



# Slinfold Parish Council

Cherrytree Farm, Hayes Lane, West Sussex,  
RH13 0SQ email: [clerk@slinfold-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@slinfold-pc.gov.uk)

## Minutes of the Finance and Establishment Committee Meeting 16<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Councillors **RESOLVED** to appoint Nigel Smith as Chair of this meeting.

### 1. Public Forum

There were no members of the public present.

### 2. Attendance and apologies for absence

**In attendance:** Councillors Smith, Leyland, Pyle, Skeates and Slipper

**Apologies:** Councillor Roberts which Councillors **RESOLVED** to accept.

**Also in attendance:** Mike Simpson (Clerk)

### 3. Declaration of Interests and notification of change to members' interests

There were none.

### 4. Minutes

**To review and approve the minutes from the meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> November 2023**

Councillors **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes from the previous meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> November as a true and accurate record.

### 5. Reserves and bank accounts

#### (i) To discuss the Council's reserves

The clerk presented the Council's reserves which included expenditure from the current financial year as well as works to the football club which were currently in progress. Most of the reserve expenditure was from CIL which had left a balance of £16,182.21. Councillors also discussed the Six Acres reserve (£114,570.82) and what the restraints were around expenditure, as it had traditionally been earmarked for Six Acres maintenance, but it was agreed to find the document and confirm.

#### (ii) To discuss the Council's bank accounts

Further to the Council meeting in November, Councillors discussed the Council's bank accounts and how much money could remain in savings. The Cambridge and Counties bond of approximately £85,000 had matured and there were two further 90-day notice accounts (Nationwide and Close Brothers) of a similar amount. Most of the funds from the Lloyds 30-day notice account had been transferred to the COOP current account. The Clerk advised that the current COOP account would have enough money to keep the rest of the Council's funds in savings whereupon it was **AGREED** to research ethical bank accounts into which the funds could be deposited and report back to next Council meeting.

### 6. Grants

#### (i) To discuss an application to the Community Climate Fund

The Clerk informed the Committee that Horsham District Council had a Community Climate Fund which offered up to £5,000 for initiatives that benefited the environment and reduced carbon footprints. He had obtained some quotes for solar panels and battery for the football club, which the Community Shed could also use, at around £13,000 and suggested the

Council could apply to the grant to help with the cost. Councillors supported the idea but it required council approval due to the amount.

**(ii)To discuss an application to the Nature Recovery Fund**

The clerk advised there was another fund from Horsham District Council for nature recovery and he was looking into potential projects.

**(ii)To discuss funding for the Cosy Café**

The clerk was in the process of applying for a Community Grant Fund of £500 from Horsham District Council to help fund the Cosy Café.

**7. Staffing**

**To receive an update**

The Clerk explained that the Deputy Clerk had returned to work after a period of sick leave and would be working 6 hours a week.

**8. Next meeting**

Councillors **AGREED** to set the meeting date for 11<sup>th</sup> April 2024