

## **NORTHWAY PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of a meeting of the Finance Committee held on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2023, commencing at 7.55pm in the Ray Shill Room, Northway Community Hub directly following a meeting of the General Purposes Committee.

Present: Cllr S Terry (Chairman) Cllr P Godwin  
Cllr E MacTiernan Cllr G Shelton  
Cllr S Ward

In Attendance: Resident of Ashchurch  
Cllr J Beadle  
Mrs L Stewart, Clerk's Assistant  
Mrs C Woodward, Clerk of the Council

### FIN/23/23 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr Roberts.

### FIN/24/23 **Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of interest, as required by the Code of Conduct adopted by the Parish Council on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2012 (Minute Ref C/159/12), including paragraph 12(2), were made.

### FIN/25/23 **Total Energies**

Cllr Godwin declared an interest as she was a Trustee for Northway Youth Club who would be impacted financially by any decision the Council made relating to its gas supplier.

The current gas contract for Northway Community Hub and the Changing Rooms (which also shared gas with the Village Hall via a sub meter) would be ending on the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023. The Clerk had obtained quotations for fixed term contracts from a number of suppliers, and these were tabled.

There was a great deal of uncertainty relating to the future of energy markets but it was known that there was going to be a 20% increase on the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023. The Government had also extended the financial aid package to homeowners, which would suggest they were concerned about the ongoing increases in energy costs. Members felt that if they took on a contract for more than 12 months the Council could be paying over the odds in a years' time so they didn't want to look at longer term options.

After reviewing the options provided, Cllr Terry PROPOSED that the Council entered into a 12 month contract with British Gas Lite at a cost 8.78p with a standing charge of £0.45 per day (through Utility Bidder) (this was the cheapest option available). Cllr Shelton SECONDED.

FOR: Cllr Terry Cllr Shelton  
Cllr MacTiernan Cllr Ward

ABSTENSIONS Cllr Godwin

### FIN/26/23 **Correspondence received after 10<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

No correspondence received.

As there was no further business the meeting concluded at 8.05 pm