



Minutes: Finance Committee Meeting, 26 October 2021 (continued from 21 October 2021) **Confirmed**

1.	Cllr Chris Meade (Chair Finance), Cllr Alison Melvin (Chair), Lisa Spindler (Clerk), Sue Hodder (Consultant). Apologies for Absence – Karen Ray (RFO), Cllr Ryan France-Moore
2.	Approve Minutes from 21 October 2021 Finance Committee Meeting (21/096) Proposed CM. Seconded AM.
3	Reserves LS presented her analysis of bank balance reconciliations and KR agreed the figures, as shown. LS proposed (i) £18,000 should be transferred from Current to Reserves Account; (ii) notes to the accounts should be made to clearly identify how much of the Reserve funding is EarMarked for items already-agreed by council resolutions.
4	Half yearly accounts/precept – Need to compare 2021 vs 2020 costs/income, before sign-off 2022 precept / budgets. Item deferred to 15.11.2021 meeting.
5	Football club contract update LS has confirmed key contract terms for football by email to Vicky Soden. AM has reworded/ restructured current draft Football Contract to create a format that can be used as a template for Tennis contract. LS will send this formal contract to Vicky Soden shortly. Action point to be kept open until contract signed.
6	Cricket nets All councillors and Clerk have discussed and agree with Sue Hodder’s proposals that NottSport should be BPC’s preferred supplier at cost of £15K + VAT; and that the nets should be replaced ahead of ‘22 Season. What is not yet agreed is the question of how to ensure a ‘level playing field’ between the treatment of tennis (where tennis club raise funds for court re-surfacing) and cricket (where, under Sue Hodder’s proposal, BPC would entirely fund cricket net replacement.) BCC has little scope to contribute upfront funding for net replacement, and RCC may also find upfront payments difficult. However, before BPC agrees to fund the nets, it will meet RCC to discuss potential options for contribution, e.g. through fee for annual usage of nets.
7	Utilities (i) Fuel supply contract. KR advised no advantage for BPC to seek alternative suppliers (green tariffs) until expiry of BPC’s current dual fuel contract with EDF is a fixed tariff. Item deferred until Jan 2023. (ii) Energy audit/savings/investments. Ahead of energy survey, AM requested information on actual energy usage be made available. KR unable to locate this information. CM proposed (all agreed) that BPC 2022-23 Precept will include some expenditure on energy saving measures e.g. insulation.
8	A.O.B. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sue Hodder consultancy contract Sue Hodder verbally agreed payment rate, duration and scope of work proposed in draft contract. She considers the contract’s other terms ‘too corporate’ and refuses to sign contract or further discuss it. • Blacknest Grazing contract renewals / renegotiations (2 contracts) AM has prepared new contracts for K&R Ruffel and R Langham, which both have verbally agreed. Ruffel contract term now 12 months, for reduced rental area, at full previous rate, with BPC responsible for hedges. Langham contract renewal for 6 months, unchanged rates/areas. • Info on available Grants for Blacknest Fields (& tree planting at any other Council sites) AM shared info on various tree grants that she recently compiled for Binsted Eco Network’s new ‘Green Ribbons’ initiative. It was agreed BPC bid to Tree Council should be made to obtain hedge plants/protection for Blacknest if time permits.