



EAST PRESTON PARISH COUNCIL

Council Office, 122 Sea Road, East Preston, West Sussex. BN16 1NN

Tel: 01903 770050

<http://eastpreston.arun.gov.uk/>

Email: clerk@eastpreston-pc.gov.uk

FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

MINUTES: of the Meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 15th February 2021 at 10:00 via the Zoom online meeting application.

PRESENT: Councillors J Gunston, E Linton, G Mathias, R McElroy (Chairman) (from 10:03) and S Wilkinson

ALSO: Clerk to the Council, Simon Cross

ABSENT: Councillor S Toney

The meeting opened at 10:00. In the initial absence of Cllr McElroy, Cllr Gunston chaired the meeting.

The meeting was held in accordance with *The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020* and the council's own *Protocol for Remote Meetings*.

152/21 APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE

A retrospective apology and a reason for absence were received from Cllr Toney (a family matter).

153/21 PERSONAL AND/OR PREJUDICIAL/PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Cllr McElroy	East Preston and Kingston Village Hall Foundation	Personal: married to the Chairman of the Foundation
--------------	---	---

154/21 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

No members of the public were present.

155/21 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 16TH DECEMBER 2020

The draft Minutes had been circulated to all councillors on 21st December asking for suggested amendments by 23rd December. None had been received.

The committee AGREED unanimously the Minutes could be signed as a true record of the meeting held on 16th December. The meeting AGREED this could be done by Cllr McElroy when he was next in the Council Office.

156/21 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The committee NOTED the following report, which had been circulated in advance of the meeting, without adding anything:

<insert>

157/21 COVID-19 DISCRETIONARY FUND – FRIENDS OF EAST PRESTON INFANT SCHOOL

(Cllr McElroy arrived during this item, in time to comment and to vote. He assumed the chairmanship of the meeting at the end of this item.)

The committee NOTED the following report, which had been circulated in advance of the meeting:

<insert>

Some discussion was had about whether or not the council was likely to receive a similar request from East Preston Junior School. The Clerk reported conversations he had had with the Headteacher there suggested there was no imminent likelihood of such a request.

There was also some discussion on whether or not the whole request should be met or just in part, but the committee AGREED unanimously to award the Friends of East Preston Infant School the whole £2,421.

158/21 COUNCIL OFFICE – NEW COMPUTING EQUIPMENT

The committee NOTED the following report, which had been circulated in advance of the meeting, without adding anything:

<insert>

159/21 COUNCIL OFFICE – COMPUTER SUPPORT

The committee NOTED the following report, which had been circulated in advance of the meeting:

<insert>

The committee AGREED the Clerk could investigate support options from local companies.

The committee also AGREED the Clerk should investigate a complete overhaul of the Council Office network.

160/21 FLAT AND FRONTAGE WORKING PARTY

The committee considered the following paper which had been circulated in advance of the meeting:

<insert>

The Clerk admitted he had not yet forwarded the second quote to Cllr Wilkinson for his consideration before he called a meeting of the working party. He would do so immediately after the meeting.

161/21 GRANT AID 2020/21 – EAST PRESTON & KINGSTON VILLAGE HALL FOUNDATION

Cllr McElroy declared a Personal Interest in this item and opted neither to speak nor to vote.

The following report was circulated in advance of the meeting:

<insert>

The committee AGREED unanimously to ring-fence the £1,195 in next year's budget should the Village Hall Foundation not have been in a position to claim it before then.

162/21 FINANCIAL YEAR-TO-DATE

The committee NOTED the following report without further comment:

<insert>

163/21 COUNCIL PLAN

Cllr Wilkinson reported he had still not received reports from the Amenities, Audit & Governance, Finance & General Purposes and Planning & Licensing Committees. Cllrs Mathias and McElroy apologised and said they would get around to it shortly. Cllr Wilkinson asked the Chairmen of other committees to consider whether the information they had already supplied needed to be updated or not.

164/21 ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING (17TH MAY)

Nothing new was suggested.

The Meeting closed at 10:20.

Chairman:Date: **18th May 2021**

Cllr Rick McElroy

Version	Date / Action	Changes from previous version (if any)
Draft	15/02/2021 / sent to Cllr Mathias for initial approval	
	16/02/2021 / approved by Cllr Mathias for distribution to all councillors	
	17/02/2021 / distributed to all councillors	