

# **BARLING MAGNA PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes** of the Finance Committee Meeting held on Friday 5 February 2016 held in St Mary's Church, Little Wakering Road, Little Wakering, Essex commencing at 7.00 p.m.

Present: - Councillors L Street, M Cohen (Vice Chair of Council), S Bond, R Gardiner, I Knight, M Pearmain, J Edmunds, M Steptoe (Chair of Council) and A Ashdown (Acting Clerk).

In attendance: - Victoria Marzouki (RDC).

## **MINUTES**

- 1. The Chair to declare the meeting open.**
  - a. The Chair declared the meeting open.
- 2. To receive apologies for absence**
  - a. Apologies were received from the Clerk, John Watson.
- 3. To receive Declarations of Interest in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct and with section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.**
  - a. There were no Declarations of Interest.
- 4. To agree the Minutes of the Finance Committee held on 7 January 2016.**
  - a. Proposed Councillor Street, seconded Councillor Steptoe the item 8 of the minutes should be amended to include "The Committee proposed that the Parish Council should go out to tender for the maintenance and service, pickup and delivery of equipment of the Wild Life Reserve". Carried unanimously.
  - b. Proposed Councillor Street and seconded Councillor Cohen that, subject to the amendment in 4.a. above, the Minutes of the Finance Committee held on 7<sup>th</sup> January be agreed. Carried unanimously.
- 5. The meeting will stand adjourned to permit Parishioners of Barling Magna to address the Meeting.**
  - a. It was mentioned that when specification for the above tender is sent out, the Council members receive a copy of this for information.
  - b. Councillor Steptoe mentioned that he would, together with Councillor Cohen, meet with J Watson in order for information to be shared on the handover on the Clerk's departure.
- 6. To receive a presentation from Victoria Marzouki of Rochford District Council regarding funding or the refurbishment of the Village Hall and to**

**agree the recommendations to be made to Council.**

- a. Ms Marzouki stated that there were several funding streams to follow regarding funding for the refurbishment of the Village Hall. She had been exploring different avenues that the Parish Council could take to achieve this funding. These ideas to be taken to the full meeting of the Parish Council for agreement.

The Lottery – Ms Marzouki stated that she tapped the postcode for the Village Hall and this shows that we were eligible to apply.

Police Crime Commissioner  
Community Funds ie Aviva, RBS  
Essex Fund Team  
Grant Net

Veolia )

Sita )

ROSCAS/Clothworkers – possibly £1,000 - £1,5000

Awards for All – up to £100,000 (more realistically £25,000 - £50,000)

Ms Marzouki stated that she would help as much as she could in finding funding and checking applications prior to submitting.

Ms Marzouki has contacted a window company regarding new windows for the village hall and is hoping these will be free of charge.

Councillor Pearmain asked if the specification could be separated into sections as some grants could then be applied to specific parts of the works. When bids for grants were made the individual sections would be easily identified.

There were three suggestions of people who may be prepared to make bids for grants, these being,

1. District Councillor Jo McPherson
2. Gemma Cartwright (Councillor Steptoe's daughter who works for SAVS)
3. Shelly Hall

and it was agreed that they be approached.

Proposed Councillor Steptoe, seconded Councillor Street that,

- i. The Finance Committee recommends that the Parish Council continues with the application for a loan from the Public Works Loan Board. Carried unanimously.
- ii. That the Parish Council continues with Ms Marzouki to obtain grants. Carried unanimously.

**7. Exchange of Information.**

- a. Councillor Cohen mentioned that she went to a Rochford Hundred meeting and a subject brought up was "Focus on Changes in External Audit". The advice was "Strongly NOT to opt out of the scheme" (once out not opting in at a later date). To be put on the Agenda of the Full Council Meeting on 18 February 2016 as a matter of urgency with the recommendation from the Finance Committee that the Parish Council do not opt out.

**Meeting closed 7.40 pm**

**Issued 10th February, 2016.**

DRAFT