



BEMBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

The Clerk to the Council, 5 Foreland Road, Bembridge, Isle of Wight, PO35 5XN

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Minutes of Bembridge Parish Council Extraordinary meeting held 6.30pm on 2nd December 2014 in the Small Hall, Village Hall, Bembridge

PRESENT: Cllr M Tarrant (Chairman), Cllr D Grannum, Cllr G Kendall, Cllr B Dyer, Cllr S Pigot, Cllr A Woodford, Cllr B Bristow, Cllr P Pugh, Mrs E Goldring (clerk) and Mrs J McDade (asst clerk) **PUBLIC: 0**

1. 193/14 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To receive apologies for absence
Apologies received from Cllr C Doe, holiday

2. 194/14 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive declarations of any pecuniary or other interests relating to items on the agenda
The National Association of Local Councils (NALC) legal topic note 80 dated November 2012 was circulated to Councillors prior to the budget meeting last year. Page 11 paragraph 34 states 'In the example of a parish council meeting which is setting the precept, some monitoring officers share NALC's view that members hold a disclosable pecuniary interest. However some monitoring officers do not share NALC's view. NALC is also aware that the informal view of DCLG is that members of a principal authority at a meeting which sets the council tax or members of a parish council at a meeting which sets the precept do not hold a disclosable pecuniary interest'. Therefore it is entirely the decision of individual Councillors if they wish to declare an interest and request a grant of dispensation.

RESOLVED: All councillors declared a pecuniary interest as residents Bembridge Parish setting their own Council Tax precept.

RESOLVED: Dispensation was granted by Mrs Goldring as Responsible Officer to all Councillors to enable the budget consideration to continue and a decision to be made upon the precept request for 2015/16.

3. 195/14 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED: That in accordance with s.1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 the press and public will be excluded from the following item having due regard to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

4. 196/14 BUDGET SETTING

To consider the proposed budget for 2015/16

Budget Narration

Income

Grants expecting £1,500 from IW College for taking on an apprentice which is not paid until after 6 months in the job.

Premises hire increased due to RJR solicitors increasing their booking of the rear Parish Office to 5 mornings per week.

Lengthsmen service is the quotation given to Nettlestone and Seaview Parish Council for Grounds Maintenance works.

Expenditure

Advertising budget reduced as rarely used. If advertising is required for a certain project it is normally factored within that budget heading.

Hire of premises reduced in line with actual spend.

Subscriptions reduced due to decision not to renew with IWALC.

External & internal audit fees reduced to reflect actual spend.

Professional fees increased to include commercial rent reviews (last conducted Jan 2012),

BYCC condition survey and insurance valuations (last conducted Jan 2012).

All salaries include 2.5% NJC possible pay claim.

Pensions are shown as 3% of salaries.

Salaries will be shown as net and the HMRC contribution NI, NER and Tax but for budgeting comparative purposes you are shown the gross amount.

Apprentice Lengthsmen and staff uniform new budgets to be continued.

Minute book binding, Twinning, Queens Diamond Jubilee and Neighbourhood Plan codes to be deleted.

Community awards to be delivered bi-annually.

Library donation reduced top £3,000 in line with the staggered decline put forward last year.

Is a new code needed for village Christmas lights?

Parish Office Council Tax must be included within the budget as we didn't receive a demand from IWC due to small business rate relief but this could change with the amount of assets taking on.

High Street toilet refurbishment do we include a carry forward amount?

High Street toilets water consumption still seems high and need to be checked again.

Wallgate contract was missed last year £424.00 new code.

Steyne Park toilets water and electric needs to be checked as no bills have been received yet this year.

Changing Rooms electric bill seems higher than last year are the Steyne Park toilets running from this supply?

Grass Cutting and Pitch Marking majorly increased to cover Forelands Playing Field and Steyne Park.

Lane End Cemetery actual spend includes the repair of the wall from the insurance claim.

Sports Equipment (Cliff Morgan donation) £250 to be carried forward.

Children's play area £1,000 is for the annual renewal of the bark surfaces.

Benches code to be removed as it's a duplicate with street furniture.

Tennis court budget for new netting and court marking.

Dog Bins budget remains in case Island Roads decide to bill us for 4 dog bins.

Is a new code needed for maintenance of public rights of way?

Localisation of Council Tax support grant loss included was £604

Sinking Fund to be carried forward:-

£2341.99 Staff retirement gratuities

£3000 new van

£250 Sports Equipment Cliff Morgan Donation

£30,000 5 year roof fund

£10,000 Toilet Refurbishment

£45,591.99 TOTAL

Plus Village Partnership budget underspends to be carried forward

£25,000 Reserve to be carried forward

Precept Request

I recommend that we make a small precept increase over the next few years. If we do not we could end up facing a big gap in a few years' time with a need to hike up the precept then. If we increase by £3,000 to £126,000 this is the same level of increase made the past 2 years.

Emma Goldring

Bembridge Parish Clerk

27th October 2014

Amendments to version 1 draft budget 2015/16 discussed as follows:

Income from the school for hire of the park, £150 to be included under hire of premises.

A sinking fund should be started to budget for the Housing Needs Survey due in 3 years.

RESOLVED: Include in budget Housing Needs Survey Sinking Fund £1,000

The Village Partnership budget should be kept the same and any balance carried forward. This could be used if the Biffa Grant for the BB14 footpath is unsuccessful.

More discussion and help required for the fireworks event next year.

No new code for Christmas Lights required as the BBA have replaced village lights this year.

Carry forward £10,000 toilet refurbishment funds to High Street toilets for future works.

RESOLVED: Carry forward £10,000 toilet refurbishment funds to High Street toilets.

Wallgate Contract was suggested at February 2014 meeting to cancel contract but not agreed. This item on the next Full Council agenda to be discussed along with High Street toilet refurbishment. £500 can be removed from the budget and the code deleted.

Water and electric for Steyne Park Toilets and Changing Rooms can be merged to one code as invoiced together from both suppliers. **RESOLVED:** Merge codes for water and electric Steyne Park Toilets and Changing Rooms.

Steyne Park Grass Cutting and Pitch Marking code will include the School Playing Field and not require a separate code. **RESOLVED:** Remove Playing Field code as both fields covered under Steyne Park code.

Steyne Park Project to retain a budget of £3,000. A feasibility study is required on the field before any grants for drainage can be applied for.

£1,000 on Children's Play Area code can be deleted as new play surfaces from Peoples Millions Project will mean no bark is required. **RESOLVED:** Remove £1,000 from Children's Play Area code.

A new code was discussed for maintenance of public rights of way as the IWC has no money to repair or maintain footpaths, so this will fall to the parish council to keep them maintained for the village, with the help of the Ramblers and other local volunteer groups. Coastal Path repairs will be covered by the IWC. The section of the BB7 closed last year to a landslip needs action. **RESOLVED:** New Rights of Way maintenance code with £2,000 to be included in the budget.

Letter received from IWC explaining the Localisation of Council Tax support grant means the shortfall is £1,116 for 2015/16. £604 was included within the draft budget which was last year's figure. **RESOLVED:** Increase to £1,116 to cover the shortfall.

The parish is taking on more services and costs are increasing annually so small increase is required.

A proposal was put forward to increase the precept request to £126,000 for 2015/16.

RESOLVED: All in favour to increase the precept from £123,000 to £126,000 for 2015/16.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Confirmed date of the meeting of the Council – 16th December 2014

Meeting closed at 6.55pm

Signed.....

Dated.....