

Elsenham Parish Council

Finance Committee Meeting held on 17 November 2023
at 12.30pm in Old Franks.

Present:

Mr. B Burlton (Chair BB), Mrs. F Lambert (FL), Dr. G Mott (GM),
and Mrs. L Johnson (Parish Clerk LJ).

Members of the public:

None.

Minutes

1. Apologies for absence. None.

2. Declarations of Interest. None.

3. Signing of the minutes.

The minutes of the meeting held on 5 October 2023 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

4. Budgets 2024/2025.

Members considered and updated the projected figures to the end of the financial year, 31 March 2024. Members then completed the projected plus year-to-date figures. Committee budgets were left until the committees had submitted their requested budgets.

It was suggested that a budget line is created for all the EMR payments. When taking funds from EMR accounts the money must be transferred first to a budget line. This would stop budgets showing a debit figure where funds from an EMR had been used.

BB said the budgets would need to be stringent for the coming year. This was due to low reserves and inflation. New budgets would also have to be considered e.g., PCSO and Elsenham News.

Income from Elsenham Football Club needs to be addressed. It has always been that the Football Club pays half towards the maintenance of the playing field, and EPC pays the other half.

However, Elsenham Football Club has grown over the years and this arrangement may no longer be acceptable to EPC. So that EPC can determine if the Football Club payments should be adjusted for the new financial year. LJ will ask Ricky Lambourn, Chair of the Football Club, for the following information.

- A copy of the Football Clubs accounts.
- How much does Stansted Football Club charge their members.
- How much does Elsenham Football Club charge their members.
- How many members does Elsenham Football Club currently have, and how many of those come from.
 - Elsenham.
 - Stansted.
 - Henham.
 - Other villages.

LJ to ask for this information by Wednesday 6 December, the date of the next Finance Committee meeting.

The Finance Committee can only recommend a precept figure to EPC. Ultimately the Full Council has the final say on the amount of the precept. The Finance Committee can explain how the committee arrived at the recommended figure. There could also be different scenarios, what the precept would increase by if this budget was removed or if another budget was added.

The date of the next meeting is Wednesday 6 December at 12.30pm.
This is to look at the predicted forecasts for 2023/24 and budgets for 2024/25 submitted by the committees.

The date of the third meeting is now changed to Friday 15 December at 12.30pm.
This meeting is to reach a recommendation to be made to Full Council at January's meeting on the budgets and precept for 2024/25.

The meeting finished at 1.50pm.