

The meeting was held remotely via Zoom.

Present: Cllr Little (Chair of Finance Group)  
 Cllr Wood  
 Cllr Wakefield  
 Terry Dunn (For item 1)  
 Nicky Breen (Clerk/RFO)

**1. Ham Green – Ash tree felling phase 1**

- Terry Dunn detailed the quotes received.
- It was agreed that the work needs to include the removal of all wood and arisings to be chipped on site – the quotes for this are (excl VAT):
 

Supplier A	£7950
Supplier B	£6500
Supplier C	£5500
- Clerk to ask if there is scope for negotiation.
- Cllrs Wood/Little are to write to WCC/HCC to explore the possibility of grants to help with funding the work.

**2. Lloyds Online Banking**

- Lloyds are still not processing new business banking accounts. Clerk to monitor.
- When the account is opened the finance committee members and the deputy chair will be the signatories.

**3. Clerk Pay**

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES' PAY AGREEMENT 2020-21. Pay Agreement has been reached between the National Employers and the NJC Trade Union Side on rates of pay applicable from 1 April 2020.

April 2019 – 2020	April 2020-2021	
Scale 19            £12.85	£13.21	(Sparsholt clerk scale April – June)
Scale 20            £13.11	£13.47	(Sparsholt clerk scale July onwards)

This equates to an increase of 36 pence per hour. Clerk to contact Tracey Hillman to arrange adjustments.

**4. Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) donation request**

The CAB had approached the parish council for a donation of £150. This request was agreed subject to approval at the parish council meeting on 17 September.

**5. Current Financial Year**

- It appears that a payment of £824.25 has been made in error by HMRC into the bank account. Clerk to query.
- Sparsholt Shop lease agreement is due for renewal on 1 January 2021. After discussion it was agreed to propose at the next full council meeting that the annual rent of £1000 remain unchanged.
- The finance committee recommend that funds are moved from the community fund to the Ham Green fund in anticipation of phase 1 of the ash tree felling work.
- The finance committee is to explore the possibility of funding/grants for the ash tree felling.