



**Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on
Monday 14th December 2020. The meeting was held via a Zoom teleconference.**

Present; Cllrs A Taylor (Chairman), N Woodcock, E. Houghton, T. Hewitt, C.Hewitt, T Brown
K. Hayes, R Lea.
Clerk: R Weaver

1. Apologies for Absence

None

2. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

Cllrs Taylor, Brown and Houghton declared an interest in item 6 and also item 9.

3. Minutes of the last meeting

It was resolved to approve the Minutes of the meetings of 9th November 2020. The minutes will be signed outside of this meeting in accordance with this resolution

4. Adjournment for Public Participation

Two members of the public logged into the meeting. An issue was raised regarding flooding on Town Lane close to Lunds Lane and another location on Smithy lane near to the cycle track. A request was made for the Parish Council to make representations to LCC to rectify the flooding problem. A question was asked about draining the land and removal of tree stumps in the Trafalgar gardens for which quotes have been obtained from a contractor. A query was raised about future financial support to the village hall building project and it was explained that it would be discussed within item 9 of the agenda. A further query was raised regarding the placing of Speed indicator devices within the village. Efforts are continuing to secure access to a device for future use.

5. Cycle track update

Inspections have continued and there are no issues to note. Preparations for wild flower planting will commence in the new year with the preparation of the soil ready for planting.

6. Village Hall update

Cllr Taylor presented an update for the Council which outlined progress to date. The building now has windows fitted and is progressing quickly given the difficult circumstances throughout the year. Confidence remains high that the building will be completed within the funds available but there have been a number of cost pressures which make finishing off the exterior and demolition of the old hall quite challenging. Opening of the building is expected to take place in the spring of 2021

7. Finance

It was **Noted** that new national pay scales apply to the Clerk's salary

It was resolved to authorise the following payments;

- a) Clerk salary in sum of £268.00 (net payment for November and also back-pay to take account of the new pay scales)
- b) Clerk's mileage in sum of £8.55
- c) HMRC(PAYE) in sum of £67.00 (For November and also back-pay to take account of the new pay scales)
- d) G. McKenna in the sum of £402.52 (invoices 82,84,86 and 87)
- e) It was **Noted** that £90,000.00 had been withdrawn from the CCLA and placed in Council accounts
- f) The bank reconciliation as at 29th November was **Noted**

8. Standing Orders

It was resolved to add the following wording to Standing order 4e **“A serving chairman may not be considered for re-election as a chairman if he/she has completed the three consecutive years as chairman”**

9. Budget and Precept

It was agreed that the overall outcome should produce a precept that was a reduction on last year due to the difficulties that 2020 has brought for many people.

The predicted year-end balance in Council accounts was noted.

A draft budget was presented to the Councillors to consider how much money should be set aside for various projects during the next financial year. Various amendments were made to the original draft. One such suggested amendment to the draft budget related to whether financial support for the village hall development should be considered. At this point, the interest declared by 3 Councillors in this agenda item was noted and Cllrs Taylor, Brown and Houghton logged out of the meeting taking no further part in the agenda item. Cllr Woodcock assumed the chair and the remaining Cllrs were sufficient to maintain quoracy of the meeting.

A discussion took place regarding the level of financial support the Council would be prepared to make and the final draft budget and precept was put to the vote as follows.

New Clerk's Salary (Gross)	3600
Clerks expenses & mileage	700
Audit	1100
Subscriptions	500
Insurance	600
Website	700
Meetings	300
Training & Conference	500
Newsletter	1000
St Georges	100
Church Burial Ground support	500
Lengthsman	3000
CIL funds	5300
Christmas Tree	500
Community led improvement projects	5000
Grants	4000
Village Hall Fund	25000
Contingency	9000
Section 137	750
Spend	62150

In order to deliver this level of spending a precept of **£30,097** would be required.

It was resolved that the above budget and precept be adopted for 2021-2022

Councillors Brown, Taylor and Houghton logged back into the meeting. Cllr Taylor resumed the Chair

10. Planning issues

The applications were noted

11. Reports from local meetings

The reports were noted

- 12. Items for the next agenda**
 - Consider any applications for grants
 - Use of CIL money
 - Christmas competition
 - Speed devices
 - Flooding update

- 13. Date of next meeting.** 7.30pm Monday 11th January 2021 via video conference, dependent on Government guidance.