

Hardwick Parish Council
Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 24 January 2024 at 7.00 pm
Held at The Cabin at St Mary's, Hardwick

Present: Councillors: A Gill (Chairman), J Armisen, J Dabrowski, P Joslin and S Rose.

In attendance: Mr B Stoehr (Acting Clerk).

Open public session including reports from the County and District Councillors

None.

1. To receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Rangadurai (child ill), Phillips (unwell), and Cirillo (unwell).

2. Declarations of interest

2.1 To receive declarations of interests from Cllrs on items on the agenda and details of dispensations held

None.

2.2 To receive written requests for dispensation and grant any as appropriate for items on this agenda

None received.

3. To review the budget for financial year ending 31 March 2024 against receipts and payments and to consider any outstanding projects or spending and to make arrangements for these and to consider and earmark any reserves

RESOLVED, having discussed the current precept rate and the merits of increasing the precept by certain percentages, to proceed with the principle of increasing the precept by 4% in line with inflation.

The budget for FY2024 was reviewed:

- Advertising. Cllr Rose raised the website, which was very important to the village and involved a great deal of work in managing it, and suggested having a third party to run and update the website.
RESOLVED, given that there was some support in favour of having a professional to run the website with guidelines for how to manage and update it, that Cllr Dabrowski should place a post on Facebook seeking local suppliers.
- RESOLVED to change the title of the budget heading "Community Centre Operating and Fit Out costs" to "Community Hall Operating and other costs."

Cllr Armisen left the meeting at 8 pm.

4. To consider and approve a budget for FY2025 based on historic costs and existing contracts and proposals by Councillors

RESOLVED, having noted the baseline budget prepared by the Acting Clerk:

To include £5,000 for advertising; £2,000 for audit; £2,500 for street lights; £2,000 for S137 grants; and £15,000 for loan repayments, and £37,475.58 for Community Hall Operating and other costs.

RESOLVED to earmark at FYE any under-spend in Community Hall Operating and other costs, streetlights, defibrillator fund and also to earmark the loan repayments budget into the Community Hall Operating and other costs reserve.

RESOLVED that the budget for FY25 showing payments of £93,980.00 be approved
(Prop JD, 2nd PJ, unanimous)

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

RESOLVED to set and demand from the District Council a precept of £80,648, being the amount required by the Parish Council to balance the budget for FY25. (Prop SR, 2nd JD, unanimous)

9. Closure of meeting and items for the next agenda

The meeting closed at 8.24 pm.

SignedChairmandate

DRAFT