

**Ash-cum-Ridley Parish Council**  
**Minutes of a meeting of the Finance Committee held at Ash Green Sports Centre on Tuesday 08 November 2022 commencing at 7pm**

Present: Cllr V Ngwenya  
Cllr Mrs Brammer  
Cllr M Manley  
Cllr P Nightingale (arrived 7.19pm)

In attendance: Mrs A de Jager, Parish Clerk  
Ms K Law, Assistant Clerk/Finance Officer

**1. Apologies for Absence**

Cllr M Brown and Cllr S Fishenden.

**2. Declaration of Interest**

None.

**3. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the meeting of 26 July 2022 were agreed and signed.

**4. Sports Centre**

- 4.1 Current financial position – the Finance Officer took members through the reports noting that the Sports Centre has performed better than budgeted for. The Sports Centre Management Committee will ask the Parish Council to consider forming a Sports Centre Working Party at their meeting on 17 November 2022. The Christmas opening times for the Sports Centre will be unaltered.
- 4.2 The current reconciled bank statements were initialled by Cllr P Nightingale.
- 4.3. The Sports Centre budget for the year 2023/24 was RECEIVED and NOTED. It was NOTED that the budget is set at this time to determine the level of grant to be requested from the Parish Council and that it will be revised in January. Cllr Mrs Brammer PROPOSED that the grant to the Ash Green Sports Centre for the year 2023/24 remains unchanged with a maximum of £15,000.00 to be drawn as required. SECONDED: Cllr V Ngwenya and AGREED.

**5. Parish Council**

- 5.1 Current financial position – the Finance Officer advised that the Parish Council finances are healthy with approximately four time running costs. The second payment of the precept and CIL payments have been received. The employer has agreed the salary increase for the 2022/23 award of £1,925.00 across all bands and the addition of an additional day annual leave to be introduced in April 2023. The telephone expenditure will stay in credit till March 2023. The Bulletin is under budget

as we have produced one less edition. The payments were NOTED. The conversion of the Sports Centre lights to LED has been completed.

- 5.2 The current reconciled bank statements were initialled by Cllr P Nightingale.
- 5.3 It was NOTED that the interim Internal Audit took place on 04 November 2022. Rotation of audit testing will be discussed at the next meeting.
- 5.4 Telepay – it was NOTED that Lloyds Bank have advised that their Telepay service will end in December 2022. Cllr M Manley PROPOSED that salaries and wages are paid using the direct payment system and to include an on-line authorisation from one of the signatories. SECONDED: Cllr P Nightingale and AGREED.
- 5.5 Parish Council Budget – members were taken through the draft budget noting that the money received from the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) could be used towards maintenance items for the Sports Centre and Burial Ground. Cllr M Manley PROPOSED that the precept is set at £136,324 being an 11.8% increase for a balanced budget. This equates to an increase of £5.88 on a bank D property based on the 2022/23 rates. This will be recommended to the Parish Council at their November meeting. SECONDED: Cllr P Nightingale and UNANIMOUSLY AGREED.

**6. Date of Next Meeting**

The date of the next meeting of the Finance Committee was set for 21 February 2023 at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 8.26pm

Signed: ..... Date: .....  
Chairman