

**Grundisburgh & Culpho Parish Council**  
**Minutes of a Virtual Meeting of the Finance Sub Committee held on the 15<sup>th</sup> October, 2020**

This meeting was held in accordance with Local Authorities and Police & Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police & Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020

Participants - Messrs. S.Barnett, D.Higgins, P.Kendall (in the Chair), R.Youngman, Mrs.J.Bignell.

**Agenda**

- 1. Apologies for absence** All committee members attended
- 2. Declarations of Interest** Mrs.Bignell and Mr.Kendall declared a Local Non-Pecuniary Interest in Village Hall matters
- 3. To formulate financial policies to present to the full Parish Council for their consideration at the next Council Meeting to be held on the 9<sup>th</sup> November, 2020.**

At the previous full Council Meeting held on the 14<sup>th</sup> September the Chairman announced that because of the intense interest and detailed scrutiny regarding three proposed financial resolutions scheduled for that meeting these would now not be discussed, but instead referred for discussion to the Finance Committee who can then make appropriate recommendations to the next Parish Council meeting. This will give all concerned time to come to calm and considered judgements.

The three resolutions were withdrawn and the following are the Sub Committees recommendations.

**General Reserve**

After discussion the Committee agreed to recommend the following policy.

*The Parish Council should maintain a minimum of 50% Precept as a General Reserve. This policy to be subjected to an Annual Review*

**Financial Responsibilities**

After discussion the Committee agreed to recommend the following policy.

*The Parish Council should retain the ability to spend its resources on issues outside its normal responsibilities providing they are lawful and, if considered of special interest, the electorate should be consulted.*

**CIL payments**

All Town and Parish Councils must ensure that they spend their Neighbourhood CIL funding in accordance with Regulation 59c of the CIL Regulations 2010 (as amended):

- The provision, improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure; or
- Anything else that is concerned with addressing the demands that development places on an area.

CIL must be spent within 5 years of the date of receipt otherwise it must be returned to East Suffolk Council.

The Parish Council has received £5,181.20 CIL payments.

A proposal had been received from Mr. Paul Franklin, appended to these minutes, that £5,181.20 CIL payments received so far should be donated to the new Village Hall project to install PV solar panels with lithium battery back-up. This contribution may qualify for matched funding.

He maintained that this proposal will

- Reduce the carbon footprint and running costs of the new hall
- Utilise the CIL payments in an environmentally beneficial way
- Help the Parish Council meet some of its “climate emergency” responsibilities

*The Committee unanimously agreed that Mr. Franklin’s proposal should be forwarded for consideration at the next Council Meeting to be held on the 9<sup>th</sup> November, 2020 with the Committee’s full support.*

14/10/2020

Jasmine Cottage  
Ipswich Rd.  
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IP13 6TJ

John,

At the Finance Sub-Committee mtg. on 15/10/20 could the Committee discuss this Resolution which I will propose for the 9/11/20 P.C. mtg.

### Resolution 1

Grandisburgh & Culpho Parish Council to award a grant of £5K (£4493 from CIL payment + top up) to the VHMCC specifically to install P.V. solar panels with lithium battery back-up at the New Village Hall, assuming some S. facing roof. With matched funding this will be boosted to £10K.

### Background

At the 14/9/2020 P.C. mtg. Brian Cook said, due to financial constraints, environmental features on the N.V.H. would have to be optional extras.

With the grid feed in tariff now much reduced it makes more economic sense to use the electricity generated by solar panels directly; hence the back up battery which will 'time shift' the electricity usage to evenings/dull days. Commercial dual systems like this are now available. The battery would power lights, fridge, kettle, amplifiers etc. and in the event of a power cut would enable the V.H. to continue functioning normally.

The solar panels could also charge one electric car directly in the summer for a day for car owners with no off street parking/charging. 8 hours sunshine with a 4 Kw panel should give 80-100 miles of driving. The charger could be booked in the same way as the V.H. itself.

This directed grant will enable the P.C. to further its environmental aims in reducing carbon emissions (and give the N.V.H. environmental credibility) in a way that a separate village 'green' group with no finance would not be able.

P.T.O.

## In Summary

This proposal will:-

- 1) Reduce the carbon footprint and running costs of the N.V.H.
- 2) Utilise the CIL payments in an environmentally beneficial way
- 3) Help the P.C. meet some of its 'climate emergency' responsibilities

Thanks.

Paul Franklin