Minutes of Clay Cross Parish Council meeting held in the Clay Cross Parish Council office on 16 December 2009 at 6.00pm.

Present:

Councillor G Morley ............................... Chair
Councillor M Holmes ............................. Vice Chair
Councillor Mrs A Bradley
Councillor Mrs K M Holmes
Councillor J M Holmes
Councillor A Jackson
Councillor E Mansbridge
Councillor P J Riggott
Councillor K G Savidge
Councillor D Skinner
Councillor B Wright

815/09 Apologies for Absence

Parish Clerk reported that there were no Apologies for Absence.

816/09 Declaration of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest.

817/09 Marketing The Markets Project

Councillor E Mansbridge attended the Marketing the Markets Project presentation at North East Derbyshire District Council on Wednesday 11 November 2009. A summary of the details of the Project had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting and Councillor E Mansbridge detailed what is now required if Clay Cross Parish Council wish to participate in this Project. Following a vote of 6 in favour and 3 against,

Resolved That:

1. Clay Cross Parish Council would commit to the Project
2. Councillor E Mansbridge would be the Project Champion

818/09 Precept 2010/11

Councillor J M Holmes gave a resume of what was discussed at the Finance Sub-Committee meeting held on Wednesday 9 December 2009. The following report was discussed in detail. A number of items were queried and clarified satisfactorily by the Parish Clerk and the Administrative Assistant.

Purchase/Maintenance of Equipment: increased by £500 on 2009/10 budget to £2,000 to allow for the new maintenance contract with Alpha Heating amounting to £739 for the servicing and maintenance of the three heating boilers and the two kitchen gas cookers.

Clay Cross Parish Council Newsletters and Annual Report: budget reduced from £4,000 to £2,500. It was agreed to approach Operation Relentless to distribute next year’s Annual Report.

Citizens Advice Bureau: Councillor D Skinner spoke against the proposed reduction in the payment to the Citizens Advice Bureau from £7,923 to £4,000. Councillor J Holmes confirmed that North East Derbyshire District Council were also proposing to reduce their payment.
DCC Footpath Maintenance: zero budgeted from £2,000. Councillor Skinner spoke against the decision to reduce this budget to zero. The Parish Clerk explained that although the budget was being reduced to zero for Precept purposes, money could be taken out of balances if required.

Cenotaph Cleaning/Maintenance: to remain the same at £250. The Administrative Assistant explained that the proposed refurbishment programme of the Cenotaph at Danesmoor is to be the subject of a grant application funded to 50% with the match funding to come from existing balances.

OAP TV Licences: reduced from £8,000 to £5,500. It was felt that this would be sufficient based on 2009/10 expenditure to date. The possibility of extending the scheme from 1 April 2010 to all Parish residents aged 60 on application was discussed.

Hanging Baskets: budgeted at £8,539 in line with the recently received quote from Plantscape. This is no increase on the 2009/10 scheme plus free planting of Market Street as agreed due to the problems with this year’s arrangements.

Christmas Lights: increased to £13,894 to mirror this year’s scheme. In view of the need to reduce expenditure to achieve a reasonable Precept for 2010/11 it was decided not to implement the Creative Kids competition in 2010.

Cemetery Expenditure: all budgets as proposed by the Finance Sub-Committee discussed and agreed. It was agreed that the Cemetery Superintendent would be provided with a copy of the new Cemetery budgets for the start of the new financial year.

Cemetery Lodge Rent: to be left at £3,068 until Rykneld Homes increase is known.

Market Street Toilets: all budgets as proposed by the Finance Sub-Committee discussed and agreed.

Playing Fields General Maintenance: reduced from 2009/10 budget of £2,000 to £500 in view of the amount of work carried out to date.

Meadow Farm Fishing Pond General Maintenance: reduced from 2009/10 budget of £1,500 to £500 to reflect 2009/10 current spend.

Allotment Rent: the proposal to increase the allotment rents to £15 per plot with the exception of the Valley Road allotments was discussed. Valley Road allotment site to remain at £12 per plot as there is no water costs as they use water from the brook. Councillor D Skinner spoke against this proposed increase.

Clay Cross Gala: the possibility of seeking sponsorship for the Gala from Maximus/GMI Rovinian was discussed.

Resolved That:

1. as from 1 April 2010 new maintenance contract effective with Alpha Heating amounting to £739 for the servicing and maintenance of the three heating boilers and the two kitchen gas cookers
2. following a vote of 6 in favour and 3 against the contribution to the Citizens Advice Bureau is retained at £7,923. Parish Clerk/Administrative Assistant to write to the Branch Manager Phil Morris requesting his attendance at the January meeting of the Parish Council to discuss representation on the Management Committee

3. from 1 April 2010 the OAP TV Licence Refund is available to all Parish residents aged 60 on application

4. following a vote of 9 in favour and 1 against the allotment rents with the exception of the Valley Road allotment site will be increased from £12 per plot to £15 per plot from 1 April 2010

5. Parish Clerk/Administrative Assistant to write to Maximus/GMI Rovinian seeking sponsorship/donation towards Clay Cross Gala

6. all other budgets and expenditure contained therein and recommendations be approved and accepted

7. the Clay Cross Parish Council Precept 2010/11 is set at £214,000 an increase of 4.4%