

Finance and Staffing Committee
Meeting: Tuesday 26th April 2022 5:00pm
Online

Committee members	Cllrs – P Baker, T Gillespie, B McEldowney, S Osman, A Jilani
Members present	Cllrs – B McEldowney, P Baker (Chairman), T Gillespie, S Osman Clerk – Carol Blake
In attendance	Chris Fabray (Neighbourhood Plan)
1. Welcome	The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2. Apologies for absence	None received
3. Declarations of Interest	None were made.
4. Dispensations	None requested
5. Public questions	No Members of the public were present
6. Approval of draft minutes of previous meeting	The minutes of the committee meeting held 21/01/2021 were agreed a true record and will be signed at next FPC meeting.
7. To discuss Project Officer vacancy	A very lengthy discussion regarding the Project Officer vacancy took place, which included stating the various times last year when this issue had been agreed to by all members. Chairman voiced concerns about the 20 hours of work that is quoted on the job description and whether there is currently enough work to employ somebody to cover the 20 hours bearing in mind there are very few planning applications that are being received. Chris Fabray did not agree with these comments and stated that the Parish Council have signed up to take the Neighbourhood Plan forward and this included employing an individual to monitor, implement and review the Neighbourhood Plan. He stated that there are various jobs that can be done in the meantime which includes the 20 local plan policies that need to be followed by Law, currently this is not being done. Paul Crysell and members of the NP Steering Group would provide control and direction to the Project Officer and the post would be up for review in two years' time if any changes needed to be made. It was agreed that the Project Officer vacancy decision would not be reversed, and a candidate would be interviewed on Friday as arranged but no decision would be made until a meeting is held next week between the FPC and NP Steering Group to discuss in more detail how this will work and what work will be carried out by the new person if successful in being appointed.

8. **To consider Queen's Platinum Jubilee payments protocol** **It was agreed** that no cash payments would be made on the day but emergency BACS payments could be made on the Monday following the event where necessary.
An updated payments spreadsheet will be provided by Cllr Gillespie listing all pre-approvals for the event. Clerk will receive payment requests and will email Cllr Webb and/or Cllr Gillespie to obtain their agreement to pay suppliers. This issue will be further discussed in this week's FPC meeting to be held on Thursday
9. **To discuss Smart Water idea** **It was agreed** not to proceed with this idea as the promotional offer has now expired and members felt it would not be justifiable to spend this amount of money on one specific area of the community.
10. **Any other Business at Chairman's discretion** Nothing was raised

-
11. **Date and time of next meeting** TBA

This Meeting ended at 18:35

Date.....
Chairman, Finance and Staffing Committee
Catshill and North Marlbrook Parish Council