

# Goudhurst Parish Council



## FINANCE COMMITTEE

Minutes of a Meeting held on 06 September 2022 at 6.30pm in Goudhurst Village Hall

**Present:** Cllrs Jill Andrew, Antony Harris (Chairman), Phil Kirkby and David Knight.  
Mrs Claire Reed, Clerk and Mrs Panetta Horn, RFO.

**Apologies** were received from Cllrs Craig Broom (family illness).

**Declarations of Interest:** There were none.

### **Budget for 2023-24**

Members considered the draft budget for 2023-24 and made amendments; a revised draft budget will be prepared by the RFO for the next Finance Committee meeting. It was **agreed** that for their next meeting, each Committee would be provided with a copy of their budget, year to date, to consider any changes that are needed for the new financial year. Any changes will be reported back to the RFO for inclusion in the revised draft budget. **Action: Committee Chairman and the RFO.**

### *The awarding of grants for 2023-24*

It was **agreed** that all current grants paid should be reviewed for 2023-24. The Clerk was asked to write a new grant awarding policy prior to the award of any grants for 2023-24. It was further **agreed** that the new policy will include a requirement for beneficiaries to provide accounts and, where appropriate, business plans to safeguard public funds. **Action: Clerk**

### *Finance Committee Meetings*

It was **agreed** that the Finance committee will meet quarterly in July, October, January and April.

### **Internal auditor for 2022-23.**

It was **resolved** to appoint Mulberry & Company as internal auditors for 2022-23. **Action: RFO**

### **Internal auditor's report for 2021-22**

Members received David Buckett's report for 2021-22. It was **noted** that all but one area had been assessed as low risk. The auditor marked Budgetary control as medium risk because the budget had not been finalised prior to the start of the 2022-23 financial year. In future the budget must be set at the same time as the precept requirement is set. It was **noted** that this meeting is the first step in the budget process for 2023-24 and that the final budget will be ready for approval, along with the precept, in December 2022.

The meeting closed at 7.40pm

Claire Reed  
Clerk