



# Laverstock & Ford Parish Council

Incorporating Milford, Bishopdown Farm, Old Sarum & Longhedge

## Finance and General Purposes Committee

Meeting held on Tuesday 9th April 2024  
at River Bourne Community Farm.

### MINUTES

**Councillors present:** Baker (Chair), McDonald, Waller

**In attendance:** Deane (Clerk), Prince (Responsible Financial Officer RFO)

The meeting commenced at 7pm.

#### **FGP.24.001 Apologies**

There were no apologies.

#### **FGP.24.002 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

#### **FGP.24.003 Approval of Minutes**

The Clerk reported that the circulated draft minutes had been amended to reflect that the requirement for an independent financial advisor to assess the suitability of CCLA Multi Asset Fund, was a requirement from CCLA and not the RFO.

**Resolved:** to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2023 as amended

#### **FGP.24.004 Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

#### **FGP.24.005 Internal Audit Report**

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

#### **FGP.24.006 Review of Financial Regulations**

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

#### **FGP.24.007 Insurance Claims Update**

The Clerk reported on 3 possible claims on the councils insurance

- blocked drains in Lindford Road resulting from root ingress from shrubs on Parish Council land. The Clerk reported that the claimant had stated they intended to start legal proceedings to recover their costs. The Clerk had advised the claimant that under Ministry of Justice 'pre-action protocols', the insurers were entitled 3 months to investigate a public liability claim and this had not yet passed.
- storm damage to a house from a falling tree at The Oakbournes
- the Speed Indicator Device had been struck and damaged by a passing vehicle.

#### **FGP.24.008 Budget – Ringfencing of Funds**

The Clerk reported that £15,000 from the Community Centre budget for 2023/24 had not been spent, primarily because the Hampton Park Pavilion transfer had not completed until 1<sup>st</sup> March 2024. The committee discussed whether the £15,000 should be ringfenced and added to the current years budget for Community Centres or whether it should be returned to general reserves. The committee agreed that the £15,000 be transferred to general reserves

and note in the minutes that an overspend on the Community Centre Budget in this financial year be expected.

The RFO reported that the Pavilion Committee were currently operating on a 'Licence to Occupy' rather than a lease. The committee were content for this to continue until discussions regarding use of the changing room space took place.

**FGP.24.009 Officers Report and Correspondence**

The Clerk reported on a social media post from PCC regarding the location of Salisbury Police Station. The committee requested the Clerk to contact PCC. **ACTION CLERK**

The Clerk reported the ASDA application would be coming before the Strategic Planning Committee in April.

**FGP.24.010 Draft Agenda Full Council Meeting 18<sup>th</sup> March 2024**

Items for the March meeting were agreed.

**FGP.24.011 Exempt Business –Matters in Confidence**

**Resolved:** that in view of the commercial in confidence nature of the business about to be transacted, that the public and press be temporarily excluded from the meeting under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and the Local Government Act 1972 s100.

Devenish Bradshaw Charitable Trust MOU

The proposal for an MOU between DBCT and LFPC will be discussed at the Full Council meeting.

River Bourne Community Farm Lease

A follow up meeting with the farm directors was planned for 10<sup>th</sup> April to discuss the breaches of lease.

The meeting closed at 8.08pm.

NEXT MEETING. The next meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee will be held on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2024 at the River Bourne Community Farm.

SIGNED:

DATE: