

AYLESFORD PARISH COUNCIL

FINANCE ADVISORY SUB COMMITTEE

TUESDAY 27 JUNE 2017

Commenced 8.25pm

MINUTES

Present: Cllrs Shelley (Chairman), Balcombe, Base, Ms Dorrington, Elvy, Mrs Gadd, Gledhill, Rillie, Smith, Walker, Wright

In attendance: Mr Harris, Clerk Mrs Collier, Deputy Clerk

Apologies: Cllr Winnett

1. Apologies

Cllr Winnett on holiday. Noted and accepted.

2. Declarations of Interests

There were no declarations additional to those contained in the Registry of Members' Interests.

3. Section 137 Donation requests – No report to this meeting.

Also see 8.1 Donations, below.

4. Hall Grants/Loans

Post Meeting Note: **Eccles Church Hall.** Clerk has authorised payment of £75 for plumbing works. To be ratified at P&R 4 July 2017.

5. Section 137 Micro Grant requests

Aylesford Big Lunch – Organisers have requested an additional £105 donation for this event towards insurance costs (£400 already agreed for entertainment). Cllr Rillie agreed to fund this from his microgrant. **Agreed Clerk**

Also see 8.1 Donations, below.

6. Financial Matters arising from Other Committees

Maintenance Equipment – Recommendation of ESC 27 June 2017 to purchase of a Kubota Out-Front Mower with 2 cutting decks and trailer and servicing contract. Exact specification (60in or 72in blade) and servicing details to be finalised by the Clerk. Maximum cost £26,000 for machine and trailer plus servicing costs. Purchase **agreed**.

Security Equipment – Costs of improved security for various Parish Council sites **agreed** as detailed in ESC minutes 27 June 2017.

7. Banking

7.1 - Savings/Reserves Accounts - Now all funds have been transferred from Nat West, the Clerk will start moving reserves into new higher interest accounts (as agreed with the Chairman) with rates varying from 0.4% to 1.1% and with varying access arrangements.

7.2 – Cheque Payments – Cllr Shelley (on behalf of Tunbury Hall) questioned the Council’s decision to no longer accept cheque payments which would cause some problems for TH when making loan repayments twice a year as it did not have an online banking account. The Clerk clarified the reasons the Council was discouraging the use of cheques in favour of BACS payments ie. charges and the necessity for staff to go into Maidstone to pay them in.

It was **agreed** that Cllrs Shelley and Wright (who both serve on the TH Committee) and the Clerk will discuss this further to find a mutually convenient resolution. **Clerk**

8. Any Other Business/Correspondence

8.1 – Section 137 Donations Policy

Cllr Balcombe asked that the Donations Policy of the Council be clarified as he had some concerns regarding the recent increase in requests for funding towards local ‘social’ events. The Clerk stated that provided the ‘social’ events are funded from the micro grants of local members for the area in which the event will be held, it would be deemed as a correct use of funds. Donations towards more generic organisations such as Air Ambulance, Hospice should be funded from the main Section 137 Donation budget. Noted.

There being no further business, meeting closed at 8.45pm.