MINUTES OF PLANNING AND FINANCE/AUDIT COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY 18th FEBRUARY 2025 AT 7.00PM at MILLFIELDS PAVILLION MILL WAY NEEDINGWORTH

PRESENT:

Cllr A Whyte (Chairman)
Cllr R Fountain
Cllr E MacPherson
Cllr S Mortlock
Cllr J Neish
Cllr C Norman
Cllr G Norman
Cllr C Pearce
Cllr M Williamson.

IN ATTENDANCE:
Miss J Bowd (Parish Clerk)
Mr D Mead & 3 colleagues ref item 65.1
No members of the public.

62. To Receive Apologies for Absence.
Cllr N Dyne - personal
Cllr E McNeill -personal

63. To approve the minutes of the meetings held on 21st January 2025.
Resolved: That the minutes be signed as a true and correct record (Prop Cllr MacPherson, 2nd Cllr Williamson) 6 in favour,3 abstention.

64. To note declarations of interest relating to items on the agenda.
Item 67.3 Cllr Pearce - pecuniary - Wife member of staff.

65. Planning:

65.1 To receive an outline of proposal for development Messrs Burgess & Walker.
Chairman reminded members that this is not a planning application at this stage.
Mr D Mead outlined the proposal for the site which extends to 1.5 hectares. The application to HDC planning is in progress and is for HGV parking and an office building.
Mr S Foster & Mr A Ruffle from Ewals/Mega trucking outlined the business operating model and the intention to replace the lost site at Alconbury with the proposed site in Needingworth.
The Chairman reminded members not to express any opinion before opening up the meeting to questions.
Responses confirmed that:-

- the site would be open 24/7
- 105 lorry movements/day
- Low level floodlighting and security will be on site.
- Staffing of 75 but that could increase to 100.
- Flood mitigation will be in full application.
- No planned changes to infrastructure (road network)

65.2 To consider the following applications that have been **received.**
Application ref: CCC/25/010/FUL Eastfield Infant & Nursery School. Erection of a replacement mobile classroom building for a temporary period.
Resolved: That the application be approved (Prop Cllr MacPherson, 2nd Cllr Mortlock) All in favour.

(ii) Application ref: **25/00241/HHFUL** Repair/replace a road frontage low brick wall with

access steps to the above property
Goodyers Farm Holywell Front Holywell St Ives PE27 4TG.
Resolved: That the application be supported (Prop Cllr MacPherson, 2nd Cllr Williamson) All in favour.

Cllr Neish spoke to advise that he has been following up outstanding cases for Pike & Eel and Lodel Farm. Both may be affected by HDC being in tilted balance.

66. To receive the minutes of the VE Day working party and approve payment to HDC for Temporary events notice.
Cllr Mortlock reported that Waitrose have been approached for a raffle prize but advised that the company no longer support events in this manner.
Resolved: That the payment of £21 to HDC for Temporary events notice be approved. (Prop Cllr MacPherson, 2nd Cllr Williamson) All in favour.

67. Finance:
67.1 To approve payments made within Clerk delegated powers
None.
67.2 To approve accounts for payment on 20th February 2025.
Chairman advised that the invoice from Needingworth Village Hall for office electricity was potentially incorrect as VAT should be charged at 5% not 20%. Clerk has asked for clarification and awaits a response.
Resolved; That the payment is not made until the matter is clarified. (Prop Cllr Mortlock, 2nd Cllr MacPherson) 8 in favour 1 abstention.
Resolved: That payments totalling £352.87 be approved. (Prop Cllr Williamson, 2nd Cllr Mortlock) All in favour.

Cllr Pearce leaves 7.26pm
67.3 To approve salaries for payment on 24th February 2025.
Resolved: That salaries for February totalling £5323.07 be approved. (Prop Cllr MacPherson, 2nd Cllr Neish) All in favour.
Cllr Pearce returns 7.27pm

67.4 To approve the purchase of 5 replacement streetlight lamps.
Resolved: That the purchase of 5 replacement streetlight lamps be put on hold until the Clerk establishes the shelf life, VAT, Delivery costs, and quantity discount. Clerk to also find an installer willing to put the new lamps in place. (Prop Cllr Neish , 2nd Cllr G Norman) All in favour.
68. To consider renewal of community right to Bid listing – One Stop shop
Resolved: That an application be made to renew the listing. (Prop Cllr Williamson, 2nd Cllr Mortlock) All in favour.
69. Correspondence.
To note the following correspondence received and <u>agree any actions.</u>
(i) To note the email from the combined authority regarding bus franchising.
Noted
(ii) To consider the request for non-intrusive surveys – Fens associated infrastructure AWA**.**
Resolved: That the request be approved. (Prop Cllr Mortlock, 2nd Cllr G Norman) All in favour.
(iii) To consider the email from Sovereign client relations team regarding the Spacenet.
Clerk to check specification provided by Sovereign
Resolved: That the Council awaits response from its insurance company regarding legal advice. (Prop Cllr MacPherson, 2nd Cllr Pearce) All in favour.
(iv) To consider residents email regarding hedge between Overcote lane Car park and Park Mews.
Members spoke to say that they had viewed the hedge in question and could not see any problem other than routine maintenance.

Resolved: That Council continues with 2 cuts per year. (Prop Cllr Whyte, 2nd Cllr Neish) All in favour.

70. Items to report.

- Cllr Mortlock reported social media reports of broken tiles in a pothole on Overcote Lane.
  She also reported that the potholes/drain cover in Church Street have been marked in yellow so hopefully they will be repaired shortly.
  Further question was had the item where it was agreed to promote Speedwatch been actioned. Members confirmed that this was in the Villager.
- Clerk asked if anyone was aware who had removed the horse no speeding signs form around the village.

Being no further business the meeting closed at 7.45 pm

Chairman Date