



## DRAYTON PARISH COUNCIL

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### Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance and Personnel Committee of Drayton Parish Council held remotely at 2pm on 30 June 2025

#### Present:

Cllrs Pat Athawes (Chair), Richard Wade, Elaine Wade, Pervin Shahin, Andrew Cherriman (until 3:25pm)

#### In Attendance:

Anita James (Clerk/RFO), Chris Price (Deputy Clerk), Jonathon Fowler (Programme Manager)

#### 18/25: Apologies for Absence

All members were present.

#### 19/25: Declarations of Interest

No pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests were declared. No written requests for dispensation were received by the Clerk.

#### 20/25: Approval of Previous Minutes

The minutes of the Finance and Personnel Committee meeting held on 2 June 2025 (previously circulated) were **RESOLVED** to be approved and accepted.

#### 21/25: Estimated Costs and Financing of Planned Capital Developments 2025/26

The Programme Manager, Jonathon Fowler, presented estimated costs and financing options for the following projects:

- **Sports Pitches and MUGA at Walnut Meadows**
  - To be funded through a combination of Earmarked Reserves and S106 contributions.
  - An estimated **£271,879 surplus** may be available for the pavilion project.
- **Public Art (Wayfinding Project)**
  - An estimated **£15,430 shortfall** identified.
- **Footpath Noticeboards**
  - **£2,483 S106** funding available.
- **Cycle Paths**
  - Costs not yet confirmed. A quote is required for Bridleway 7 improvements.

#### 22/25: Pavilion Project – Capital Costs, Funding Sources, and Public Works Loan (PWL) Overview

The Programme Manager presented a detailed breakdown of the **estimated** capital costs and funding sources for the proposed **Walnut Meadows Pavilion**, including an outline of potential **Public Works Loan** implications.

#### Background Factors:

- **Delays and Inflation:** Increased costs due to delays and inflation.
- **Precept Transfer Oversight:** £31,000 from the 2023/24 precept was not transferred to EMR (note: this occurred before the current Clerk's tenure).
- **Additional Agreed Costs:** New expenditures for Sports Pitches and MUGA.

- **Interest Rate Rises:** Increased loan repayment costs.

#### **Pavilion Construction:**

- **Target Year:** 2026
- **Base Estimated Cost (Oct 2023, adjusted):** £1.7 million
- **Additional Costs:**
  - Landscaping: £136,000
  - M&E Design: £12,500
  - CDM Coordinator: £1,500
  - Building Regulations: £3,100
  - EV Charge Point: £6,000
  - Car Park Security Barrier: £1,000
  - Contingency: £200,000
- **Total Estimated Cost: £2,060,100**

#### **Available Funding:**

- MUGA/Sports Pitches Surplus: £267,145.85 (estimated)
- Pavilion S106 Funds: £351,658
- Earmarked Reserves: £144,773
- Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL): £37,593
- Donations: £60,000
- **Total: £861,169.85**

#### **Funding Shortfall:**

- **To be funded via a Public Works Loan: £1,198,930.15 (estimated)**
- This is likely to impact on the precept increase.

#### **Options Presented:**

1. Consult residents on a proposed precept increase.
2. Do not proceed with pavilion construction.
3. Scale back pavilion design and cost.

#### **Committee Decision:**

- **Action:** Programme Manager to obtain revised quotes for a scaled-down pavilion.
- **Action:** Clerk to determine the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government's criteria for a Public Works Loan, including the definition of "public support."
  
- A question was raised regarding whether any consolidation of Parish assets could provide funding for a single multipurpose facility. This was discussed and it was agreed that it was unfeasible in any desirable timescale for the completion of the pavilion.

The meeting ended at 3:40pm

**23/25:** Date of next meeting: 28 July online.