

Egginton Parish Council

Terms of Reference for the Finance Committee

The primary objective of the Committee is to assist the Parish Council in overseeing those proper financial management, financial risks, management strategy, audit, policy and treasury transactional matters including the preparation of the annual budget, delegated to it by the Council, and in reviewing and making recommendations on major financial transactions and the annual rate precept to the Council.

1. Membership and Attendance

- 1.1 At all times the Committee shall comprise a Chair and at two other councillors.
- 1.2 The ex-officio member of the Committee shall be the Clerk as the responsible financial officer.
- 1.3 Members will be elected at the first meeting following an election with replacements being elected periodically if required (following resignation, illness, etc)
- 1.4 At all times care should be taken to minimise the risk of any conflict of interest

2. Secretary

- 2.1 The Clerk to the Council shall act as the Secretary of the Committee.

3. Quorum

- 3.1 The quorum necessary for the transaction of business shall be two one of whom must be Chair of the Committee or his/her nominee in the event of enforced absence.

4. Frequency of Meetings

- 4.1 The Committee shall meet at least twice in each financial year in full session to review the Committee's activities and overall financial risk management policy and at such other times as might be required to authorise transactions or review financial matters.
- 4.2 A meeting of the Committee can be requested by the Chair, any member of the Committee, or the Clerk, if they consider one is necessary.

5. Notice of Meetings

- 5.1 Meetings of the Committee shall be summoned by the Clerk.
- 5.1 As a particular aspect of the Committee's terms of reference is to authorise, often at short notice, financial transactions within the authorities delegated to it by the Council, notice of meetings can be as agreed to by any quorum of the members.
- 5.3 For the full meetings, unless otherwise agreed by the Committee, notice of that meeting confirming the venue, time and date together with an agenda of items to be discussed and copies of any relevant Committee papers, shall be forwarded to each member of the Committee no fewer than five working days prior to the date of the meeting.

6. Minutes of Meetings

- 6.1 The Clerk shall minute the proceedings and resolutions of all meetings of the Committee,

- including recording the names of those present and in attendance.
- 6.2 Minutes of Committee meetings shall be circulated promptly to all members of the Committee and shall be considered and approved at the next full Parish Council meeting.

7. Annual General Meeting

- 7.1 The Chair of the Committee shall attend the Annual General Meeting and shall be prepared to respond to any parishioner's questions on the Committee's activities.

8. Reporting Responsibilities

- 8.1 On Financial matters, the Committee shall make recommendations and reports to the Council on a regular basis and in any event, when such reports or recommendations are requested by Members.

9. Other Matters

- 9.1 The Committee shall oversee any investigation of activities that are within its terms of reference and shall consider management's response.
- 9.2 The Committee should annually review its own performance, constitution and terms of reference and Financial Regulations to ensure it is operating at maximum effectiveness and make recommendations to the Council.
- 9.3 The Parish Council should, on a regular basis, review the performance of the Committee to ensure it is operating at maximum effectiveness.

Reviewed January 2009