

**Minutes of Sampford Arundel Parish Council Meeting held Tuesday 7 March 2023 at 7.30 pm in the Parish Rooms.**

**Present:** Cllrs B Brown (Vice Chairman), J Burgess, G Dyke, K Hill, R Milton, G Pike and J Troake  
Alice Kendall – Parish Clerk  
Councillor D Mansell (Somerset County Council)

**1.23 Apologies for absence and approve reasons for absence**

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor J Lloyd

At this juncture, Councillor Hill arrived at the meeting.

**2.23 Public Forum – matters of report**

Councillor Mansell gave an update on the progress of the change to the new unitary authority from 1<sup>st</sup> April '23. He reported that Councillors had recently agreed the budget in which £40m of savings were required. Councillors challenged a number of initiatives such as the refilling of grit bins and publishing of planning notices. Staff are ensuring services will continue and there should be a seamless transfer on and after vesting day. Councillor Brown asked about the use of County Hall; Councillor Mansell informed the meeting that it was still in use for some meetings but isn't large enough for their Full Council meetings. Areas in the building are being refurbished.

**3.23 Declarations of Interest, pecuniary or otherwise, in any agenda items**

There were none.

**4.23 Approve and sign Minutes of the meetings held 3 January 2023**

**RESOLVED** to confirm and sig the minutes of the meetings held 2 January as a correct record.

**5.23 Chair's Report**

The Vice Chairman had nothing to report

**6.23 Clerk's Report**

The report was circulated with the agenda and was noted.

**7.23 Finance**

**a) To approve payments since the last meeting;**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Alice Kendall	Salary February	£208.35
Alice Kendall	Salary March**	£208.15
Alice Kendall	Q4 Clerk's Expenses*	£112.95
HMRC	Q4 Deductions	£160.00
Scribe	Accounting Software	£207.36

\*breakdown attached to Clerk's report

\*\*post dated

**RESOLVED** to approve the payments.

**b) Receipts since the last meeting;**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>
NatWest	Interest	£13.56

The income was noted.

**c) Bank Reconciliation**

**RESOLVED** to accept the Bank Reconciliation as presented.

**d) Spend to date against the budget**

The budget report was noted.

**8.23 Parish Rooms Update**

Councillor Troake reported that the Committee are still awaiting confirmation on the lease from Solicitors and that there are plans to carry out small improvements to the building.

**9.23 Coronation of King Charles III**

**RESOLVED** to order 100 commemorative rulers to be given to the children at the primary school in the first instance. The rest being distributed to other children in the Parish. Cost to be taken from funds remaining from the Jubilee budget.

It was agreed to hold a party on the Green to include entertainment, refreshments, and fancy dress on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May. A tree will also be planted. **RESOLVED** to allocate a £500 budget for this.

**10.23 Matters of report**

- Councillor Hill again reported the bad condition of the cast iron finger posts in the Parish. Councillor Mansell will forward information to the Clerk on a scheme in place at the County Council.
- It was reported that the road under the railway bridge was once again flooded and looked untidy.
- The Church clock should soon be repaired by a specialist. It had been delayed due to a part needing to be manufactured.
- Councillors discussed an ongoing issue of foul wates from a septic tank at a property in Whiteball. The Clerk reported that she understood that Councillor Lloyd had been in touch with environmental health about this already.

**11.23 Items for Next Agenda**

- Coronation of King Charles III (May 2023)

Next Meeting: 7.30pm Tuesday 2 May 2023 (to include annual meetings)

**There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.30pm**

**Signed:**

**Dated:**