

Hardwick Parish Council
Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 10 February 2015 in the School at 7.45 pm

Present: Councillors: I Storr (Chairman), A Gill, J Stewart, R Worland, C Oakes, P Joslin and J Humphries.

In attendance: Mrs Gail Stoehr (Clerk).

Open public session including reports from the County and District Councillors

None.

1. To approve apologies for absence and declarations of interest

Cllr Freeman.

1.1 To receive declarations of interests from councillors on items on the agenda

All members declared an interest in the setting of the Precept as ratepayers and that they held dispensations allowing them to both speak and vote.

1.2 To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests (if any)

None.

1.3 To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate

None.

2. To review the budget for financial year ending 31 March 2015

The Parish Council:

- Reviewed the agreed budget for FY2015 against receipts and payments to date.
- Noted – the more detailed monitoring of income and expenditure undertaken by the RFO of the individual transactions as detailed on the supporting papers.
- Noted – the overspend on Hardwick Happenings magazine and the advertising receipts. The VAT position on advertising was considered.
- Noted – the underspend on salaries due to the litter picker vacancy. An assumption has been made that a new litter picker is appointed and no Clerk overtime is required.
- Noted – the underspends on insurance as a new contract had resulted in a lower premium; grounds maintenance, grass cutting and trees repairs and assets maintenance; and S137 donations.
- Noted – the overspend on general administration including affiliation fees and general supplies.
- Noted – the overspend on street lighting. It was anticipated this might decrease following the removal of several lights recently.
- Noted – pitch hire receipts. Pitch hire is usually 3x£250 invoiced in March. The increased figure received during the year was due to outstanding fees from last year being received.
- Noted - that there is an estimated £11,300 outstanding as the Council has not decided on its special projects and grounds maintenance is lower than anticipated due to a change in works.
- Noted – The Cricket Club's loan repayment is outstanding and a reminder has been sent.
- Reviewed the reserves and the earmarked reserves.

- Noted – the S106 money for Lark Rise can only be spent on outdoor play facilities. RESOLVED that the new swing at Worcester Ave should be paid for by the S106 Lark Rise fund.

3. **To approve the budget for financial year ending 31 March 2016**

The Parish Council -

- reviewed the draft budget as prepared by the RFO and consideration given to the supporting notes in the report.
- Agreed with the figures in the draft budget apart from
 - General Admin cancel the affiliation to LCAS and reduce the budget to £2600.
 - , Hardwick Happenings changed to £6000 in the light of the increase in size of the publication.
- Included–
 - £2000 for S137 donations. The rules for such payments were noted.
 - £10,100 for special project which might include village sign refurbishment and CCTV cameras upgrade.
 - £11.00 wayleave in receipts.
- Noted that all the works identified in the Tree Survey had been completed. The survey covered April 2013 to 2016 inclusive.
- Street lights – agreed to budget £1450. Cllr Stewart is to follow up on the position with street light SC8 and the cost with SCDC.
- Reserves are to remain at 1.5 to 2 times annual expenditure.

RESOLVED, to approve the budget for the financial year ending 31 March 2016

4. **To set and demand the precept required for the Parish Council to balance its budget**

RESOLVED to set and demand from South Cambridgeshire District Council a Precept of £51,649, being the amount required by the Parish Council to balance its budget. (Prop IS, 2nd AG)

5. **Closure of meeting**

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 8.40 pm.

SignedChairmandate.