

**MINUTES OF THE GROBY PARISH COUNCIL
FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD AT THE COUNCIL OFFICES, LEICESTER ROAD, GROBY, LEICESTER
ON 8th JANUARY 2024 COMMENCING AT 5 PM**

Present: Cllr C Lincoln (Chair), Cllr S Beck, Cllr L Emmerson, Cllr T Hollick, Cllr C Mullins and Cllr C York

Also present: Parish Clerk
Members of the Public - 1

F&GP/067/23-24 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr N Clarke. It was **RESOLVED** to accept these apologies.

F&GP/068/23-24 Declarations of Interest / Dispensation Requests

Cllr C York declared an interest in Groby CIC and in the Village Hall Committee as a Trustee.

F&GP/069/23-24 To approve the minutes of the Committee meeting held on 3rd January 2024

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting held on 3rd January 2024 be approved and signed as a true record.

Cllr Beck joined the meeting at 5.10pm

F&GP/070/23-24 Clerks Report

i. Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council Invoice in relation to the May 2023 Elections.

Further to minute reference F&GP/063/23-24 the Clerk advised that a query had been raised with HBBC regarding their invoice for £10,568.95 for the recharge of electoral services for the May 2023 elections. The response from HBBC was read out which explained that the invoice had been verified and a spreadsheet produced to show how the invoice had been calculated. The conclusion from HBBC was that Groby Parish Council had in fact been undercharged.

It was **AGREED** that Groby Parish Council should not accept any further recharges from HBBC due to their initial errors and to **RECOMMEND to Full Council** that the payment of £10,568.95 be made.

Cllr Hollick Joined the meeting at 5.20pm

F&GP/071/23-24 Budget 2024 – 2025 for Recommendation to Full Council

i. The draft budget (version 4) for the financial year 2024-2025 was included in members' packs and the revisions which had been made following the committee meeting held on 3rd January 2024 were discussed and it was AGREED that no further revisions were required.

It was **AGREED to recommend to Full Council** the APPROVAL of the Budget 2024-2025 as presented to the Committee.

The Chair re-ordered the agenda

- ii.** Consideration was given to the level of General Reserves required. In accordance with Council's Financial Reserves policy, General Reserves should be targeted to be 3 months of average monthly outgoings. It was **NOTED** that the predicted year-end General Reserves would fall below this level.
- iii.** To meet the needs of the budget for 2024-2025 and to provide funding for the predicted year end overspend in 2023-24, mainly brought about by the External Auditor's bill the precept requirement was considered.

It was **AGREED to recommend to Full Council** that a Precept of £299,645.00 be set. With a confirmed tax base of 2640.50 this would equate to an annual precept of £113.48 per band D household. This would see an increase of 26.7% for Groby Parish residents on a Band D property equating to a Tax Band D increase of £23.89 per household per year (or 46 pence per week, 7 pence per day). It was **NOTED** that this would not address the shortfall in General Reserves in line with the Reserves Policy however extra contingencies had been built into the 2024-25 Budget Requirement.

F& GP/072/23-24 To review the Reserves Policy

The Reserves Policy was reviewed and a revision to the General Reserves clause made.

Further to this revision it was **AGREED to Recommend to Full Council** to approve and adopt the revised policy.

F&GP/073/23-24 Financial Reports

- i. The Income & Expenditure budget report and EMR report to 28th December 2023 were included in members' packs. These were verified and **NOTED**.
- ii. The bank reconciliation and bank statement for November 2023 were included in members' packs. The bank reconciliation was **VERIFIED** and signed by two members.

F&GP/074/23-24 Payment of the accounts and income

The payment schedule was included in members' packs.

It was **AGREED TO RECOMMEND to Full Council** that the payment of accounts presented to the meeting be approved. Income was noted.

F&GP/075/23-24 Date and time of next meeting

The date of the next meeting is to be held on Monday 29th January 2024 at 5pm.

The meeting closed at 6.05 p.m.

Signed:
Chairman

Date: