**MINUTES OF THE FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE,**

 **9th January 24 Held at Uppingham Town Hall, commencing at 7.00pm**

**FGP139/24** **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

**Present:** Sam Findlay (Chair), David Ainslie, Lindsay Cooper, Trevor Colbourne

Town Clerk Sharon Coe & Administration Assistant Cynthia Ondeng were also in attendance.

**Apologies:** Christine Edwards, Mark Shaw.

**FGP140/24 Declaration of members’ interests and applications for Dispensation**

None

**FGP141/24**  **An opportunity for the public to speak.**

 No public present

**FGP142/24 To consider funding for the church clock repairs/maintenance.**

 This had been referred to this committee from full council for initial consideration**.** Clarification was given that we have a power to enable us to do this. After a detailed debate the following resolution was made.

 **Resolution**

To ask the Clerk to get more information regarding the VAT element and return the information to Council for further deliberation.

Proposed, seconded, and **resolved unanimously.**

**FGP143/24 To consider amendments due to the late information following the draft budget to council.**

The Clerk overviewed the late information received including updates on the cemetery plinths, church clock, heritage lighting, utility charges (end of contract). The committee were informed that Biffa had given notice to continue so we may incur further charges depending on the new contract obtained.

 The committee talked through various scenarios and tried to find the fairest, prudent, and realistically pragmatic way forward.

* + - The base D tax figure was discussed.
		- Various lines were re-examined, and costs considered.
		- The committee considered possible income being received i.e. The Bloors land and split this into three parts representing 3 years rental.
		- Possible increases in cemetery charges.
		- Reserves were considered.
		- Christmas lights possible alternative options.

 Known changes/ideas were input into the draft budget to see the outcomes and further discussions ensued. After considerable reasoned debate the following resolution was reached.

 **Resolution**

 That the F & G P Committee recommend to Full Council that the precept request to Rutland County Council be approved at £172,838 as amended tonight.

 Proposed, seconded, and resolved unanimously.

**FGP144/24 Agenda Items for a future meeting.**

The Clerk gave an overview of the items to be considered which included.

* + - A review from this committee of the Insurance policies ( Internal Audit requirement)
		- The financial regulations (various)
		- Her initial draft of the increased cemetery charges (a brief overview had been shown this evening)

 This was agreed to be discussed at the next meeting, February. The Chair would do some work on this prior to the next meeting.

The Chair thanked everyone for their input and closed the meeting.

**Meeting closed at 8.40 pm**

**Signed ……………………………………………………………. Chair of F & G P**

**Dated………………………………………………………….**