

Hardwick Parish Council
Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 6 February 2018
in the School at 7.00 pm

Present: Councillors: A Gill (Chairman), J Humphries, P Joslin, D Wellbelove and S Rose.

In attendance: Martin Cassey (Village Plan Committee) and Mrs Gail Stoehr (Clerk)

Open public session including reports from the County and District Councillors

A resident reminded the Parish Council of the requirement for seed funding for a community mini bus.

1. To approve apologies for absence and declarations of interest

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr Skingle (out of parish) and District Cllr Chamberlain (out of parish).

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

Cllrs Gill, Humphries, Joslin, Rose and Wellbelove declared an interest in the setting of the precept as council tax payers, and also the existence of their dispensations allowing them to speak and vote.

Cllr Rose declared an interest as a member of HSSC and a non-pecuniary interest as an honorary life member of Hardwick Football Club.

Cllr Wellbelove declared an interest as a member of HSSC.

The Clerk declared an interest in the budget item relating to salaries and admin support.

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.

On a proposition by the Chairman, it was agreed to take items 2 and 3 together.

2. To review the budget for financial year ending 31 March 2018 against receipts and payments and to consider any outstanding projects or spending and to make arrangements for these

The Clerk advised on the budget with regards to the new Parish Council, given the elections this May, and the implications as to the timings for decisions and whether or not they would be binding on the new Council.

RESOLVED to note the email from Jeff Jones regarding Hardwick Happenings funding, that it was not envisaged that funding would be applied for before the end of 2018, but it would be prudent to include £2500.00 in the budget.

RESOLVED to include £2,500 in the FY2019 budget for advertising.

The Clerk, having previously declared an interest, left the meeting at 7.20 pm and returned at 7.25 pm.

RESOLVED to start with the baseline figures supplied by the Clerk with the exception of the following which were either added or amended:

- Grounds maintenance, grass cutting and trees - £19,000.00 to include £6830 recreation ground verti-draining/fertilising/top dressing and labour; £5760 grass cutting contract; £2350.00 Recreation Ground perimeter and trees etc.

- Admin – increase admin budget to £3000.00 as the cost implications of the GDPR were unknown.
- Repairs and assets maintenance £8000.
- To note that possible downpipes and soakaways are a liability on this year's budget as a decision is anticipated at the next meeting.
- S137 – as grants made at the Annual Parish Meeting on 17 April 2018 would be out of this year's budget to include £2000.00 in FY19 budget.
- RESOLVED to earmark £5000.00 out from general reserves for a special project as agreed at the January 2017 meeting.

On a proposition by the Chairman, the meeting was briefly adjourned at 8.05 pm to allow the Parish Council to ask questions of Mr Cassey.

It was noted that the funding for the community mini bus was likely to be needed in 2019.

RESOLVED having considered the Village Plan Committee suggestions and budgetary costs as already circulated that as the Community Centre capital costs were covered by the S106 agreement it was necessary to consider set up costs and employment costs to fund £20,000 Community Centre operating costs with £10,000 from the precept for FY19 and £10,000 from the reserves.

RESOLVED to thank Mr Cassey and the Village Plan Committee for their paper but that further or more persuasive information was required. The purchase of land to create a village park and garden could be a part of a future development. Five electric vehicle charging points was not likely to be funded by the Parish Council but by a commercial body.

RESOLVED:

- To double check the Cricket Club invoices against receipts and Council decision on a reduction in payment July 2017.
- To note there was a typographical error on the budget notes and £250.00 was outstanding from the Hardwick Harriers not £200 as written.
- To invoice the Cricket Club in September for that season and invoice the Football Clubs in May each year.
- Receipts - to amend pitch income to £450
- To use the S106 money from Lark Rise received in 2014 for the provision of additional improvements to the Public Open Space i.e. the new play equipment recently purchased.
- To transfer the balance of £474.55 earmarked reserve for Cahills Corner to General Reserves.
- To leave the earmarked reserve for the Scout Hut at £27,000.00, and not to increase it by £3000.00 as in previous years.
- To reduce the balance of the earmarked PARC reserve to zero using the funds for the play equipment fencing.
- To write to Bourn Parish Council to ask if it still requires the balance of the Hardwick Parish Council contribution for the transport consultant.
- To note it was expected that the projected expenditure of £15,383.85 would more likely be approximately £10,000 as there would be an under-spend in advertising given that payments to the ex-webmaster had only been £40 in this financial year and Cllr Rose was currently acting as webmaster and the likely balance of £3,000 at year end in S137 fund.
- To take any contingency during FY19 from reserves.

3. To approve budget for financial year ending 31 March 2019

RESOLVED that the budget be approved with total payments showing as £66,224 and receipts excluding precept at £5,935. (Prop AG, 2nd JH, unanimous)

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 the sum of £60,289.00, being the amount required by the Parish Council to balance its budget. (Prop AG, 2nd PJ, unanimous)

- RESOLVED that the increase in the precept was as mainly a result in £10,000 being required towards the future operating costs of the Community Centre, however the Parish Council has also released £10,000.00 from its reserves towards the future operating costs.

5. Closure of Meeting

RESOLVED that renewal of the admin support contract is to be an agenda item at the next meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.50 pm.

SignedChairmandate.
