

MINUTES of the Meeting of the Parish Council held 4th November 2015

Present: D Palmer (Chairman), M Bell, C Hagger, J Pitts D Healey P Taylor

Apologies: T Connolly H Campden. S Linsell

In attendance: Jo Downton - Clerk.

Declaration of Interests: None

Minutes: The minutes of the parish council meeting held on the 7th October 2015 were taken as read and signed as correct.

Matters arising: Various posters had been received and throughout the month had been posted and some removed. Issues raised at the Parish Forum Meeting was covered by the Chair and Colin Hagger. Councillor Hagger reported that a resident had noted how many cars were parking round the Green and the difficulties of dealing with this issue was discussed as was Speeding Buses and mud on roads.

Items requiring action only: None

Precept 2016/17: The Responsible Financial Officer informed council of a number of issues for their consideration in the forthcoming years. The Reserve account had still not reached the previous level of £10,000 and the possibility of repairs in future years for the Town Pump was a serious consideration. Although grants maybe secured for the considerable amount of work which will be required the council still well may have to put monies away towards this. The roof and rafters of the Town Pump also need attention and not just the pillars. This could run into many thousands of pounds of work which must be approved by Conservation Officers. The RFO suggested that council should slowly attempt over the coming years to try to build upon the Reserve Fund to cover these major works.

The RFO reported that the fund for new lights had not been used at this point in the financial year and council discussed about retaining this money for the remaining replacement LED lights required. RCC has still not made any final decision regarding lighting and in light of this council decided it wise to hold onto this money and also budget for further new lights for next year so that it would be in a position to pay for the remainder at a later date if required. If not this money would possibly be diverted towards the Town Pump or War Memorial up keep.

It was also raised by the Tree Warden that a number of diseased Trees might be required to be felled and some monies from General Repairs and Maintenance should potentially be allocated for this eventuality. RCC was to be contacted by the Clerk regarding this matter.

Last year council had budgeted for possible election expenses (£2000) which was not needed – this money at the end of this financial year could be diverted to the Reserve Account or the Savings Account. Council debated for some time the various issues and it was Proposed by D Healy that the Precept from last year should remain much the same but reduced by £1000.00. This was amended by P Taylor to remain at the same figure as

last year but with additional funds be secured for future financial responsibilities. Council voted unanimously to accept the amendment.

Donations: Council agreed to donate £70.00 to the Exton Tree of Love, £100.00. to CAB and cover village hall hire for NHW meetings if required. D Palmer Proposer, Seconder John Pitts – approved.

Planning Applications: Barnham Court Exton Height of Walls – No objections.

Authorisation of cheques:

EON £58.18 Oct Energy

Colemans £105.92

Clerk Expenses (£3.00 per week Tax Free) £84.00

Items for the agenda of the next meeting of the Parish Council – 2nd December 2015: