



## **SHERE PARISH COUNCIL**

*Serving the villages of Gomshall,  
Holmbury St. Mary, Peaslake, Shere  
and a large part of Abinger Hammer*

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### **FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING 7.30pm THURSDAY 17<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2019 TANYARD HALL, 30 STATION ROAD, GOMSHALL**

#### **M I N U T E S**

**Present** – Councillors R Davey (Chairman), M Taylor-Cotter, J Cross, B Andrews and R Smith

1. **Apologies** and reasons for absence in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12, paragraph 40 – **Councillor C Brooke**
2. **Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPIs)** Declarations by Councillors on any of the agenda items below in accordance with The Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012. (SI 2012 No. 1464) – **None**
3. **Short adjournment for the public to address the Council regarding any matter on the agenda** – No members of the public were present
4. **Minutes of previous meeting (Local Government Act 1972, Sch 12, para 41(1))** – to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> June 2019 – **Approved and Signed as a Correct Record**
5. **Review of list Standing Orders and Direct Debits - Reviewed and Noted** a refund due from Castle Water for overpayment prior to new meter installation of £2203.79. Councillor B Andrews offered to research a new cheaper electricity provider for Tanyard Hall - **Agreed**
6. **Financial position for the year 2019/20** – to receive an up to date report from the Responsible Financial Officer (RFO). To consider current general and earmarked reserves and any further expenditure for the year 2019/20 – A report was given by the Clerk. It was **Agreed** that costs for Tanyard Hall or Legal Fees in excess of the current year budget will be taken from the relevant EMR
7. **Consideration of requests from local organisations** for financial assistance for the year 2019/20 or 2020/21 – it was **Noted** that no requests had been received but it was probable that Holmbury St Mary was likely to request some support for boiler repairs and/or roof leak and drainage. The following was **Agreed**:

- a) The Clerk to write to Holmbury St Mary Hall committee to ask what support they may be seeking and to view a copy of their accounts.
- b) The Clerk to check if a Grant Aid claim can be made to Guildford Borough Council for a village hall not owned by the Council.
- c) The breakdown of donations and subscriptions will be agreed at the beginning of the financial year 2020/21, within the budget and EMR set.

8. **Budget Setting for the year 2020/21** – to consider the proposed budget and reserves for 2020/21 – The interim Auditors Report was **Noted. Agreed and Recommended to Council** the attached budget Appendix 1.

**Agreed** - Earmarked Reserves (EMR) for 2020/21 would be set March 2020 before the end of the financial year, to take into account any projects for 2020/21 and projects not completed this financial year which will be carried over next year, such as traffic calming or the well wall. As no budget has been set for project contingency in 2020/21 the EMR project contingency would include £5000 when EMR reserves were set in March 2020.

9. **Precept 2020/21** – to formulate recommendation to be submitted to the Council on 5th November 2019. **Agreed and Recommended to Council** that the precept for 2020/21 be set at £129,852 representing an approximate increase (depending on the final tax base) of £4.83 per year for a Band D property, which represents an extra 9p per week (Appendix 2). The rise reflected the increase in services carried out on behalf of Surrey Highways, the cost of maintaining the Council's existing services, the possible loss of the Local Council Tax Support Scheme and general inflation. It was **Noted** that the 2020/21 level of £65.28 for a Band D property is still below the average for Surrey and Sussex.

10. **Date of next meeting:** 7pm Wednesday 24th June 2020 at Tanyard Hall, 30 Station Road, Gomshall GU5 9LF. It was **Agreed** to set a further meeting between 2<sup>nd</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> March 2020 for reviewing the Earmarked Reserves and General Reserves for 2020/21.