

CLAY CROSS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Clay Cross Parish Council meeting held in the Clay Cross Parish Council office on Wednesday 4 February 2015 at 7.00pm

Present: Councillor M Holmes Vice Chair (in the Chair)

Councillor A Jackson	Councillor P Riggott
Councillor E Mansbridge	Councillor K Savidge
Councillor Mrs T Reader	Councillor D Skinner
Councillor A Reader	Councillor B Wright

Also Present: Dawn Kershaw, Parish Clerk
Nicola Bonsall, Administrative Assistant

1462/15 Apologies for Absence

Parish Clerk reported that there were no Apologies for Absence.

1463/15 Precept 2015/16

Information received from Bryan Mason, Director of Corporate Resources and Gary Featham, Senior Accountancy Assistant at North East Derbyshire District Council was received and noted.

Parish Clerk, Councillor Holmes and Councillor Mansbridge proceed to go through the projected budgets and commented on the following:

Parish Administration:

Wages: our Accountant, John King has reviewed this budget and feels that this budget can be retained and still allow a 15p per hour flat rate pay rise for all employees from 1 April 2015; this budget can also withstand the Administrative Assistant joining the DCC Pension Scheme

Heating/Lighting/Water: budget increased based on spend to December 2014

Rates: increased by 3% in line with this years charge

Trade Refuse: increased in line with this years increase of £1.17 per week for Social Centre waste. This budget also includes the hire and servicing of 4 no. sanitary disposal units and a vending machine

Insurance: budget increased based on spend to December 2014

General Expenditure:

Chesterfield & North East Derbyshire Credit Union: zero this budget for 2015/16 as £1,000 has been allowed for 2014/15, bringing the Parish Council investment to a total of £5,000

Purchase of Lunch Club Provisions: budget reduced based on spend to December 2014

Section 137 and Community Expenditure:

Councillor Mrs Reader and Councillor Wright declared an interest in School Christmas Activities and School Milk/Snacks as members of the Governing Body at Sharley Park Community Primary School.

Councillor Riggott declared an interest in School Christmas Activities and School Milk/Snacks as Chair of the Governing Body at Sharley Park Community Primary School.

School Christmas Activities: this budget has been based on the maximum number of children at both Holmgate and Sharley Park and to enable the Parish Council to retain its £5.25 per child contribution

School Milk/Snacks: this budget has been based on the maximum number of children at both Holmgate and Sharley Park and to enable the Parish Council to retain its £2.25 per child contribution

Hanging Baskets etc: this budget has been reduced to reflect a new three year fixed price contract being offered by PlantScape

Christmas Lights: this budget has been based on a new scheme for 2015 plus extending the scheme along A61/High Street and Market Street. An approximate price has also been received for the Parish Council to consider running the Creative Kids Competition this summer

Cemetery/Street Cleaning:

Service Provision Costs: after checking this years charges, this budget can be reduced significantly whilst still allowing for a 1% increase

Rates: increased by 3% in line with this years charge

Building/Ground Maintenance: budget increased based on spend to December 2014

Cemetery Internments: zero this budget as the Parish Council do not receive this income. Agreed to recommend to the Parish Council for approval that Cemetery Fees & Charges are increased again by 2% (or nearest £) from 1 April 2015

Cemetery Lodge Rent: Agreed to recommend to the Parish Council for approval that the rent is increased again by 2.5% to £77.26 per week from £75.38 per week from 1 April 2015

Town Centre Toilet Block, Playing Fields/Play Areas, Kenning Park/Meadow Farm Fishing Pond:

Rates: increased by 3% in line with this years charge

Wages: our Accountant, John King has reviewed this budget and feels that this budget can be retained and still allow a 15p per hour flat rate pay rise for our employee from 1 April 2015

Cleaning Materials: budget reduced based on spend to December 2014

Ground Maintenance to NEDDC: this budget has been increased by 1% based on this years actual cost of £24,853 plus vat

Springvale Road Lease etc: allowed £200 to complete final clearance of this land for handing back to NEDDC

Fishing Pond Rent: this rent is subject to a review after six years as per the Agreement between the Parish Council and Clay Cross Angling Association. It was agreed to recommend to the Parish Council for approval that the rent is increased from £400 plus vat to £470 plus vat for the next six years from 1 April 2015

Special Expenditure/Projects:

It was felt that any Special Expenditure/Projects should be funded via the Capital Projects Account and not the Precept. The possibility of 'topping up' this account could be discussed once the year-end balance is known

Income:

Tickets Sold for CXPC Events: budget increased based on spend to December 2014

Parish Allotment Rents: agreed to recommend to the Parish Council for approval that, as from 1 September 2015 (a) the rent at the Valley Road allotment site is increased from £12 to £18 per plot due to the installation of mains water and (b) the rent at the Tranmere Avenue, Clay Lane and North Street allotment sites are increased from £15 to £18 per plot

Resolved That:

1. **wages to be increased by a flat rate of 15p per hour for all employees from 1 April 2015**
2. **following a vote of 8 in favour and 2 against, there is no increase in Cemetery Fees & Charges for 2015/16**
3. **following a vote of 7 in favour and 3 against, there is no increase in Cemetery Lodge Rent for 2015/16**
4. **following a vote of 10 in favour and 0 against, the rent for Meadow Farm Fishing Pond is retained at £400 plus vat for the next six years from 1 April 2015**
5. **following a vote of 8 in favour and 2 against, Valley Road allotment site rent is increased from £12 per plot to £15 per plot from 1 September 2015; the rent at Tranmere Avenue, Clay Lane and North Street allotment sites to be retained at £15 per plot**
6. **all other budgets, expenditure and income contained therein and any recommendations from the Finance Sub-Committee to be approved and accepted**
7. **Clay Cross Parish Council 2015/16 funding is set at £214,750 – a Precept of £177,520.88 and Grant funding of £37,229.12**