide -
  - Cllr Taylor proposed a donation of £200 from the Church and will approach the Chapel to help towards the delivery costs as a Christmas card advertising church services will be in the November issue
  - Reduce down to 2 copies per year to save on costs and use the notice boards more to advertise and promote what has been happening throughout the Parish
- Photocopier for all to use - Cllr Taylor has contact where a refurbished photocopier could be obtained from. This would help reduce the costs of printing currently incurred by the Youth Development Worker and others to use for printing posters for notice boards etc.

**FC.512 Installation of posts on green near School's driveway, additional work for caretaker** - It was agreed that the school need to provide risk assessments and have the area checked for pipework etc before we consider any work to be carried out.

**FC.513 Requests from Youth Development Coordinator -**

- SEN group costs of £66 per month, agreed as this is within budget
- Christmas party, purchase of activity/craft items, hire of hall, agreed as within budget
- Canva - not agreed Cllr Page to look into this

**FC.514 Allotment fees for 2025** - an increase from £25 to £28 for a full plot and from £15 to £18 for a half plot. The increases proposed are to cover the increase in water costs and consumption. This will be taken to the Full Council to agree. Tenants need to pay in December, Cllr Gibson will hold a day at the allotments for tenant agreements to be signed. For security reasons a new padlock needs to be purchased, this was agreed. Keys will be issued once a £5 deposit is received, this will be returned to tenants on the return of the key.

**FC.515 Repair of wooden footbridge across pond outlet stream in the pocket park,**  
A quote has been received in the region of £100k plus, this bridge has no benefit to the parish, it is not sustainable and the parish requires crossing on the roads first.

**FC.516 Any Future Items**

- **Health and Safety** - a presentation is booked with BrightHR on Tuesday 29th October @ 3pm, all welcome to attend. This is to see what they have to offer. Suggest that Cllr M Page look into what NCALC also has to offer.
- **Expenses policy** - relook at what we currently have, Clerk Ducker to check for any updates and bring to the next Finance meeting.

**FC.517 Next Financial Committee meeting** Wednesday 20th November 2024 at Weldon Village Academy, 10:00.

This being all the business the meeting was closed at 11:10

Signature	Date
<i>K Taylor</i>	11th December 2024