

Ecclesfield Parish Council

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Minutes of Meeting of the Finance and Premises Committee held at the Council Offices on Tuesday, 20 December 2022

Commenced: 7.15pm - Concluded: 8.50 pm

Councillors Present. Kate Guest (Chairman), David Ogle (Vice-Chairman), Victoria Bowden, John Brownrigg, Susan Davidson, John Housley, and Carol Levery.

Absent Councillors. Dr John Bowden.

Officers: Andrew Towlerton - Parish Clerk/RFO (minute taker) and Laura Tickle - Administrative and Financial Officer.

Members of the Public. None.

Chairman's Announcement

The Chairman, Councillor Kate Guest, outlined the procedures to ensure that the meeting was effective, lawful and safe.

2022/56	Item 56: Apologies and Reasons for Absence
<u>(F&P)</u>	The Clerk reported that he had received one.
	Proposed by Councillor John Brownrigg and seconded by Councillor David Ogle and RESOLVED: That the apology and reasons given for absence by Councillor Dr. John Bowden be approved.
	(7 in favour)
<u>2022/57</u>	Item 57: Declarations of Interests
<u>(F&P)</u>	
	None were declared.
2022/58	Item 58: Exclusion of Press and Public
<u>(F&P)</u>	The Chairman explained that she considered that there were two items that required the exclusion of the press or public due to the confidential nature of the business to be considered. These were that part of item 2022/56 'Grant Applications' dealing with the consideration of the concerned grant applications and item 2022/61 'To consider and make recommendations to Council (i) Budget for the financial Year 2023/2024 and (ii) Precept for the financial year 2023/2024'. It was agreed to move the consideration of these items to the end of the agenda. Proposed by Councillor Susan Davidson and seconded by Councillor Carol Levery and

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	RESOLVED: That the press and public be excluded from that part of item 2022/60 'Grant Applications' dealing with the consideration of the grant applications and item 2022/61 'To consider and make recommendations to Council (i) Budget for the financial Year 2023/2024 and (ii) Precept for the financial year 2023/2024'. (7 in favour)
2022/59	Item 59: Public Participation Session
<u>(F&P)</u>	There were no questions raised.
2022/60 (F&P)	Item 60: Grant Applications
	It was reported that the following applications had been received.
	Covid Recovery Grants
	Ecclesfield Priory Players
	Ward Based Grants
	192nd Sheffield Rainbows
	Thorncliffe Football Club
	Chapeltown Hockey Club
	These applications were considered by the Committee.
	a) Proposed by Councillor David Ogle and seconded by Councillor Carol Levery and RESOLVED : That it is recommended to Council that Ecclesfield Priory Players be offered a grant of £2,765.65 from the COVID Recovery Grant programme towards theatre running costs.
	(7 in favour) It was also noted that should the award of this grant be ratified by Full Council the amount of funding in the COVID Recovery Grant Programme for 2022/2023 would be exhausted. It was agreed to provisionally close the programme to new applications.
	b) Proposed by Councillor David Ogle and seconded by Councillor Susan Davidson and RESOLVED : That it is recommended to Council that 192 nd Sheffield Rainbows be offered a grant of £376.15 towards re-establishing the Group (Burncross, Chapeltown, High Green and Thorncliffe Wards).
	(7 in favour) c) Proposed by Councillor John Housley and seconded by Councillor Victoria Bowden and RESOLVED : That it is recommended to Council that Thorncliffe Football Club be offered a grant of £5,000 towards annual pitch fees for the whole club (All Wards). (7 in favour)
	It was agreed to defer the consideration of the Ward Based Grant application from Chapeltown Hockey Club to the next meeting of the Finance and Premises Committee to enable its sponsor to be present.
2022/61 (F&P)	Item 61: To consider and make recommendations to Council
	(i) Budget for the financial Year 2023/2024 (ii) Precept for the financial year 2023/2024
	It was noted that at its 1 December 2022 meeting, Full Council requested (minute 2022/105 (FC)) that the Finance and Premises Committee consider and make recommendations for the budget and precept options for the financial year 2023/2024 for consideration at its 12 January

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2023 meeting. Councillors were given detailed information on the proposed budget and precept based upon requirements established for the year 2023/2024. An indication was also provided with this information as to the amount of increase both per year and per week on a Band D property based upon the possible precept levels. Councillors then examined the proposed budget and precept options for 2023/2024 in detail. a) Proposed by Councillor Carol Levery and seconded by Councillor John Housley and RESOLVED: That it is recommended to Council that they consider an option (1) that would see no increase in the precept demand for 2023/2024. (7 in favour) b) Proposed by Councillor John Brownrigg and seconded by Councillor David Ogle and **RESOLVED**: That it is recommended to Council that they consider a second option (2) that would see a 5.5% increase in the precept demand for 2023/2024 and the resulting increase in income be allocated to the ward-based grant programme. (7 in favour) An additional proposal by Councillor David Ogle and seconded by Councillor John Brownrigg that recommended to the Council, that the Council consider a third option which would see up to a £40,000 to £65,000 reduction in the staffing budget for 2023/2024 and the residual amount (after costs associated with the necessary restructuring and redundancy process) be allocated to the Ward Based Grant and Covid Recovery programmes was not supported. (2 in favour, 5 against) 2022/62 **Item 62: Other Correspondence** (F&P) The various Grant Monitoring forms received were considered and noted. 2022/63 **Item 63: Date and Time of Future Meetings** (F&P) It was confirmed that the next Finance and Premises Committee meeting is scheduled to take place on Thursday 19 January 2023 at 7.15pm at the Council Offices.

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