



KINGSWEAR PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held in Kingswear Lower Hall on Wednesday 24th July at 19.00.

Present: Cllrs C. Dawes (chair), J. Hawkins, L. Maurer (arrived late), R. Reed, G. Webber.

In Attendance: Mr G. Turner – Clerk to the Council.

F/2024/05 - The Chairman of the Committee welcomed everyone to the meeting and looked for any apologies for absence from the meeting.

No apologies were received.

F/2024/06 - To receive any Declaration of Interest.

Councillors are reminded that they must register any new interest or change in any interest already registered within 28 days of that new interest or change. No declarations of interest were declared.

The meeting was suspended to allow members of the public to ask questions and make representations to the Council:

Two members of the public were present. Questions were raised on the following:

- Grounds maintenance and lengthsman contracts budget; chair explained the management of the budget for the remainder of the budget year.
- Higher payment for digging graves than income received; £575 for grave digging, cemetery fees £1035, but shown as £500 in budget income and expenditure for April.
- At the July meeting, costs for new website were discussed; this was agreed not to implement.
- Has a cost exercise been completed for mooring costs? To be discussed at the next full council meeting.
- Will there be any allowance for local residents in the mooring fees? Berths are only for residents.

The Council was reconvened to discuss the following agenda items.

F/2024/07 - To review the following documents and if required propose amendments for approval by Full Council:

(i). To discuss the updated model financial regulations

The current KPC financial regulations are due for modernising and bringing in line with the latest regulation changes. Amendments proposed at the previous meeting are to be combined with the new draft, and submitted for Councillors' review at a full council meeting (action GT).

(ii). To review income and expenditure figures for Qtr. 1 2024/25.

One of the current expenditure risks is around IT, and the migration to gov.uk email addresses with a potential £800 additional spend. A cost benefit analysis for all IT resources and issues is to be submitted to councillors for review at the next full council meeting (action GT).

(iii). To review the forecast year end position compared with 2024/25 budget.

The current year end position is maintained. Risks across the remainder of the 2024 2025 were reviewed and agreed that there was no significant impact to the year end forecast.

(iv). To review the cash flow forecast 2024/25.

From the latest cash flow forecast, the council will not go overdrawn in 2024 2025.

(v). To undertake a review of the 2024/25 budget and propose amendments for Full Council approval.

Initial discussions included an increase in precept in line with inflation, a budget for a community fund/events e.g. Kingswear regatta, and mooring improvements as part of the 2025 price increases. The KPC time spent on the management of moorings and associated excess clerk time was highlighted, and berth holders’ responsibility to manage the area of their mooring should be emphasised.

In relation to the proposed increase to mooring fees, where cost comparisons are made with Coronation Park this is a small non powered boat park only. The proposed increase to mooring fees is to be discussed and resolved at the next full council meeting (action CD).

The chairman thanked the attendees, and the meeting was closed at 20.00.

Minutes Approved:

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