

CAPEL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF FINANCE COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY 12 SEPTEMBER 2022 IN CAPEL PARISH HALL

Present: Mr Salter (Chairman), Mr McLachlan, Mr Ball, Mrs Schryver, and the Clerk.

1. **Apologies:** Mrs Dale
2. **Declarations of Interest:** None
3. **Matters Arising:** None
4. **Questions from Members of the Public:** None
5. **Profit and Loss to 31 August 2022:**

31 August 2022	Reserve Account	£40,307.10
31 August 2022	Current Account	£13,310.82
12 September 2022	Current Account	£69,270.82

Mr Salter addressed the meeting and outlined the spending for past six months. It was suggested that the grounds maintenance budget was slightly overspent but when compared to 2021/2022 the total was just the same.

The second half of the precent had been received at the beginning of this month. VAT will be reclaimed to the end of September. At the present time £5,608.41 is available to be reclaimed.

6. **Feedback from External Auditor Littlejohn regarding AGAR for 2021/2022:**

The end of year external audit had been submitted on time and the Parish Council had received the closure letter from Littlejohn. The Notice of Conclusion of Audit has been posted on the Parish notice board and on the website.

Bearing in mind the recommendation from the internal auditor regarding the amount that the reserve account should retain, it was agreed £10,000 should be transferred out of the current account immediately.

The Committee looked at the interest received on the reserve account and agreed that further options should be looked at to receive a better return.
7. **To Discuss Opting Out requirement for External Auditor:**

Information had been circulated to all Committee members regarding opting out. The Clerk confirmed that the service and feedback received from Littlejohn regarding submitting this year's AGAR had been helpful. The Committee therefore resolved that the Parish Council would not opt out of this service.
8. **To Consider Replacement Bench at War Memorial site, Coldharbour:**

Mr McLachlan addressed the Committee and said that the bench by Coldharbour War Memorial was the property of the National Trust. The NT had made some immediate repairs, but a replacement bench was needed. The NT was now asking the Parish Council to consider covering the cost of a new bench. The Councillors agreed to the purchase, but it was suggested adding an inscription. The Clerk will contact the Ranger to discuss the way forward.
8. **Date and time of next meeting:**

Monday 14 November 2022 at 7:30pm.