

MINUTES OF HORSMONDEN PARISH COUNCIL
FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
MONDAY 14TH DECEMBER 2009
AT 7.30 P.M.
THE VILLAGE HALL, HORSMONDEN.

Present: Cllr Hughes
Councillors Clemson, March, Robins

In attendance: Lucy Noakes (Clerk)

Declarations of Interest: Declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests in accordance with the Code of Conduct were invited. Cllr March declared that she had an interest as a Trustee of the Village hall and as a member of the Parochial Church Council.

1. **ELECTION OF CHAIR**

Cllr Hughes was proposed as Chair by Cllr Robins, seconded by Cllr Clemson and unanimously agreed.

2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

None received.

3. **PRECEPT FOR 2010/2011**

The draft precept was circulated to the meeting and discussed in detail with amendments made to the spread sheets as appropriate.

It was decided that a budget of £1000 be allocated in respect of possible overtime payments for the Clerk, as the Clerk had worked out that over the last year she had worked approximately 90 hours unpaid overtime.

It was proposed that the precept for the Village Hall maintenance be set at £3000.00, which can be used for repainting of the exterior of the hall and is estimated to leave at least £1000 in reserves for unexpected events.

The precept for the Institute was set at £4200.00, which was estimated to allow £2200.00 for repainting the exterior, £2000.00 towards replacing the lead flashing on the roof if necessary and a reserve of £2000.00 for unexpected items.

It was agreed that the Council should offer £62.08 to pay for the Insurance costs for the new youth club, and this was added to the precept.

An amount of £2000.00 was added to cover estimated maintenance costs for the Public conveniences, in addition to £1800.00 which will be needed for the cleaning contract and £850.00 estimated for the rates.

A sum of £2000.00 was added for improvements to street lighting as the Council must commence its programme to replace the old style MBFU lamps as soon as possible, owing to

the fact that the availability of these types of bulbs is now diminished and it is not known how much longer they can be serviced.

The sum of £1000.00 was added to the precept towards the Millennium Project as current funds are unlikely to be enough to complete the installation of the project.

It was proposed from the chair and unanimously agreed that a revised precept of £47783.08 (breakdown at Appendix 1) be forwarded to the Parish Council meeting in January 2010 for approval. This represents a decrease of 0.26% in the precept for 2010/11 compared with 2009/10.

4. **RISK ASSESSMENT**

The Risk Assessment as prepared by the Clerk was presented at the meeting. A few alterations to the assessment levels were discussed and agreed, and the Public Conveniences were added as a further item for consideration when assessing risk. The suggested Risk Assessment is attached at Appendix 2.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 10.08 p.m.

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