

SANDIACRE PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on Thursday, 23 November 2021 at 7pm in the Memorial Institute, 19a Doncaster Avenue, Sandiacre, Derbyshire NG10 5FJ

PRESENT: Cllr W Major (Chairman)
A Cllr Mrs L Bilbie
Cllr S Bilbie
Cllr Mrs C French
Cllr N Raycraft
Cllr Mrs C Powers
A Cllr T Sanghera

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs M Bloor - Clerk to the Council

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: None

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. APOLOGIES AND APPROVAL OF ABSENCES

Councillor	Apology
Mrs L Bilbie	Child care commitment
T Sanghera	Borough Council meeting commitment

RESOLVED: to approve apologies for absence

2. TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Councillor	Declared Interest
S Bilbie	Personal interest: Memorial Institute Trustee
W Major	Personal interest: Memorial Institute Trustee & Cloudside Academy Governor

3. TO CONSIDER REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

There were no requests for dispensation.

4. VARIATION OF ORDER OF BUSINESS

There were no variations of business.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

No members of the public were present.

6. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

Minutes of the (Virtual) Finance Committee meeting held on 24 November 2020 were approved by full Council on 12 January 2021. Copies were circulated for reference.

7. BUDGET MONITORING STATEMENT

A bank reconciliation, covering the period 1/4/21 to 31/10/21, was received and noted and included details of income and expenditure for budget monitoring purposes.

The Clerk tabled six pages of financial statements for consideration of setting the 2022/2023 budget for ratification by full council.

Taken as a whole, the Clerk highlighted each page.

Page 1.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comparison of Precept and CF final figures from 2013 to 2020 • Estimated figures shown for a 3.5% increase in Precept: £51,510 to £53,320 • EBC CF's grant of £26,718 predicted to decrease by 5% to £25,832, subject to confirmation by EBC • Total Precept and CF's grant for 2022/23 = Increased from £78,228 to £78,712 • Overall increase of £474 • Sandiacre is shown as the largest of the PC's in Erewash with 14 Councillors • Parish Precepts 2021/22: Sandiacre has 3rd highest Precept, but 2nd lowest Band D charge at £1,919.77 per annum • Some Parish Council supported grant funding into the community, but Sandiacre PC maintained ongoing services • Parish Precept 2021/22: £19.24 per week / 0.37 per week • Parish Precept 2022/23 estimated at £19.92 per week / 0.38 per week
Page 2.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carry forward figures from 2016 to 2021 • Reserves build up over a 4 year period for polling station costs at £2,000 per year • Income received from 1/4/21 to 31/10/21: 7 month period • Estimated income for the forthcoming financial year: £136,567.05 • Predicted Cemetery income for the forthcoming financial year: £16,260
Page 3.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Predicted Precept expenditure • Clerks salary adjusted for reduction in CF of 5% = 78% Precept / 32% CF Grant • Increase in Clerk's salary costs not yet finalised (NJC) • Personal tax allowance to stay the same, but NIC's contributions expected to rise in 2022
Page 4.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Predicted CF's expenditure itemised based on agreed contracts with companies
Page 5.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Predicted Cemetery fees to include a 3.5% increase (rounded up) • It was noted the Council relied on Cemetery fees to support services and there was grave space available for approximately 20 to 30 years
Page 6.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Predicted income for the coming year, including potential outside grant funding • Band D charge estimated for 2022 at £19.92 per annum • Priority area identified for 2022/2023 included 4 new benches for Springfield Park • Outside funding would be obtained to fund NP consultancy fees • The Clerk could apply to Awards for All form a new play safety surface for the MUGA • Tree and hedge work was needed in the Cemetery to maintain in good order

At the close of the financial reports, Councillors considered priority areas for the coming year and it was noted that if priorities included installation and monitoring of a CCTV camera, the Precept would need to increase significantly and by at least 50+%.

Councillors considered that no increase in the Precept should be recommended and CCTV coverage was limited and could not be relied upon.

RESOLVED: not to recommend investment of at least £20,000+ in a CCTV camera and associated monitoring costs

8. CONCURRENT FUNCTIONS (CF) 2022/2023

It was noted that EBC was expected to reduce the CF grant to Parish Councils by approximately 5%. Written notification would be published shortly.

Budget headings	2021/2022	2022/2023
Recreation Grounds and Amenity Areas	18,862	19,830
Burial Grounds	435	480
Clerk/RFO salary + on-costs (Reduced from 32% to 22%)	7,421	5,072
Total:	26,718	25,382

Areas of expenditure were based on confirmed contract rates and ongoing work required to be carried out in the Cemetery and churchyards.

RESOLVED: unanimously to agree to recommend to full Council a budget of £25,382 for the CF budget, subject to notification of any change by EBC

9. PRECEPT FOR THE PERIOD 1/4/22 TO 31/3/23

Each budget heading was itemised:

- Increase in Precept by 3.5% from 1/4/22: £51,510 to £53.320
- Band D annual charge from £19.24 to £19.92 per year / 0.38p per week

RESOLVED: unanimously to recommend to full Council that the Precept be set at £53.320, subject to notification by EBC of any change to the CF grant

During consideration of the newsletter heading, it was highlighted that Councillors present and some residents had not received a copy this year.

The Clerk confirmed she had checked circulation with the delivery company that week since she had not received any questionnaire responses. Nottingham Local News had confirmed all copies had been delivered and they had provided marked route planners.

RESOLVED: the Clerk would investigate further and provide a copy of the route planner to all Councillors so they could determine which areas of their Wards had been missed

10. CEMETERY FEES FOR THE PERIOD: 1/4/22 TO 31/3/23

The proposed figures had been rounded up to show an overall increase of 3.5%.

1. **RESOLVED:** unanimously to recommend to full Council an increase of 3.5% for Cemetery fees from 1/4/22

11. DATE FOR RATIFICATION BY FULL COUNCIL

TUESDAY, 11 JANUARY 2022 – SECOND TUESDAY IN THE MONTH

The meeting closed at 7.55pm.

Signed by Chairman _____

Date _____