



**Minutes of a meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee, of Laverstock & Ford Parish Council held on Tuesday 12 November 2024 at 7.30pm in the Parish Council Meeting Room, River Bourne Community Farm, SP1 2SR**

Members Present: Councillors N Baker (Chair), L Barker, I McDonald, L Waller

Officers Present: G Pettifer (Clerk), A Prince (RFO)

**FGP24.124 Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor P Schneider.

**FGP24.125 Declarations of interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**FGP24.126 Public participation time**

There were no members of the public present.

**FGP24.127 Confirmation of minutes of previous meeting**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 20 August 2024 be confirmed.

**FGP24.128 Matters arising from the previous meeting**

There were no matters arising from the previous meeting.

**FGP24.129 Review of Policies**

**RESOLVED** to recommend Full Council adopt the following policies subject to the amendments below:

- FGP24.129(A) - Grants Policy
- FGP24.129(B) – Policy for Public Participation

Grants Policy – Aim: remove references to 'Neighbourhood Plan and Parish Action Plan' and insert 'Parish Strategic Plan'.

– remove 'Equality Act 2011' and insert 'Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties) Regulations 2011'.

- Insert 'Recipients of grants are requested to make a report to the Council informing Councillors of the impact of the grant. Failure to provide a report may affect future funding decisions.'

Public Participation Policy – remove 2.2.

- amend 3.3 – remove 'If more than one member of the public' and insert 'If a number of members of the public' wishes to speak'...

**FGP24.130 Hampton Park Pavilion**

The Clerk presented update architects drawings with designs for the Parish Council offices on the first floor of the pavilion.

**RESOLVED** to report to Full Council at a future meeting with project costings.

**FGP24.131 Officer's Budget Report and Correspondence**

The Responsible Financial Officer gave a first draft budget report, which was discussed at length. The RFO will produce a further updated draft budget report for Full Council.

**FGP24.132 Draft Agenda Full Council Meeting 18 November 2024**

The agenda for the November meeting was reviewed and approved.

**FGP24.133 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 s 100.

**River Bourne Community Farm Lease**

The Clerk updated the committee on the current situation at River Bourne Community Farm and that an appointment had been made with Wilsons Solicitors to obtain legal advice.

**Date of next meeting:**

The date of the next Finance & General Purposes meeting will be held on **3 December 2024** at **7.00pm**, and held at the Parish Council Meeting Room, River Bourne Community Farm, Laverstock SP1 2SR.