**Minutes of Finance Committee Meeting - 10th October 2019**

**Present:** Cllr M Woods, Cllr P Morris, Cllr T Sexton and Clerk

The Clerk had produced the cash book, bank reconciliation and budget forecast up until 30th September 2019. These were reviewed, agreed and signed by Cllr Woods.

It was anticipated that there would be an underspend on the current year’s budget as no purchases had been made for the playground due to the unknown factors relating to the Community Hub. The street light conversion had seen costs cut for electricity and maintenance however; the electricity costs would need to be earmarked to repay the Salix loan, with the first payment due on 1st April 2020.

A bid for £750 spend on the winter planting had been forwarded by Cllr Pretsell and this was agreed.

The comments from the external audit were reviewed. An unqualified audit had been issued which was pleasing. There were two comments, one relating to a minute reference and date which had been omitted from the form however, the Clerk had provided this information to Grant Thornton when requested. The other comment referred to a figure where an incorrect digit had been entered on the form. Grant Thornton had queried this with the Clerk and the correct number provided and agreed. There were no other comments so it was agreed that the only issues related to double checking the form before it’ submitted.

New model Finance Regulations had been received from One Voice Wales and distributed to all members of the Finance Committee. These were compared to the current Financial Regulations and amendments made where necessary. The Clerk will make the agreed changes and distribute to all Community Councillors for the next meeting, where it will be proposed that they are adopted.

Since the installation of the LED street lights a maintenance contract had not been established. There is a consortium, currently consisting of five Community Councils from Wrexham who tendered for a street lighting maintenance contract. The lead for this is Geoff Edwards from Penycae Community Council and he had forwarded all documentation which had been shared with Cllr Woods and Cllr Morris. The contract is due for review in October as it completes its first twelve month period. The contract allows for an extension of another 12 month period and the proposal is that Rossett Community Council now joins that consortium agreement. This will be proposed at the next Council meeting.

The next meeting of the Finance Committee will be on the 13th November at 7.30pm to consider the donation bids, prior to the Council meeting on 20th November. Consideration would also be given to the precept bid so all committee’s will be requested to submit an estimation of spend for the forthcoming financial years, taking into account the Financial Regulations amendment requiring a three year forecast.