

A meeting of the FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE, Arlesey Town Council held in the Village Hall, High Street, Arlesey, on Tuesday 3rd March 2020 at 7.00pm.

PRESENT: Cllrs: R Wenham (Chairman) P Arkle
S Hamilton I Dalgarno
D Shelvey

In attendance: Mrs Janet Bailey (Town Clerk) and 2 members of the public were present.

19/024 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies have been received from Cllrs Pang and Spoor.

19/025 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

(Members of the Council are invited to disclose any personal interest or personal and pecuniary interests they may have in any items on the agenda for this meeting in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct for Members)

025.1 To receive declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda.

a) Disclosable Pecuniary Interests: **None received**

b) Other Interests: **None received**

025.2 To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests.
None received.

025.3 To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate. A request for dispensation must be made on an individual basis.
None received

19/026 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

R Watson raised a point for consideration relating to agenda item regarding acceptance of cheque payments that not all residents have access to online banking.

19/027 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

To consider and approve the minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting held on 26 November 2019.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of Finance & General Purposes Committee held 26th November 2019 be approved and be signed by the Chairman as a true record of proceedings.

19/028 QUARTERLY REVIEW OF 2019/20 FINANCES – Members reviewed quarterly income and expenditure figures 2019/20 and considered virements for end of financial year in conjunction with possible movements in EMR's. Town Clerk highlighted that apportionment recharges payable for Community Centre 2018/19 and 2019/20 remained outstanding.

Committee Recommendation that the Council repay balance of loan outstanding to EMR St John's Play Area in March 2020 loan record accordingly and generate a proposal for Council consideration to movements in EMR as noted during meeting.

19/029 CUSTOMER PAYMENT METHODS - Members considered continuation of accepting cheques as a method of payment for Council services.

Committee Recommendation that the Council always request payment by direct bank transfer, amend all paperwork to detail online/telephone banking payment information incorporating a note that cash or cheques will be accepted at the discretion of the Town Clerk.

19/030 VILLAGE HALL HIRE FEES- Members considered recommendation for amendments to hire fees 2020/21.

Committee Recommendation that the Council increase existing block booking fees to bring in line with current commercial hire rate in stages with view to eradicating the gap within 2 years. Hire rates for one off non resident hire to increase to £13.00 per hour weekdays and £15.00 per hour weekends and charity hire fee to increase from £5 per hour to £6.00.

19/031 RESOURCE CENTRE FEES – Members considered recommendation for amendments to hire fees 2020/21.

i) Hourly hire fee

Committee Recommendation that the Council approve the following hourly hire charges to be applied April 2020:

charity rate	£6.00
resident/non-resident	£10.00
commercial hire	£14.50
computer courses	£15.00

19/032 MUGA HIRE CHARGES – Members considered recommendation for amendments to hire fees 2020/21

- i) Pitch fees
- ii) Changing rooms/showers
- iii) Floodlights

Committee Recommendation that the Council approve the following hire charges to be introduced April 2020:

Residents and local sports teams	Half Court £9.00	Full Court £16.00
Non residents	Half Court £10.00	Full Court £18.00
Floodlights per hour	£13.00	
Changing room/shower use	£ 7.00	
Meeting room	£ 6.00	
Kitchen	£ 7.50	
VAT rulings apply.		

19/033 CEMETERY FEES - Members considered proposed fees 2020/21.

Plot purchase fees inclusive of Grant of Exclusive Rights

- i) Internment fees
- ii) Transfer of Exclusive Rights of Burial fee
- iii) Memorial fees
- iv) Reserved plaque fee

Committee Recommendation that the Council approve amendments to hire charges to begin April 2020 as follows, all other cemetery fees to remain unaltered:

Transfer of Exclusive Rights fee	£27.00
Memorial additional Inscriptions	£23.00
Reserved plaques	£43.00

19/034 SERVICES FEES - Members considered proposed service fees 2020/21.

- i) Litter picking services
- ii) Refuse disposal

Committee Recommendation that council approve quarterly litter picking fee of £65.00 +VAT charges and refuse collection quarterly charge of £100.00 + VAT commencing April 2020.

19/035 GRASS FOOTBALL PITCH FEES – Members considered proposed hire fees 2020/21.

Committee Recommendation that Council approve recommendation to retain current level of £100 + VAT hire charge per pitch per season.

19/036 COMMUNITY CENTRE LEASE AND APPORTIONMENT RECHARGES – Members considered existing Town Council Office and Community Centre lease and lack of financial control over services and maintenance costs and requirement of EMR for 2018/19 and 2019/20 recharges fees.

As the council had already issued correspondence highlighting concerns to key members of CBC the matter was deferred until further communication had been received.

Meeting Closed 7.35pm

Chairman.....

Dated