



## AUDLEM PARISH COUNCIL

**Clerk: Belen Lopez Bloor**  
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### MEETING OF AUDLEM PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES OF FINANCE SUB COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March at 2.30pm  
Methodist Meeting Rooms, Shropshire Street

#### PRESENT

Cllr David Higham (Chairman of the Committee), Cllr Tim Lawton, Cllr Lynette Hopkins, Cllr David Siddorns, Parish Clerk - Mrs Belen (Bee) Lopez Bloor.

#### 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None received.

#### 2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Cllr Hopkins declared her husband was involved in the Music & Arts festival.

#### 2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Cllr Lawton proposed to confirm the minutes of 29<sup>th</sup> January 2019, Cllr Hopkins seconded. One abstention.

**Resolved: that the minutes be confirmed as a true and correct record.**

#### 4. GRANT REQUESTS

##### a) **Applications confirmed**

ADAS request for £1,500.

Approved at the Parish Council monthly meeting on 4th March. The Clerk confirmed a cheque has been given to the ADAS Chairman.

Audlem Festival request for £1,250.

Approved at the Parish Council monthly meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> March, subject to the Chairman of the Audlem Festival Committee sending a copy of the bank statement. This grant will be issued in the new financial year.

**Action: The Clerk is to arrange a cheque.**

##### b) **Applications received**

Touring Arts Visiting Audlem grant request for £500.

Councillors discussed this grant request and felt that the amount was too high. They also felt this was a Cheshire wide initiative and were more inclined to award grants to smaller community groups in the village.

Resolved: Cllr Higham proposed to decline the request. Cllr Siddorns seconded. All in favour.

**Action: Clerk to add this to the April agenda for recommendation to the Parish Council.**

Councillors also discussed the current grant application process. They felt the same groups always applied for grants and that smaller groups seemed to be unaware of the help available. They all agreed the need to widely publicise the grant application process to improve awareness within the village. All Councillors were in agreement and thought that details should be posted in the newsletter and on AOL. Cllr Higham also volunteered to speak face to face with some of the younger groups in person.

**Action: The Clerk to liaise with AOL and newsletter editor and Cllr Higham to report back on discussions with younger groups.**

5. **UPDATE: CHANGING ELECTRICITY SUPPLIER**

Scottish Power was originally recommended but had in the past two weeks increased their new tariff considerably and based on the new tariff rates the Councillors thought the supplier should now be changed to EDF energy. The new contract will be on a 3-year fixed rate until 31st March 2022 with a standing charge 25p and 16.75p per kwh per day. Councillors discussed their terms & conditions and were satisfied there was nothing onerous in these. They proposed the Clerk emailing the Parish Council recommending this decision and asking them to take a vote over email as electricity tariffs kept increasing and would likely change again before the next monthly meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> April. Cllr Higham proposed this as the way forward, Cllr Lawton seconded. All unanimous in agreement.

**Resolved: The Clerk to action as above.**

6. **CREDIT NOTE FROM NPOWER**

Npower have not yet refunded our bank account.

**Action: The Clerk to chase this.**

7. **REVIEW OF WATER SUPPLIER**

The Clerk has spoken to Water 2 Business, SSWB, AQUAFLOW and Veolia. Aquaflow have advised that on 1st April the wholesale price will increase and so quotes should be collected after this date.

**Action: The Clerk to keep the FSC updated.**

8. **REVIEW OF INSURANCE PROVIDER**

The current Zurich insurance policy runs out 31st May 2019. The Clerk is liaising with Came & Company, WPS and Norris & Fisher insurance brokers for them to provide new quotes on a one, two and three year basis.

**Action: Clerk to report back and also ask current provider Zurich for a quote.**

9. **SLCC/CCLA - PUBLIC SECTOR DEPOSIT FUND**

Deferred until the next meeting.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Councillors discussed the need for the FSC to review the quotes for the proposed tree works at Turnpike Field once these become available.

**Action: Clerk is to circulate these when they are ready.**

Meeting closed at 3.09pm.