



HEATH & REACH PARISH COUNCIL



Minutes

Minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on Friday 20th December 2024 at 10am in
The Village Barn, Eastern Way, Heath & Reach

1. **Meeting attendees:** *Cllrs. Boyden (MB), Fitzpatrick (DF), Reading (CR) and Inns (AI).*
2. **Apologies for absence:** *Cllrs. Gell & Bevan.*
3. **Absentees:** *Cllr. Smith.*
4. **Declaration of interest:** *None.*
5. **Review of income & expenditure for first 10 months against budget for 24/25:**
Income - £51,695.52 Expenditure – £40,169.21
6. **Future projects for discussion:**
 - a) Consider maintenance of Thrift Road Dog off lead area:
Concern has been raised regarding the condition of dog off lead area. PC to repair holes at a cost of £350.00 and monitor for three months before reviewing the future of this area. New signage will be considered at full Parish Council meeting in January – IT WAS AGREED.
7. **Review of projects and money in reserve:**
 - a) Hedge cutting at side & back of cemetery: *£1,500.00 in reserve account, work has been instructed.*
 - b) Bryants Lane car park re-surfacing: *£5,000.00 in reserve account, work will be instructed once new contracts on the car park have been signed with Landowner.*
 - c) Clock Tower: *Work completed; balance of works money held in reserve will be moved to other reserve accounts for 2025/26.*
 - d) Traffic calming: *£97,575.40 held in reserve account.*
 - e) Thrift Road – safety matting: *Work completed; balance of works money held in reserve will be moved to other reserve accounts for 2025/26.*
8. **Consider price for extra SID's equipment:**
MB reported that PC are awaiting decision from CBC whether their posts can be used for the support of SID's. Once this response is heard, PC will consider the purchase of possible permanent sited SID's or new cages to hold the current SID's which could be moved around the Village. Possible sites for new SID's are; Birds Hill/ Reach Lane, Woburn Road/ Grange Gardens and Linslade Road/Emu Close.

- 9. Consider draft budget for 2025/26 ready to present to FPC in January for approval:**
Draft budget was looked at in detail. It was agreed by all, that in light of CBC putting Council tax up by 5%, it was imperative that PC did not increase the precept. This ensures that the contribution from each household remains the same for 2025/26 as it did for the 2024/25 period.

- 10. Items for next agenda:**
None noted.

Meeting closed at: 11.45am

In accordance with The Data Protection Act 2018 all attendees of the meeting are hereby notified that the meeting will be recorded as an aide memoire for the clerk when compiling the minutes. The recordings are held securely and are deleted after the resolution that the minutes are a true and correct record.