

## **Charminster Parish Council Investment Policy**

Charminster Parish Council acknowledges the importance of prudently investing any surplus funds, whether temporary or longer term held on behalf of the community. In accordance with Section 15(1) of the Local Government Act 2003, the Council will have regard (a) to such guidance as the Secretary of State may issue, and (b) to such other guidance as the Secretary of State may by regulations specify.

The Council's investment priorities are the security of reserves and the liquidity of its investments. The Council will aim to achieve the optimum return on its investments commensurate with proper levels of security and liquidity.

The Council will invest in Investment Accounts with banks or building societies or similar organisations. Given the unpredictability surrounding investment in the money market, the Council will not use stocks and shares or other forms of speculative investments.

The Responsible Finance Officer (RFO) in consultation with the Council will determine the maximum periods for which funds may prudently be committed and the maximum amounts of investment so as not to compromise liquidity. Short term investments shall be defined as less than 1 year. The RFO shall have delegated power to invest in short term investments, any such investments shall be reported to the next full Council meeting. Long term investments shall be defined as 1 year or greater. The RFO shall require full Council approval before entering into any long-term investment.

The Council will rely on interest rate information which is publicly available. The investment strategy will be reviewed annually by the F&GP committee and agreed at the June meeting of the Parish Council. The Council reserves the right to make variations to the Strategy at any time. Any variations will be made available to the public.

Agreed June 2022