



**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING:
11th December 2019**

Methodist Church, School Room, Moss House Lane

PRESENT: Cllr A Taylor (Chair) Cllr E Houghton, Cllr R Lea, Cllr T Brown
Cllr T Hewitt, Cllr K Hayes, Cllr N Woodcock.

IN ATTENDANCE: R Weaver. Clerk to the Parish Council

Ref	No.	Item
	1.	Apologies for Absence Cllr C Hewitt
	2.	Declaration of Interests and Dispensations Cllr E Houghton, Cllr Tom Brown and Cllr Alan Taylor declared a pecuniary interest in Agenda item 10 Cllr Hayes declared a non-pecuniary interest in Agenda item 11.
	3.	Minutes of the Previous Meetings The minutes of the meeting of 13 th November 2019 were signed as a true record
	4.	Public Time There were no members of the public present
	5.	Off Road Cycle Track Cllr Taylor updated the Parish Council on the ongoing maintenance of the cycle track, which was noted. The Clerk had been emailed details of the inspections which have been recorded for insurance purposes Cllr T Hewitt reported that discussions have been taking place with others who have experience in designing, building and using pump tracks in order to get some indicative costs and designs to develop the track for a future meeting.
	10.	Update on Village Hall This item was taken out of sequence as it will have a bearing on the budget discussions. Councillor Taylor reported that the tendering process is not complete but the early indications are that the total sum of money currently available is likely to be insufficient to complete the build. Discussions are taking place around potential contractor partnering arrangements which would allow for volunteer work to form part of the building work to save money. The exact sums involved in the shortfall are not entirely clear at this stage.
	6.	Finance

a&b) It was **resolved** that payments of £240.25 and £55.00 should be paid to the Clerk and HMRC respectively in relation to November salary and PAYE

c) It was **resolved** to accept the bank reconciliation which included the transfer of all Council funds from HSBC to Unity Trust

d) It was **resolved** to pay the Lengthsman the sum of £106.91 in respect of invoices 45 and 52

e) **Budget and precept.** There was a discussion regarding the budget but there was **no resolution** in respect of a final precept. There was a general agreement reached in respect of the overall base budget required for Parish Council services and this would require a precept on the Council Tax to achieve the necessary level of funding. However, there was a further discussion around the level of financial support that should be given to the Village Hall which would require a further increase in the level of the precept. It was resolved that the following budget would be set (subject to the below)

Clerk salary	3500
Clerk expenses	1000
Audit	1100
Subs	500
Insurances	700
Web/IT	500
Meetings	300
Traing and Conference	500
Newsletter	1000
St Georges	100
Xmas	500
Community Funds	8500
Grants	4000
Contingency 12000	
CIL money	5300
Lengthsman	3500
Section 37	400
Total	43400
<i>Precept provisionally required for above</i>	<i>11831</i>

		It was decided to defer the setting of the precept until the January meeting, during which time members of the Village Hall Committee will determine how much money is required to complete the building programme and also to explore alternative methods of raising the money other than via the precept. At the January meeting the Council will consider a proposal to add an additional line to the budget if there is an agreement to support the Village Hall, after which the final precept figure can be agreed.
	7.	<p>Community Projects Update</p> <p>a) The proposal to set up a defibrillator box was not approved for technical reasons relating to the current equipment</p> <p>b) The proposal to supply armbands was not agreed</p> <p>c) The village signs are making good progress in the design stage and will shortly be ready for approval.</p> <p>d) It was noted that the new bins had been removed by SRBC because of disagreements over who was authorised to fit them and discussions had taken place to have them re-instated. It was resolved that any fees levied by SRBC to do so should be paid.</p>
	8.	<p>Revision of Financial Orders</p> <p>It was resolved that the three proposed amendments should be incorporated into standing orders.</p>
	9.	<p>Revised Asset register</p> <p>It was resolved to accept the updated asset register</p>
	10.	<p>Village Hall</p> <p>This item had been dealt with earlier in the meeting</p>
	11.	<p>Planning</p> <p>There were no planning applications relevant to Much Hoole</p> <p>The proposed footpath closure (FP1) was noted</p>
	12.	<p>Lengthsman Activities</p> <p>The Lengthsman activities were noted. It was noted that the spending on the Lengthsman remained well under budget and all invoices and expenses were received and managed by the Clerk</p>
	13.	<p>Local Meetings</p>
	14.	<p>Items for the Next Agenda (for information only)</p> <p>Much Hoole Village Hall and Precept</p> <p>Community Engagement.</p> <p>Authorising the payment of the Standing Order to Redleg.net Ltd for the remainder of the financial year 2016-2017 and the full financial year 2017-2018.</p>

	15.	Date of Next Meeting 7.30pm Wednesday 8 th January 2020