

CHEPPING WYCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

Finance and General Purposes Committee

Members of the council are summoned to attend the meeting to be held on **Thursday 8 February 2024 at 7.30pm**
at the Council Office, Cock Lane, Tylers Green, High Wycombe Bucks HP10 8DS

The meeting is open to members of the public and press

Committee membership:

Cllr I Forbes – Chairman
Cllr A Barron – Vice-chairman
Cllr L Willis
Cllr H Darch
Cllr C Jordan (temp)
Cllr D Johncock (ex-officio)

Cllr J Herschel
Cllr R Wilks
Cllr C Dodds
Cllr K Wood
Cllr L Webb

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence

Schedule 12 of the Local Government Act 1972 requires a record be kept of the Members present and that this record form part of the minutes of the meeting. Members who cannot attend a meeting should tender apologies to the Clerk.

2. Declarations of members' interests in agenda items

To receive any pecuniary or non-pecuniary declarations of interest and confirmation of any relevant dispensations.

I. Under the Localism Act 2011 (sections 26-37 and Schedule 4) and in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct, Members are required to declare any interests which are not currently entered in the Member's Register of Interests or if he/she has not notified the Monitoring Officer (Clerk) of it.

II. Should any Member have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in an item on the agenda, the Member may not participate in consideration of that item unless a Dispensation has first been requested (in writing) and granted by the Council.

3. Staff Matters

3.1 Staff Absence Report

4. Health & Safety Report of any incidents

5. Policies and Procedures

5.1 S137 Payment of Grants

5.2 Amendment to the Local Government Act 1894

6. Grants

7. Publicity

8. Legal

8.1 Mast – Straight Bit, Flackwell Heath

9. Community Board

10. Neighbourhood Action Group (NAG)

11. MVAS Update

12. Budget

12.1 Committee Finances (Period 9) December

12.2 Council Finances (Period 9) December

12.3 Earmarked Reserves (Period 9) December

12.4 Earmarked Reserves Review

12.5 Community Infrastructure Levy

12.6 Five Year Plan

13. Questions from council members and the public

14. Accounts for payment



Wendy Thompson
Clerk to the Council
31 January 2024

Staff Matters**3.1 Staff Absence Report**

Members are asked to RECEIVE a verbal report from the clerk on the sickness absence of staff since the last committee meeting in September.

AGENDA ITEM 4**Health & Safety Report of any incidents**

Members are asked to NOTE that since the last committee meeting in November there has been one incident. On 3 January 2024 a member of the grounds team slipped down a bank while collecting a bin bag resulting in a pulled ankle.

AGENDA ITEM 5**Policies and Procedures****5.1 S137 – Payment of Grants**

Council is asked to NOTE that the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities has notified the National Association of Local Councils that the appropriate sum for Section 137 (4)(a) of the Local Government Act 1972 for parish and town councils in England for 2024/25 is £10.81. The amount is a result of increasing the amount of £9.93 for 2023/24 by the percentage increase in the retail index between September 2022 and September 2023 under Schedule 12B of the 1972 Act as above.

Section 137 enables parish councils to spend a sum, per elector, on activities and projects not specifically authorised by other powers. Council is asked to NOTE that the current budget allocation for the new financial year of £5,000 is well below the aforementioned limit.

5.2 Amendment to the Local Government Act 1894

Members are asked to NOTE the amendment to the Local Government Act 1894 (LGA 1894) which gives power to fund works to property relating to affairs of the church or held for an ecclesiastical charity. Under the Levelling up and Regeneration Act (2023 Act) Section 82 amends the LGA 1894 Act by inserting a new section 19A which overrides the prohibition to fund churches.

AGENDA ITEM 6**Grants**

Members are asked to CONSIDER and, if so minded, APPROVE for recommendation to full Council a request from the Tylers Green Middle School PTA for a sum of £1,500 to assist in the rejuvenation of the pond area to create an outdoor teaching space. The total project is estimated at £24,000 with £18,000 already available through fundraising efforts.

APPENDIX A

Members are reminded that the budget line for Grants has already been used and therefore, if this request is to be taken for recommendation to Council a funding source needs to be agreed.

AGENDA ITEM 7**Publicity**

Members are asked to NOTE that the newsletter is at the printers and will be ready for circulation shortly.

AGENDA ITEM 8**Legal****8.1 Mast – Straight Bit, Flackwell Heath**

Members are asked to RECEIVE a verbal update from the clerk.

AGENDA ITEM 9**Community Board**

Members are asked to NOTE that there are no further updates or actions to report.

AGENDA ITEM 10**Neighbourhood Action Group (NAG)**

Members are asked to NOTE the minutes from the last NAG meeting held on Monday 4 December 2023 **APPENDIX B**. The next meeting is due to be held on Thursday 29 February at Tylers Green Village Hall.

MVAS Update

Members are asked to NOTE the report at **APPENDIX C** on the revised status of the MVAS project.

Budget

12.1 Committee Finances (Period 9) December

Members are asked to NOTE the summary of income and expenditure by committee. **APPENDIX D**

12.2 Council Finances (Period 7) October

Members are asked to NOTE the summary of the Council's financial position. **APPENDIX E**

12.3 Earmarked Reserves (Period 9) December

Members are asked to NOTE the current position of the earmarked reserves. **APPENDIX F**

12.4 January 2024 Earmarked Reserves Review

Members are asked to CONSIDER the review at **APPENDIX G**

12.5 Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

Members are asked to NOTE that the budget line for CIL currently stands at £72,129.33. These funds are to be used for community benefit and need to be spent within a timeframe as below:

£40,362.00	2025/26
£31,767.33	2026/27

12.6 Five Year Plan

Members are asked to RECEIVE the amended overview of the likely major funding issues by the Chairman of committee **APPENDIX H**

Questions from council members and the public

A maximum of fifteen minutes will be given to members of the public, who may make representations, ask and answer questions and/or give evidence in respect of any item of business included in the agenda. If the chairman of the meeting agrees, representations and questions may be taken at the beginning of the meeting. Members of the public wishing to speak at the beginning of the meeting should inform the Clerk of this request as soon as possible.

Accounts for Payment

Accounts for payment are to be circulated at the meeting for consideration by councillors.

Date and time of next meeting: Thursday 18 April 2024 @ 7.30pm