

BROOMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of Broomfield Parish Council's Financial & General Purposes Committee was held on Tuesday 1st March at 7.30 p.m. in the Parish Council Office, Broomfield Village Hall, 158 Main Road, Broomfield

Members' Present:	Chairman Councillor Barnes Vice Chairman Councillor Garwood Councillors: Blake, Jones & Smith
-------------------	--

Also Present:	Mrs K Hurrell (Clerk)
---------------	-----------------------

Public Question Time: No members of public were present.

401. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillors Daden and Tranquada.

402. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Smith declared an interest as she sits on the Parochial Council of St Mary's Church.

403. To review overall financial situation

The Chairman and Clerk gave a brief overview of the current financial situation to update Members as to the balances on the Parish Council's accounts which stands at £55k in the Co-op Current Account and £183k in Earmarked Reserves.

Members discussed the Parish Council Strategy and invited Councillor Jones to update them regarding the Broomfield Village Hall Charity future plans for the adventure cycleway. He advised that a business plan had been submitted to Chelmsford City Council for technical assistance and positive comments had so far been received – the project will roughly cost £150k. As this forms part of the Parish Council Strategy and received many positive comments from parishioners at the Annual Parish Meeting – the Parish Council are keen to support this project. It was requested that an outline timetable of how to finance this project be produced by the Broomfield Village Hall Charity for the March Parish Council Meeting. Timing is very important and the Parish Council are keen to be able to show parishioners that progress is being made to provide future facilities at the next Annual Parish Meeting on May 25th. Councillor Blake will place figures into the Parish Council Strategy once received.

ACTION: TJ to produce outline timetable with detailed costings for March 16th PC Meeting

JB to update Parish Council Strategy document with figures provided for March 16th PC Meeting

Councillor Blake requested the last few years' income and expenditure be produced in a report to the next Parish Council Meeting to see if an annual grant is applicable to help with the running costs and maintenance or whether the Parish Council should be increasing the rent it pays for the use of the Parish Office.

ACTION: TJ to produce a summary of last few year's income & expenditure only. TJ to advise local costs of renting a similar office outside of Chelmsford to the PC Meeting 16th March.

404. To consider grant for St Mary's Church

The Parish Council had requested further information from the Church as to what the current £1,500 grant (2015/16) had been spent on to-date before consideration was given to the request for another £1,500 for the financial year 2016/17. A letter in response had been received from the Church detailing the information requested. Councillor Barnes advised that the Parish Council should not be regularly supporting

Signed:.....101 Dated:.....

	<p>the core costs of running the Church. Councillors Barnes and Jones stressed that the accounts they have produced show that the Church have nearly £60k in unrestricted funds available to fund this work themselves.</p> <p>However, discussion took place and it was resolved that the Parish Council approve a grant of up to £1,500 for 2016/17 (subject to invoices received for work on the graveyard only).</p> <p>ACTION: It was resolved to grant up to £1500 for 2016/17 subject to invoices being produced for the graveyard expenditure only and not for any expenditure on the Church.</p> <p>Clerk to write to Church</p>
405.	<p>To consider grant received from Broomfield Football Club & purchase of existing Broomfield Football Club land surrounded by Angel Meadow</p> <p><i>It was resolved that this item was taken in confidence and public and press were excluded.</i></p> <p>Members firstly considered the purchase of the Land that the current clubhouse sits upon.</p> <p>It was resolved that the Parish Council are interested in purchasing this site to extend Angel Meadow and considered the best way forward was to write advising that the Parish Council cannot see any grounds for exceeding the valuation received and suggested a meeting be arranged with the Football Club and a letter will be sent to that effect. It was agreed that if we need to offer more than our valuation then we would have to have another valuation by commercial company to justify the expenditure.</p> <p>ACTION: J Blake/Clerk to send letter to BFC</p> <p>The Committee then considered the grant application received for £85k towards costs of moving the clubhouse to land at the bottom of Mill Lane. Members discussed this amount and it was resolved that a figure of £85k would not be granted.</p> <p>It was resolved that a second letter be written advising that a grant of £85k was totally out of the remit of the Parish Council but a smaller grant would be considered if it was more relevant to improve access to the clubhouse from Mill Lane and was backed by proper documentation and invoices.</p> <p>ACTION: J Barnes to draft letter to be circulated for approval before being sent</p>
406.	<p>To review staff salaries for 2016/17</p> <p>This matter will be referred to Personnel Committee</p>
407.	<p>Any other business for discussion purposes and referral to next meeting</p> <p>There was not any further business to be discussed.</p>
	<p><i>The Chairman thanked Members for attending and closed the meeting at 9.15 p.m.</i></p>

Signed:.....102 Dated:.....