

A meeting of the Finance Working Party was held in the Village Hall, Station Road, Countesthorpe, on Wednesday 12th March 2025

Present: Cllrs M Smith, M Gillespie, P Mount, K Pearce and W Read.

Parish Council Manager: Miss J Leech

Assistant Parish Council Manager: Miss E Frost

1. Apologies for absence, if any
Apologies were received from Cllr S Turner.
2. To receive disclosures of interest
There were no disclosures of interest.
3. To verify accounts for payment
It was recommended to approve the accounts for payment for the Parish Council and the Village Hall.
4. Review budget and expenditure 2024/2025
The budget as at 12th March was received and all was in order.

It was noted that a quote had been received from Secom for the purchase and installation of a new CCTV recording system following an earlier service and inspection after a potential fault had been identified. Additional information would be obtained with regard to the number of days it retains records for and considered at the next meeting of the Finance Working Group ahead of a decision being made with a view to replacing in the new financial year.

It was noted that correspondence had been received from Blaby and Whetstone Football Club advising that they had been offered a 32ft x 10ft cabin which they would like to install on the car park of Willoughby Road Playing Fields. More information would be obtained regarding the request before being discussed at the next meeting of both the Estates and Finance Working Party.

Recommended for approval

To purchase lockers for the Grounds Staff to store PPE at a cost of £75.

For the Assistant Parish Council Manager to complete the SLCC CiLCA registration, following completion of training, at a cost of £450.

5. Replacement boiler/s
Recommended for approval
To purchase one replacement boiler at a cost of £2940 from Crown Heating & Plumbing.
6. OVO Energy
It was noted that a cheque for £6813.33 had been received from OVO Energy as back pay for the previously unregistered solar panel feed in tariff. The latest meter readings had also been submitted for both sets of solar panels.
7. Electrical grounds equipment
A comparison of cost, warranty and service requirements for both Kress and Stihl electrical equipment was reviewed. The request made to Mountsorrel Parish Council for the Head Groundsman to visit and discuss their use of Stihl equipment would be followed up on and a recommendation regarding which manufacturer to proceed with would be made at the next meeting of the Finance Working Party.
8. Grant aid
There were no grant aid applications received.

It had been brought to the attention of the Parish Council that the grant of £250 which had been cited as being awarded to the Methodist Church's Luncheon Club had in fact been

awarded to an individual who was organising the provision of a meal on Christmas day for up to 20 residents of Countesthorpe.

Recommended for approval

To request that any future applications for grant aid be completed on the relevant grant aid application form, standardising the process for all who wish to apply.

9. Review of regular payments and direct debits list

The regular payments and direct debits list was received and all was in order.

10. Review the effectiveness of internal controls of financial systems

Recommended for approval

For the review of the effectiveness of internal control of financial systems to be adopted by the Parish Council and confirmed in Section 1 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for the year ended 31st March 2025.

11. S106 payment

There was nothing to report.

12. Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

13. Contract with ElemenTel – Confidential item

A report was received on the process for terminating the contract with ElemenTel for the telephone system.

14. Matters arising for information purposes

There were no matters arising.

15. Date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 9th April 2025.