GREAT WAKERING PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes** of the Full Council Meeting held on Wednesday 31st January 2024, in the Parish Council Offices, Little Wakering Hall Lane, Great Wakering, SS3 0HH, commencing at 7.30 p.m.

Present: - Councillors P. Bates, D. Efde, R. Efde (Chair), T. Goodwin, T. Porter, L. Rodger and B. Wilkins.

In attendance: - S. Hyatt (Parish Clerk)

1. **The Chairman to declare the meeting open.**

 Meeting declared open at 7.30pm.

1. **To receive apologies for absence.**

Councillors Baker, Green and Hitchman.

1. **To receive declarations of Interest in accordance with the Council’s Code of Conduct and with section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.**

 Councillor R. Efde and Wilkins – Memorial Hall, D. Efde - District Councillor.

 **4. To sign as a correct record the minutes of the Full Council Meeting**

 **held on 29th November 2023.**

*Resolved* that the minutes be approved.

 **5. Financial Matters**

 a**.** To approve Payment Schedules for November/December 2023. *Carried.*

 b. To approve Receipt Schedules for November/December 2023. *Carried.*

 c. To approve the Financial Statement for the 9 months to 31st December 2023.

 *Carried*.

**6.** **To note the auditor’s report.**

 Noted and congratulations offered to Clerk.

**7. To receive the Chairman’s Report.**

27 Christmas parcels distributed to Parishioners by Chair and Vice-Chair, thanks

 offered to Clerk and administrative assistant for collating parcels before delivery.

**13. Time allowing the meeting will stand adjourned to permit Parishioners**

**of Great Wakering to address the Council only once in respect of**

**business itemised on the agenda (3 minutes each at Chairman’s**

 **discretion).**

Allotment holders addressed the Council re item 8.

**8. To revisit the issue of allotment bonfires.**

 *Resolved* that burning be allowed from October to March subject to Clerk

 preparing a risk assessment and only after obtaining insurer’s agreement

 to content.

**9. To agree the Finance Committee Members recommendation regarding the**

 **Budget for the financial year 2024/25.**

 *Resolved* that the budget be approved and thanks offered to Clerk by Chair for

 work in preparing budget.

**10**. **To agree the Finance Committee Members recommendation regarding the**

 **Precept for the financial year 2023/24.**

 *Resolved* that the recommendation be approved and that there be a 3% rise in

 the Band D rate resulting in a precept of £86,565.80. The new Band D rate to be

 £38.58 well below national average of £79.35.

**11.** **At the Chairman’s discretion the exchange of relevant Council**

 **information.**

* Streetlighting update.
* PROW update
* Chair and Councillor Porter attended RHALC meeting.
* Councillors to re-use envelopes.

**12. To receive reports from the County Councillor and District**

 **Councillors on County and District Council matters only (5 minutes each**

 **at Chairman’s discretion).**.

 Councillor Efde:

* Climate change working group.
* New RDC Constitution.
* RDC Budget.
* Planning update.
* Upcoming District Plan consultation.

**14. Exclusion of the Press and Public.**

 **To agree that the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the**

 **remaining business on the grounds that exempt information as defined in**

 **paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972**

 **would be disclosed.**

*Resolved* that the public be excluded.

 **13. To receive Personnel update.**

Update on administrative assistant post.

Meeting Closed 8.32pm

Next Meeting 27th March 2024