### AGENDA

### 1st February 2022

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Declarations of Interest
3. Minutes of the meeting held on 11th December 2021
4. Public Participation
5. Clerk’s Report
6. Police Liaison – PC in attendance
7. Planning Applications
8. Financial Matters

(a) Financial Report

(b) Accounts for Payment

(c) Asset Register

1. Defibrillators – Update
2. Omega Planning Application - Update
3. Travis Entry
4. Light her up
5. Road Safety Week
6. Speeding – Paul Mountford/Police
7. Bold Fest
8. War Memorial
9. Community Governance Review

Item 5 Clerks Report

Cllr O Keefe formally resigned from Bold Parish in January. I have spoken to the LA and whilst we are under 6 months away from an election the post must remain vacant until then. I still have to display the notices, so one has been put on the website.

Item 7 Planning Applications

P/2021/0731/FUL Bold Ward Land Adjacent To 401 Clock Face Road Clock Face St Helens WA9 4QL Erection of 2no dwellings with associated works 02-Aug-21 17-Jan-22 Granted

P/2022/0043/HHFP Bold Ward 21 Prenton Avenue Clock Face St Helens WA9 4JS Erection of a single storey side extension.

Item 8 Finance Matters

1. Following the payment of accounts approved at the last scheduled meeting, the bank balance currently stands a:

£3371.72 Virgin Money Account

£15363.12 Virgin money Deposit Account

£3178.39 NatWest Account

£21913.23 Total

Details of payments and the total spend per budget item are shown on the statements signed by the Chairman.

1. Accounts for Payment

It is recommended that authority be granted for the payment of the following amounts: -

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Payee | Amount  £ | Cheque Number |
| D Hawley | 144.00 |  |
| P Fishwick | 54.00 |  |
| C Foy | 12.00 |  |
| HP Instant Ink | 9.99 | BT |
| Defib Store | 610.80 | BT |

(c) Assets Register

The Parish Council is, as part of its financial management controls, required to maintain an up-to-date Assets Register. A copy of the current Register has been circulated for information and approval. This will be checked as part of the Internal Audit process.

Recommended that the Assets Register is noted and approved.

**Budget and Precept 2022/23**

The attached schedule sets out the original estimates and forecast outturn for 2020/21 along with estimates of expenditure for 2021/22.

1. **Forecast Outturn for 2021/22**

The Parish Council’s precept for 2021/22 was set at £13,422. This included provision for a war and industrial memorial (£5k), which currently remains unspent. The precept rate for the year was set at £12.07 per band D equivalent property.

The forecast expenditure outturn for the current year is £24325 (excluding contribution to Election Reserve), which is £412 above the original estimate. The forecast assumes that expenditure relating to the war and industrial memorial will not take place in the current year. However, this is almost offset by planned expenditure on defibrillators and new Christmas lights. VAT of just over £340 is also included, which will be reimbursed in 2022/23.

Comments on forecast outturn:

1. The forecast outturn assumes that the Parish Council will set aside £1000 to contribute to the election reserve in accordance with its original plans. This would bring the earmarked reserve to £1,412 at the end of 2022/23

1. **Draft Proposed Budget for 2022/23**

The attached schedule shows a draft estimate of expenditure of £16894.00 for 2022/23, plus £1,000 contribution to election reserve. This includes provision for significant one-off /non-recurrent costs of £5,000 (war memorial) which are effectively funded from reserves rather than the annual precept (see below). The tax base for band D equivalent properties in 2022/23 is £1,142. If the precept rate for 2022/23 of £12.07 is increased by 1.7% to £12.27 (most recent RPI level) this would be sufficient to generate a precept income of £14012.34.

Comments on the draft proposed budget:

1. An allowance of £1000 has been assumed as a contribution to the Election Reserve.
2. Salary costs assume an increase in NJC salary scales of 2% (not yet settled)
3. General provision for Section 137 payments is set at £2,000, based on expenditure levels in 2022/23.
4. The Environmental budget makes provision for the proposed war memorial
5. If the proposed budget is agreed in accordance with the attached schedule, the total reserves at the end of 2022/23 are estimated to be £25267, which would include £2412 provision for future elections. Therefore the general level of reserves i.e. excluding the earmarked election reserve, would be £22855
6. **Precept Proposals 2022/23**

The above assumes that the precept rate would increase in 2022/23 by 1.7% from £12.07 to £12.27 Given a notified tax base of £1142.00 for Band D equivalent properties, this would generate precept income of £14018.27. Members may wish to consider other options

**4. Recommendations**

1. that the draft proposed budget 2021/22 as set out in the attached schedule is approved;
2. that the 2021/22 precept rate is set at £12.27, generating a precept income of £14018.27.
3. that the Clerk inform St Helens Council of the agreed precept level as soon as practicable following this meeting.