

Minutes of the meeting of Ackworth Parish Council's Finance and General Purposes Committee held at the Parish Council Community Centre, Bell Lane, Ackworth, on Monday 4 July 2022 commencing at 8:15pm

Present: Cllr: S Balfour, in the Chair

Cllrs: J Bell, T Hames, S Parker and M Roberts

1 non-committee member Councillor

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. To receive apologies for absence

1.1. None to receive.

2. Declarations of Interests and Dispensations

2.1. To receive declarations of interest from Councillors on items on the agenda

2.2. To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interest (if any)

2.3. To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate

None to receive.

3. To receive and note the minutes of the meeting held on 25 April 2022

3.1. The minutes were noted.

4. To receive and note any matters arising

4.1. The Clerk reported on the following matters:

- John Gully's Grave – the Clerk has been in correspondence with the solicitor since September 2021 and there has been no progress.

Cllr Balfour proposed and Cllr Bell seconded that the lack of progress from the solicitor is unacceptable and should be escalated.

It was therefore agreed to recommend to the Parish Council that this is escalated due to the unnecessary delays.

- Low Ackworth Lease – ongoing correspondence between the Parish Council's solicitor and Wakefield Council. The progress is very slow.

It was agreed to recommend to the Parish Council that Cllr Garbutt in his capacity as Ward 1 District Councillor, is asked to escalate this.

5. To receive an email from the Internal Auditor regarding the bank accounts

5.1. The email had previously been circulated to all Councillors; the content of which was noted.

6. To receive an email from a local resident regarding loans \ interest \ money in the bank

6.1. Correspondence had previously been circulated to all Councillors.

The questions raised were considered individually.

It was agreed to recommend to the Parish Council that a response is sent to the resident to advise them that they have considered the questions and are happy with the way the finances have been arranged. They have full confidence in the Clerk as Responsible Financial Officer.

7. To discuss the continuation of the Rural Markets Subscription

7.1. Cllr Roberts proposed and Cllr Hames seconded that the subscription is cancelled.

It was therefore agreed to recommend to the Parish Council that the subscription is cancelled.

8. To receive the costings for the entry \ no entry signs for the Cemetery

8.1. The costings had previously been circulated to all Councillors.

It was agreed to recommend to the Parish Council that the cost of £719.59 (4 signs) is approved.

9. To discuss and decide on a donation to Needles & Pins (Cllr Roberts)

9.1. Cllr Roberts advised that as a thank you from the Parish Council in recognition of the work they have done in decorating the village for the Platinum Jubilee, an offer of a donation is made.

It was agreed to recommend to the Parish Council that contact is made with Needles and Pins and offer a donation of £174.00.

10. To receive a quotation from a local company to clean the outside of the Pavilion

10.1. The quotation has previously been circulated to all Councillors

The Clerk reported that in preparation for the gala it was noted that the outside of the pavilion building was dirty.

Cllr Roberts proposed and Cllr Bell seconded that the quotation is accepted. All Councillors agreed.

It was therefore agreed to recommend to the Parish Council that the quotation of £525.00 from a local company is accepted.

11. To receive an email from Wakefield Council's Hate Crime Reporting Team

11.1. The email had previously been circulated to all Councillors.

A discussion took place.

It was agreed to recommend to the Parish Council that more information is obtained about what the role entails before a decision is made.

12. To receive and note a report on any Health & Safety matters

12.1. The Clerk reported that the annual inspection is due on 21 July and a report would be provided at the next meeting.

The Chair thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.50pm