

**Minutes of the meeting of Belbroughton and Fairfield Parish Council Finance Committee held on 18<sup>th</sup> June 2018 at The Jubilee Room Belbroughton Recreation Centre**

**Present:** Councillors: J Bradley, P Margetts, Dr R Morgan. In attendance, the clerk.  
0 members of the public.

**194/18** The Committee considered and then agreed to Cllr. Morgan chairing the meeting in the absence of both the Chairman and Vice Chairman

**195/18 Apologies.** Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs. A Hood, A Mabbett, S Nock, G Parsons, & C Scurrrell.

**196/18 Declarations of interest.** None.      **197/18 Dispensations.** None requested.

**198/18 Minutes of previous meeting.**

The minutes of the meeting of 21<sup>st</sup> June 2018 were approved by the Committee and were signed by the Chairman.

**199/18 Bank reconciliation.**

Cllr. Margetts undertook the bank reconciliation for the Council's operational bank account, he duly signed the bank statements and the 'Quickbooks' reconciliation prints. The Committee agreed that Cllr. Bradley would carry out the next reconciliation procedure at the July Finance Committee.

**200/18 Accounts for Payment.**

The clerk circulated the list of items for payment totalling £8,721.21. The Committee authorised the cheque and electronic payments, Cllrs. Bradley and Morgan agreed to sign the cheques.

**Payments included annual Maintenance Grants:**

Belbroughton and Fairfield Parochial Church Council £2,200

Belbroughton Recreation Centre £1,155

Fairfield Village Hall £730

Belbroughton Church Hall £730

**201/18 Investments**

The Committee approved the re-investment of a maturing £25,000 two year bond with the Hampshire Trust Bank for further 2 year term at a new fixed interest rate of 1.55%.

**202/18 Maintenance Grants**

The Committee recommended to the Full Council – following a request from the Holy Trinity Church Belbroughton – that the Maintenance Grant to the P.C.C. is increased this year by £1,000 from the present agreed sum of £2,200 to £3,200. This would be subject to a representative from the P.C.C. attending the July Council to explain the current usage of the church funds including reserves, along with its anticipated future income and expenditure position.

**203/18 Grounds Maintenance**

- a. Committee agreed to add two small areas of land at Bell Heath to the grass mowing schedule.
- b. Committee approved the quote for the additional areas.

**Action:** the clerk would advise W.C.C. who own the land, requesting a financial contribution, and instruct the contractor.

- c. Committee agreed an hourly rate of £15/hour for the Lengthsman to carry out improvements to parish areas. Such works would be funded by the Parish Council and not form part of the W.C.C contract.

**Action:** Cllr. Hood will provide council with a schedule of works and for consideration.

- d. The Committee would itself monitor Sylvesters' Corner for any possible ground movements as initial investigations in May suggested any movement was currently barely detectable.

**Action:** Cllr. Margetts to assess bi-monthly and report to the clerk.

**204/18 Belbroughton Recreation Centre – Play Area Improvements Grant**

The Committee noted a report from the B.R.C. representative advising that the project is seeking a third quote for the proposed improvements and continued to look at additional funding sources, e.g. the District Council New Homes Bonus funds, and Biffa. It was likely that it would be much later in the year before the matched funding for the agreed Parish Council Grant of up to £20,000 would be achieved.

**205/18 Maintenance Work**

Cllr. Bradley advised that a resident in High St Belbroughton wished to repaint the railings outside her property adjacent to the highway. The Committee noted this and would in any case be making the repainting of all the railings an aim in the coming months. It noted also that the railings were either part of the District Council or County Council assets and were thus not owned by the Parish Council.

Cllr. Margetts requested that a small sum of up to £50 be made available towards planting up an area of land at the Pinchers Close / High St junction. A local resident wished to volunteer to carry out this task. The Committee agreed the funds.

**Action:** the clerk would contact the volunteer and advise of appropriate risk assessment for such works.

**The meeting closed at 9.12 pm.**

Signed.....Chairman