

**MINUTES OF THE FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE
OF BERSTED PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT 19:00 ON TUESDAY
30th JANUARY 2024, AT BERSTED JUBILEE HALL, CHALCRAFT LANE.**

Present: Cllrs. A. Van Koolbergen, A. Smith and J. Spencer.

Deputy Clerk -S O'Connell.

The meeting commenced at 18:53

- 23369 Apologies for Absence**
Cllrs Greenway and Yeates
- 23370 Declarations of Interests**
Members were reminded that should interests arise during the meeting they should be declared at that time.
- 23371 Public Session**
None.
- 23372 Minutes of the Meeting of the 28th November 2023**
RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting of the 28th November 2023, having been circulated in advance, be taken as read and signed by the Chairman as a true record.
- 23373 Matters Arising from the Minutes.**
None.
- 23374 Income and Expenditure 23/24**
The Income & Expenditure had previously circulated for Members to review and approve. The Deputy Clerk informed members the Clerk had no concerns. Income for the meeting room was more than expected and was a popular room for casual bookings.
Members agreed to approve the Income & Expenditure report.
RESOLVED to approve the current Income & Expenditure report.
- 23375 Health & Safety**
The Health & Safety report from 15th January had previously been circulated to members. The Deputy Clerk informed members that the Spinney work had previously been approved and was due to take place in March/April.
New small tables x 3 are needed to replace those that have broken through wear and tear and would come out of the 2024-2025 budget at a cost of £291 for 3.
Bulk first aid kit to be bought. New chairs for the hall to be looked at and budgeted for in 2025-2026.



LOTTERY FUNDED

The Deputy Clerk will find out the cost for the drains around the carpark and access road to be gully sucked, to help with drainage. WSCC have a portal where you can get quotes for this work. The foyer needs some flooring replaced where there was a leak, the groundsman had contacted companies for quotes to replace around 4 lengths of laminate flooring but had not received any response. The recycling of batteries will no longer be available as this was deemed a fire risk. Members agreed to the proposals and work identified.

RESOLVED to approve the proposals and work identified in the Health & Safety Report on 15th January 2024.

23376

Football & Field Rates

A copy of the proposed rates had previously been circulated. The Deputy Clerk explained that Arun DC pitches managed by Tivoli charge £73 a game for Adult teams and £33 for Junior (U17), the proposals for Jubilee Field are to raise from £50 to £55 for Adults teams and £30 to £35 for Juniors (U17). Members agreed to recommend to Council the proposed charges.

RESOLVED to recommend to Council the proposed charges for football and field hire.

23377

Grants

Grants Applications had previously issued copies of the grant applications received. Members considered and approved the following grant applications: The Deputy Clerk informed members that £700 remained from 23-24 grant funding and £3000 is available for 2024-2025 grants.

	Requested	Granted
4Sight	660	300
Girlguides	any	100
Samaritans	300	150
UK Harvest	500	400
Air Ambulance	300	300
Bognor Pier Trust	300	100*
Bognorphenia	400	300*
Bognor Regis Youth & Community Centre	500	300*
Arun Counselling Centre	150	Nil

Members felt they could not support the grant request from Arun Counselling Centre, based in Littlehampton, as they had confirmed no one from Bersted had recently used their services.

*£700 from remaining 23-24 grant fund.

RESOLVED that the Council, in accordance with its powers under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972, should incur the above expenditure, which in the opinion of the Council, is in the interests of the area and its inhabitants and will benefit them in the manner commensurate with expenditure.



LOTTERY FUNDED

RESOLVED to approve a total of £700 from the remaining grant fund balance for 2023-2024 and £1150 from the 2024-2025 fund leaving a balance of £1,850 for applications later in the year.

- 23378 Precept Statement**
Members considered the statement they would like to publish regarding the precept request for Bersted. Cllr Van Koolbergen asked for some minor amendments. Members agreed to recommend to Council the statement with the amendment.
RESOLVED to recommend to Council, once the amendments have been made, the statement for publication regarding the precept request for Bersted.
- 23379 Business Plan Objective**
Members agreed that they needed more time to review the Business Plan and it was agreed to defer until the Finance Meeting on 27th February.
RESOLVED to defer to the Finance Meeting on 27th February.
- 23380 Correspondence**
NALC advisory Accountability & Governance updates relating to best practice for internal audits to be advised from March. The Clerk will be adding this to the February Finance Agenda.
- 23381 Finance Meeting Schedule**
The Committee noted that additional meetings are scheduled for February and March each year. The next meeting will be held on 27th February and 26th March.
- 23382 Urgent Matters**
None.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 19:37

Signed Chairman of the Committee Date



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