



## FAIR OAK & HORTON HEATH PARISH COUNCIL

2 Knowle Park Lane, Fair Oak, Eastleigh, SO50 7GL

(023) 8069 2403 [enquiries@fairoak-pc.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@fairoak-pc.gov.uk)

[www.fairoak-pc.gov.uk](http://www.fairoak-pc.gov.uk) [@fairoakandhortonheathparishcouncil](https://www.facebook.com/fairoakandhortonheathparishcouncil)

### Minutes of the “virtual” FULL COUNCIL meeting held on Monday 18 January 2021 at 7.00 pm via ZOOM application

P – present, Pt – part of the meeting, Ab – absent, Ap – apologies.

	Vacancy	P	Cllr Douglas (Chairman)	P	Cllr Mignot
P	Cllr Anderson	P	Cllr Forfar	P	Cllr Scott
Ap	Cllr Barrett	P	Cllr Higby	P	Cllr Spearey (Vice-Chairman)
P	Cllr Bird	Ap	Cllr Marsh	P	Cllr Tennent
P	Cllr Couldrey	P	Cllr McGuinness	Ap	Cllr Warrillow

**Officers in attendance:** Ms M Stephens, Clerk, Mrs L Greenslade, Deputy Clerk, Mrs J Cahill, Responsible Finance Officer & Mr Martin Johnson, Operations Manager

#### PUBLIC SESSION

No members of the public were present during the meeting.

#### 74 MINUTES OF MEETINGS (PAPER A)

##### RESOLVED:

- That the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 21 December 2020 be signed by the Chairman as a correct record;
- That the minutes of the Finance Committee meetings of 15 December 2020 be noted and the minutes of 12 January 2021 be signed by the Chairman as a correct record; and
- That the planning delegated decisions of w/e 11 December 2020 be noted.

#### 75 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Couldrey raised an interest in Minute item 78.

#### 76 BUDGET & PRECEPT 2021/22 (REPORT B)

Members considered the budget and precept as set out in the report and noted the recommendation from the Finance Committee of no increase in the Precept and Fees & Charges for 2021/22.

The Chairman thanked the Team for its hard work in preparing a balanced budget.

##### RESOLVED

- That the budget requirement of £542,019 be approved;
- That the Precept request of £432,417 be approved; and

- c) That the Budget Task & Finish Group be established as a standing Group to meet annually to examine the budget.

## **77 REPORT OF THE RESPONSIBLE FINANCE OFFICER (REPORT C)**

Members considered the report of the Responsible Financial Officer (RFO).

The RFO highlighted that £70,000 of section 106 monies had been received in December from Eastleigh Borough Council towards the play area at Crowdhill Green. As enforcement issues were still ongoing regarding the site, the play area project would not commence until these issues had been resolved.

### **RESOLVED:**

- a) That the contents of the report be noted; and
- b) That the BACS payments be authorised.

## **78 FAIR OAK LIBRARY (REPORT D)**

Cllr Couldrey disclosed a pecuniary interest in the Community Library on the grounds that he was a Trustee of the Charity. He did not participate in the discussion and did not vote.

Members considered the potential freehold transfer of Fair Oak Library building from Hampshire County Council (HCC) to Fair Oak & Horton Heath Parish Council to support the continuation of a (informal) library service in Fair Oak.

The Clerk outlined the estimated financial implications the building would incur and the risks vs the benefits of accepting the building. She stressed that as HCC had made the difficult decision to close the formal library service due to the low footfall, and as such the future success of the Charity was dependant on their ability to evolve and provide innovative community services to attract sufficient level of participation.

Members raised concerns as to what would happen if the library project failed. They were keen to explore other possible uses for the building in the community to prevent the building becoming a financial burden to the Parish Council.

Members overwhelmingly voted informally in favour of pursuing this project.

### **RESOLVED:**

That the Clerk investigate other community uses and interest in the building and report findings back to the next Full Council meeting in February.

## **79 WORK PROGRAMME (REPORT E)**

### **RESOLVED:**

That the work programme be noted.

This was all the business and the meeting closed at 7.38 pm.

Signed..... Chairman

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