

CRONTON PARISH COUNCIL
FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE



Minutes of the meeting of the **Finance and Policy Committee** held on **22 January 2018** at the Parish Council Office, 7 Hampton Drive, Cronton, commencing at 7.26 pm.

Present: Councillors W Cook (Chair), D Bray, S Cooper, J Foran, G McGann, G Pentin and D Rostance

In attendance: Vitti Osborne (The Clerk)
1 member of the public

29. APOLOGIES

It was resolved that apologies for absence received from Councillor P M Green be accepted.

30. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

It was reported that no declarations of interest had been submitted.

31. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

It was resolved to accept the minutes of the Finance and Policy Committee meeting held on **11 December 2017** as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

32. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no members of the public present.

33. PRECEPT FOR 2018/19

- (a) The Chairman reported on a recent meeting with Knowsley Council regarding the Parks Review. According to the proposal, the Trust would be responsible for the maintenance of the related open spaces. So if the Parish Council opted in the scheme, it would no longer have to pay for the maintenance. Regarding the proposed meeting with Knowsley Council Officers, the Parish Council preferred to hold the session at a Council Meeting to enable members of the public to attend.

In view of the changes to the maintenance arrangements of the Pasture in the near future, it was suggested putting the Pasture maintenance tender on hold.

The Parish Council would also ask Knowsley Council to clarify the ownership of the open space at Houghton Croft and its maintenance responsibility.

- (b) Members received for consideration a draft precept for 2018/19. An optimum level of Reserves was discussed. It was also suggested using the Reserves to acquire two defibrillators for the village. A recommendation was made to have the donation budget indexed to inflation. The precept would be finalised at the next Council Meeting.

34. COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

Members received for consideration a Knowsley Council report (dated 24/1/18) on Community Governance Review. It was noted that the Parish Council was the only Council proposed to change the number of members. The proposed reduction from 10 to 8 members received the support of the Polling District Review Working Group. A further public consultation would take place.

The meeting closed at 8.00 pm.

Signed _____ Date 5 March 2018