



**Minutes of a Meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee  
On Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2022 @ 5.00pm  
Parish Office, Great Missenden**

**Present:** Cllr M Johnstone (Chair)  
Cllrs Gladwin, V Martin  
**Apologies:** Cllrs Pither, Hewett, Rhodes  
**Also present:** Jane Hennessy, clerk; Tracy Georgiades, deputy clerk

Meeting started at 5.20pm.

**F22/01 Declarations of Interest** – None

**F22/02 Minutes** of meetings of 24<sup>th</sup> November 2021 and 16<sup>th</sup> December 2021 were signed.

**F22/03 Budget preparation 2023-24**

Cllr Mike Johnstone, together with the clerk, have been working on the first draft of next year's proposed budget. Actual spending for the first six months of this financial year have been prepared and anticipated spending and projects for 2023/24 were presented for discussion.

The meeting reviewed the first draft budget, made alterations and the committee recommended it for presenting at the council meeting 12<sup>th</sup> December 2022 for further discussion.

Items agreed by the committee: -

- Additional line included for London Road land mowing & hedge cutting.
- Anticipated increases in the following; IT licences, parish office gas and electricity, PAT testing, staff costs, to include recent payscale increases
- Other administration items such as broadband, room hire, training & subscriptions had inflationary increases (10%).
- Reduction in postage costs, publications, parish warden budget.
- Reduction in parish office refurbishment cost – just toilet and kitchen flooring remaining.
- The allocation for the parish event was increased to £3,000.
- Grants – removal of the budget line for the Memorial Centre.
- Open Spaces – relevant items increased by inflationary 10%. Dog waste bin collection increased by £1,000 as Bucks Council are changing contractors and the price is yet to be set. MVAS new equipment increased by £2,000 in case of further battery thefts. All Sexton Grounds maintenance budget lines increased by 10%, as per contract. Increase in the tennis court maintenance contract to reflect price increase £2,640. New budget line for London Road mowing/hedgecutting £2,000.
- Parking – free parking in Buryfield car park budget reduced and an earmarked reserve created for expected back charges for additional spaces.
- Increase in repairs and renewals for the The Cage wall and door frame.

Additional earmarked reserves were created for devolved services, photography project, Link Road land, Ground source heat pump investigations and bus shelter project.

A summary of each budget category will be prepared as an aid for the discussions at the December meeting. A further F&GP committee meeting has been arranged on December 19<sup>th</sup> 2022 @ 4.30pm to discuss any amendments suggested at the council meeting.

A full list of the draft itemised budget is available for all councillors on request.

**Overall:** An increase in our precept of **£13,187** which is an increase of **4.84%**

**3. Any other business** – none; the meeting closed at 7.05pm

**4. Date of the Next Meeting** – 19<sup>th</sup> December 2022 @ 4.30pm parish office.