

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on
Tuesday 16 November 2021**

PRESENT: Cllrs S Hellewell, J Patterson, A Baskeyfield, R Brook, N Denby, G Turner, H McKerchar, P Flinders & W Simpson

IN ATTENDANCE: C Wadsworth, Clerk to the Council

21/011 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Turner declared an interest in the Denby Dale Mens' Shed Association small grant application.

21/012 Open Session

One member of the public spoke on behalf of the High Flatts & District Heritage & Environmental Group and their future projects which they may bring to the parish council for support via the small grants scheme. He also brought to the council's attention the tree planting undertaken by the Forestry Commission.

21/013 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Carr. Cllr Blanshard was absent.

RESOLVED that the reasons for absence were accepted.

21/014 Admission of the Public

RESOLVED that there were no items requiring the exclusion of the press and public.

21/015 Budget Outturn

Cllr Brook referred to the updated, tabled budget outturn and stated that as agreed, the aim of the council was to reduce reserves by £50K this financial year, and it seemed that the council were on target to achieve this. He also stated that it appeared that the Community Grants budget line was overspent, however much of this was expenditure from last years grants unclaimed and for the Emley ARLFC earmarked reserves.

21/016 Draft Budget 2022-2023 to be recommended to the Full council

Cllr Brook reminded councillors that at the last meeting they had looked at the individual budget lines with the aim of not over-estimating spend to avoid increasing the level of reserves. He went through the proposed changes again, stating that if there was a need, then money could be vired from reserves. Noted budget lines were:

Salaries: reduced as in the past these remained too high due to uncertainty of calculating the Countryside Officer on-costs

Training: reduced as there was not always full uptake,

IT costs: high this year due to one-off public wifi costs for the council building,

Noticeboards and bins: reduced due to low uptake,

GDPR: reduced as it was clear that this was a lower cost than anticipated,

CAB: this would remain as it was hoped that Citizens Advice service would return to the building,

Annual Allowance: Line removed as these events no longer took place

Emley Show: This was now reduced due to the council contributing to transport only

Allotments: reduced as lower expenditure now they were established

Countryside Project: reduced as less expenditure last year

Climate Emergency Fund: agreed to remain the same as expected they would use more on other projects even if not full uptake by schools

Churchfields: to increase H&S due to tree survey due to be undertaken.

RESOLVED to recommend a budget of **£204,600** to the Full Council for approval. The precept options would be prepared for the next meeting for consideration.

21/017 Small Grants

RESOLVED that the following small grants were awarded using the General Power of Competence provided by the Localism Act 2011

| | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|--------|
| Denby Dale & District Mens Shed Association | Equipment for metalwork and woodwork | 1000 |
| Emley Clarence Cricket Club | Junior Bowling Machine | 999.60 |
| Scissett FC | Equipment and kit | 728.00 |
| 4 th Pennine East Emley Brownies | Funds for adventure holiday | 500.00 |
| Denby Cricket Club | Improved facilities | 800.00 |

(Emley Moor Community application withdrawn by applicant)

RESOLVED that the Small Grants Applications should now be considered throughout the financial year at any of the four Finance & General Purposes Committee meetings.

21/018 Grant Applications:

Community Grant application from Skelmanthorpe Community Lights – application withdrawn by applicant.
School Grant application for Kayes First & Nursery – **RESOLVED** to award a schools grant of £1000 towards a woodwork area using the General Power of Competence provided by the Localism Act 2011

21/019 Appointment of Internal Auditor for March 2022

RESOLVED to appoint Torevell Dent as the Internal Auditor for March 2022 at the cost of £600 + VAT as per the remit provided.

21/020 Grants Process Review

RESOLVED that the environmental remit of the grants be included on the application form
RESOLVED to remove the wording 'community Interest Companies' from the application guidance

21/021 Fire Safety Package – RESOLVED that Firesolve be appointed to provide Fire Safety maintenance and provide an updated Fire Risk Assessment.

RESOLVED as per the Clerk's recommendation that existing contractor Centurian's contract be extended to cover the Fire Alarm maintenance and response and Safety lighting.

21/022 Orders for Payment

RESOLVED that orders for payment number 794 totalling £12835.52 be approved for payment

21/022 Date of next F&GP meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for 18th January 2022

Signed..... CHAIR