Cyngor Cymuned Cilybebyll
Cilybebyll Community Council

Minutes of the Finance and Development Committee Meeting held Remotely via *Zoom*, on Monday 30 November 2020 at 7:15 pm

Presiding Councillor S Williams

Present Councillors D Atkins, A Melen, A Threlfall, M Spooner, C Jones, I Jones

Apologies None

94 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None. RESOLVED.

95 2020-21 BUDGET MONITORING REPORT

The Clerk presented a budget monitoring spreadsheet indicating income and expenditure to 30 September 2020 and estimated outturn to the end of the financial year. Clerk explained that spending had remained within budget for the most part and projections show a total underspend of £11,992 as long as VAT refund of approx. £20,946 is received before 31st March 2021. The unforeseen Covid-19 situation has had an impact on income from Community Centres and Playing Fields, but savings made in other areas have covered this loss. RESOLVED noted.

Clerk reported that expected reserves at the end of year would be in the region of £40,000. This is excellent as it would equate to approx. 4-5 months council running costs. RESOLVED noted.

Clerk stated that the Chair's allowance is still available for use. £200 is allocated for Pontardawe Arts Centre (Mining event) and there is £200 remaining. RESOLVED noted.

It was mentioned that schools have been able to claim some funds from NPTCBC for extra cleaning costs due to Covid-19. RESOLVED that Clerk contact NPTCBC to check if council is eligible for funds towards this.

Clerk stated that she had spoken with NPTCBC Trade Waste and was told that a partial refund could be available. Clerk will monitor situation and follow up with NPTCBC if no more information is received before the end of the financial year. RESOLVED noted.

RESOLVED that the 2020-21 Budget Monitoring report be accepted.

96 CAPITAL PROJECTS 2021-22

In line with the projects suggested at the Project Committee Meeting 09 November 2020, the following potential projects and approx. costs were discussed:

Rhos BMX Track options

Repair work:	£5,000.00
New poly-compound BMX track (medium):	£40,000.00
New poly-compound BMX track (large):	£70,000.00
Rhos Park Goal-end:	£14,000.00
Bench for Greenspace (opposite Heol y Nant):	£400.00
Rhos Park Gazebo:	£18,000.00+
Gwynfryn Park Drainage:	£5,000.00
Brynmorgrug Playground improvements:	£20,000.00
General Playground Repair Works:	£3,000.00
Bench for Alltwen Cemetery:	£400.00
Refurbishment works at Alltwen CC:	£2,000.00

All agreed that projects in Rhos Park (BMX and Gazebo) could be funded by Section106 funding and that improvements to the BMX track be prioritised. It was suggested that the Goal-end project be postponed for the moment as there is a field with goals in Rhos Park that can be used for football etc. RESOLVED noted.

Cllr M Spooner will find out who owns the greenspace opposite Heol Y Nant, Rhos in order to find out if council could plant wildflowers and place a bench on the greenspace. RESOLVED noted.

It was suggested that more investigation needs to be done before looking at improving drainage in Gwynfryn Park. RESOLVED that this project be considered at a later date.

All agreed that Brynmorgrug Playground improvements should take precedence in Alltwen as well as the bench for Alltwen Cemetery and room alteration works at the Community Centre. All agreed that Mynydd Y Betws Fund, NPTCBC Members Fund and Lottery Community funding could be applied for to complete the Brynmorgrug Playground improvements and general playground works. RESOLVED noted.

Members stated that there was an agreement made with Harry's Fund in relation to maintenance at Harry's Park. Clerk to review agreement and discuss future plans for playground improvements/maintenance with the charity. RESOLVED noted.

Members agreed that room alteration works at Alltwen Community Centre and benches could be funded by council. Cllr A Melen suggested a picnic table be placed at Lon Tanyrallt Park. Members agreed that this should be funded. RESOLVED noted.

97 CHARGES AT COUNCIL FACILITIES 2021-22

Members agreed not to increase charges levied for use of Alltwen or Rhos Community Centres due to pressures on users caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. RESOLVED.

Members stated that charges for use of Rhos Playing Fields were increased last year. RESOLVED that there be no increase for 2021-22 and that charges should remain the same as previous year.

98 STAFF WAGES

Cllr A Threlfall suggested that council consider Clerk's wages due to the increased workload on the Clerk. Members agreed to discuss staff wages in the next meeting of the Finance and Development Committee. RESOLVED noted.

99 BUDGET ESTIMATES AND PRECEPT FOR 2021-22

The Clerk reported on the 2021-22 budget estimates, based on the anticipated expenditure and income in 2020-21. Expenditure was considered. Clerk presented Precept options sheet and explained the Council Tax Base for 2021-22. Expenditure options, precept options, council reserves and the implications for Council Tax were considered. Due to Covid-19 and increased financial pressure on local families, it was agreed that the Precept not be increased for 2021-22.

RESOLVED that Council be recommended to:

1. Agree the Clerk's report on estimates for 2021-22.
2. Levy a Precept in the sum of £100,000.00 for the financial year 2021-22.

The meeting ended at 8:45pm.

Signed Dated 01 December 2020