

**MINUTES OF THE GROBY PARISH COUNCIL
FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD AT THE COUNCIL OFFICES, LEICESTER ROAD, GROBY, LEICESTER
ON 7th JANUARY 2025 COMMENCING AT 5 PM**

Present: Cllr C Lincoln (Chair), Cllr L Emmerson and Cllr C York

Also present: Parish Clerk

F&GP/062/24-25 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Beck and Cllr Clarke. Cllr Hollick and Cllr Mullins were absent.

F&GP/063/24-25 Declarations of Interest / Dispensation Requests

Cllr C York declared an interest as a member of the Village Hall Committee

F&GP/064/24-25 To approve the minutes of the Committee meeting held on 25th November 2024

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting held on 25th November 2024 be approved and signed as a true record.

F&GP/065/24-25 Clerks Report

i. 2025-26 Tax Base for the Parish Precept

Members were advised that correspondence from Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council had been received confirming that the Groby Parish Council's Tax Base for the 2025-26 Parish Precept is set at 2639.8. This was **NOTED**.

ii. Groby Village Hall Annual Rent Review - To note the CPI for November 2024 and to confirm the annual rent charges from 1st January 2025

Correspondence from Groby Village Hall Committee in relation to the annual rent review was received. The CPI for November 2024 was confirmed as 2.6%. The annual rent increase for 2025 was confirmed as 3.1% (Nov2024 CPI 2.6% + 0.5%) with the annual rent due from 1st January 2025 increasing to £2,335.71. This was **NOTED**.

F&GP/066/24-25 Budget 2025-2026 for Recommendation to Full Council

i. To discuss and consider the draft budget (v4) for the financial year 2025/26

The draft budget (version 4) for the financial year 2025-2026 was included in members' packs and this included revisions from previous meetings along with updated staffing costs in order to reflect the changes to Employer NI rates coming into effect from 1st April 2025 and the new member of staff. It was **AGREED** that no further revisions were required.

It was **AGREED to Recommend to Full Council** the APPROVAL of the Budget 2025-2026 as presented to the Committee.

The Chair re-ordered the agenda

ii. To consider Council reserves

Consideration was given to the level of General Reserves required. In accordance with Council's Financial Reserves Policy, General Reserves should be targeted to be 3 months of average monthly outgoings. It was **NOTED** that the predicted year-end General Reserves figure would only just meet this target (which was an improvement from the previous end of year position where General Reserves had fallen below the target).

iii. To consider the amount to be raised via the Precept Demand

The Precept demand was considered taking into account the requirements of the 2025-26 budget and the aim of improving the level of General Reserves held by Council in order to achieve reserves of 4-months of average monthly outgoings.

It was **AGREED to Recommend to Full Council** that a Precept of £340,434.00 be set. With a confirmed Tax Base of 2639.8 this would equate to an annual precept of £128.96 per band D household. This would see an increase of 11.3% for Groby Parish residents on a Band D property equating to a Tax Band D increase of £13.07 per household per year (25 pence per week, 4 pence per day).

F&GP/067/24-25 To review the Reserves Policy

The Reserves Policy was reviewed and a revision to the General Reserves clause made.

Further to this revision, it was **AGREED to Recommend to Full Council** to approve and adopt the revised policy.

F&GP/068/24-25 Financial Reports

i. To review the Income & Expenditure report and EMR report for December 2024

The Income & Expenditure budget report and EMR report to 24th December 2024 were included in members' packs. These were verified and **NOTED**.

ii. To review and verify the bank reconciliation for November 2024

The bank reconciliation and bank statement to 30th November 2024 were included in members' packs. The bank reconciliation was **VERIFIED** and signed.

F&GP/069/24-25 Payment of the accounts and income

The payment schedule was included in members' packs.

It was **AGREED TO RECOMMEND to Full Council** that the payment of accounts presented to the meeting be approved. Income was noted.

F&GP/070/24-25 Date and time of next meeting

The date of the next meeting is to be held on Monday 27th January 2025 at 3pm.

The meeting closed at 6.05 p.m.

Signed:
Chairman

Date: