

A meeting of the Authorising Committee of the Frittenden Parish Council COVID-19 Hardship Fund was held by Zoom on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2021 at 8pm.

Present were: Cllr A Staples (Chairman)  
Cllr R Riley  
Mr P Betts  
Mr G Lawrence

In attendance: Mrs E Nightingale (Clerk)

Apologies: Cllr H Cullingworth

### 1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

It was proposed by Cllr Riley, seconded by Mr Lawrence, and **RESOLVED** (1 abstention) that the Minutes from the committee meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2021 are a true and accurate record of that meeting. It was further proposed by Cllr Riley, seconded by Mr Betts, and **RESOLVED** by all committee members present that the Minutes from the committee meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2021 are a true and accurate record of that meeting. That being the case, the Chairman shall sign the said Minutes.

### 2. FINANCIAL REPORT

The Clerk reported that receipts stood at £21,115. Total expenditure was £14,814, consisting of 32 grants totalling £14,760 made to 10 applicants and bank charges of £54 (all of which had been refunded by the Parish Council). The total balance to be distributed was currently £6,301.

### 3. CONSIDERATION OF APPLICATIONS

An application was considered from a resident who had not previously benefited from the fund. Details of the financial difficulties which the COVID-19 restrictions had caused to the applicant were presented to the committee and discussed.

It was proposed by Mr Lawrence, seconded by Cllr Cullingworth, and **RESOLVED** by all committee members present to pay a grant of £250.

### 4. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr Staples raised whether the Parish Council should consider setting up a fund to assist residents who were suffering hardship generally and not just those who were experiencing hardship caused by the COVID-19 restrictions, being the limited remit of this Fund. Cllr Staples noted that the pandemic had revealed pockets of hardship in the Village which were ordinarily well concealed. Mr P Betts had suggested whether such a fund could be run by, or in association with, the Idenden Charity, of which he was a Trustee. It was agreed that the committee would consider when it next met whether a general hardship fund could be established to continue supporting those experiencing difficulties in the Village after the immediate impact of the pandemic had receded.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 20:23 pm.

Chairman's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_