

Lancing Parish Hall  
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To: **Members of Finance & General Purposes Committee**

**CLLrs:- Douglas Bradley, James Butcher, Danny Jackson, Robin Monk, Geoff Patmore and Emma Purnell**

**Ex-Officio members:- Cllr Lydia Pope, Chairman and Cllr Mick Clark, Vice-Chairman**

To: **Other Councillors for information**

Notice is hereby given that you are required to attend the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee scheduled on Wednesday 11 March 2020 in the Council Chamber, Parish Hall, South Street at 7.30pm.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'H. Plant'.

Helen Plant  
Clerk to the Council  
5 March 2020

## AGENDA

**48. Apologies**

**49. Declaration of Substitute Members**

**50. Declarations of Interest**

*Members are reminded to make any declarations of personal and/or prejudicial interest that they may have in relation to items on this agenda.*

*Notice should be given at this part of the meeting of any intended declaration. The nature of the interest should then be declared later at the commencement of the item or when the interest becomes apparent.*

**51. Public Forum/Questions**

*Members of the public are reminded that only questions and statements relating to items on this agenda will be allowed. In accordance with Standing Order 1e, Members of the public will also be given the opportunity to express opinions at each main agenda item and at the end of the meeting to identify any issues to be added to future agendas. However, during discussions of sensitive or confidential matters, the public will still be excluded. Questions relating to any other items that are not on this agenda should be referred to the Chair of the Council or Clerk as appropriate and outside this meeting. Once this meeting has concluded, a number of Councillors will remain to answer any questions that local residents may have on other Parish related issues.*

**52. Minutes of the Previous Meeting held on 15 January 2020 (attached)**

**Recommendation** – That the Minutes of the previous meeting be approved.

**53. Accounts for payment (reports attached)**

**53.1 January Expenditure**

- i. January Current A/C expenditure in the sum of £41,256.00 (Page 1080)
- ii. January Clerks Payment A/C expenditure in the sum of £7.30 (Page 461)

**53.2 February Expenditure**

- i. February Current A/C expenditure in the sum of £32,659.97 (Page 1084)
- ii. February Clerks Payment A/C expenditure in the sum of £6.50 (Page 463)

**54. Approval of Cash Balances & Investments as at the 29 February 2020 (report attached)**

**55. Detailed Income & Expenditure by Budget Heading (report attached)**

**56. Clerk's Report**

**56.1 Installation of Solar Panels to the Parish Hall**

Following the outcome of the structural survey on the Parish Hall roof areas, it can be confirmed that the solar panels scheme has been installed on both sections of the raised roof area above the Jubilee Hall. Consequently, the Parish Hall has been running with an element of renewable electricity since the 12 February 2020. An electricity bill comparison will be provided at the next Committee meeting.

An application to receive payment in respect of any unused electricity being exported to the national grid through the smart export guarantee is been made to the existing electricity provider, Eon, but the tariff it is not yet known.

Members views are now sought as to whether to sign up to Empower Energy's maintenance plan at a cost of £450 per annum. This provides an annual panel clean, electrical testing, panel and mounting inspections, reactive and proactive maintenance and a system efficiency report.

**Recommendation** – Members' views are requested.

**56.2 Consideration to change Banking Arrangements**

The Council has, for many years, used HSBC for its banking arrangements, i.e. two current accounts and a small deposit account.

However, since the decision by most banks to reduce their visibility on the high street and change in general banking practices, it is becoming harder to have simple requests actioned within reasonable timescales. This is especially pertinent when a change to the signatories is required.

Local councils remain constraint by legislation in that two signatories are required on cheques and there is a limited to how much online banking can be done.

With that in mind, and following a recent recommendation from the SLCC, it is suggested that the Council moves to the Unity Trust Bank.

It can be confirmed that the bank charges between the Unity Trust Bank and HSBC are comparable.

**Recommendation** – That it be recommended to full Council that the Council’s banking arrangements be switched to the Unity Trust Bank.

**56.3 Green Room Leak**

It can be confirmed that the work to repair the leak in the underfloor heating pipe in the Green Room is due to be carried out mid-April.

**Recommendation** – That the information be noted.

**Please note that all Parish Council Meetings are open to members of the public and copies of agendas will be posted on the Council’s website, noticeboard and available at each meeting or by request in advance by telephoning 01903 753355.**