

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL BUDGET MEETING, HELD ON 17 NOVEMBER 2016 IN THE TERRY BRAY ROOM, STANTON COMMUNITY VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30 PM

Present: A Shelton (Chairman), K McDonald, J Mann, B Smithson, J Miller, J Frizzell, S Willcox, F Hart

Apologies for absence: B Brown - holiday

1. Approve minutes of previous meeting: 10 November 2016

The minutes were accepted as correct. The Chairman signed and dated the minutes.

2. Budget Analysis:

The clerk issued a budget analysis for the year 2016/2017, showing expenditure to date and projected expenditure for the remainder of the year.

3. Budget:

- a) The budget for the year 2017/18 was considered and a draft budget, for approval at the December meeting was set.

Changes to last year's budget agreed –

- Section 137 - raised by £500
- Training – Increased by £775 due to 3 new Councillors joining this year to cover future training and travel costs.
- Insurance – Reduced by a £600 saving identified at renewal stage.
- Accountancy – Reduced by £130 as payroll was now being undertaken by the Clerk
- Village Maintenance – Reduced by £555 by renegotiating 2-year contract for grass cutting and reducing contingencies budget.
- Special projects - £3500 has been reserved for the upgrade of Speed Indicator devices used by the Speedwatch team in the village. It is anticipated that additional funding may be available from the County Council Highways fund.

The final budget is therefore **no change** from last year.

The Budget figures and Precept and Grant request will be discussed and approved at the Parish Council meeting to be held on 8 December 2016.

b) Donations:

The following letters requesting donations were discussed and after consideration were granted £50 each

- West Suffolk Voluntary Association for the Blind
- Magpas
- CAB
- Royal British Legion

The following requests were considered and on this occasion declined -

- Rickinghall and Botesdale Good Neighbour scheme
- Ixworth Surgery patient association
- Each Children's Hospice
- SARS (Donation sent 2015/2016)
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The request from the Stanton Pre-School was considered to be a very worthwhile project that the Council felt they could support from the proceeds of the Firework display and was deferred for further discussion at the December Council meeting.

At the conclusion of the budget meeting Chairman Alan Shelton offered his letter of resignation to the Council for personal reasons and asked that he stand down with immediate effect. The resignation was accepted.

There was no other business and the meeting concluded at 8.45pm.

The date of the next scheduled Parish Council meeting is Thursday 8 December 2016 at 7.00p.m.

Minutes signed as correct..... (F J Hart Vice – Chairman)