Minutes of Whaddon Parish Council Precept Meeting held on 9th January 2017 at 8.00p.m. in the Village Hall, Church Street, Whaddon, Nr Royston, Hertfordshire, SG8 5RY.

Present: Chair Mr L Ginger
Councilors Mrs K French, Professor A Milton, Dr N Strudwick
Parish Clerk Mrs G van Poortvliet

This meeting was not open to the public.

1.0 Apologies for Absence – received from Cllr W Elbourn and Cllr R Scott.

2.0 Consideration of the Parish Council’s Priorities for 2017/18 (and potential financial implications) – considered under agenda item 4.0.

3.0 Discussion and agreement of recommended Parish Running Costs for 2017/18 – the forecast Parish Running Costs prepared by the Clerk were reviewed and discussed. Adjustments were made as necessary. The Cllrs agreed that the recommended Parish Running Costs for 2017/18 be £12,810.

4.0 Discussion and agreement of recommended project costs/additional expenditure for 2017/18 – this was discussed. The Cllrs agreed that the following additional expenditure be recommended for 2017/18:
- Village Sign £2,500
- Village Hall Capital Projects Reserve £1,000
- Picnic bench and base (recreation ground) £1,000
- Replacement noticeboard (Meldreth Road) £500
- Conversion of phonebox to library (Meldreth Road) £250
- Defibrillator – costs for publicising access code e.g. fridge magnets £150

Recommended total additional expenditure £5,400

5.0 Consideration of projected cash and reserves at 31st March 2017 – the Cllrs reviewed the projected cash balance and ring-fenced reserves at 31st March 2017 (the financial year end). The Cllrs believed that the projected level of reserves were satisfactory.

6.0 Agreement of 2017/18 Precept to be recommended to the Parish Council for approval: the Cllrs agreed to recommend that the total Parish Council funding requirement for 2017/18 (for Parish Running Costs plus additional Project Expenditure) be £18,210 and that, after deducting anticipated income of £680, the precept for 2017/18 be set at £17,530 (2016/17 £16,960). This would equate to a cost per household (Band D equivalent) of £80.08, which was the same as the previous year.

7.0 Items for next Parish Council meeting – noting of requests for agenda items: Actions: the Clerk to table an agenda item for the consideration and adoption of the recommended precept for 2017/18. The calculations supporting the recommended precept to be posted on the website and circulated via the village email system alongside the meeting agenda.

8.0 Date of next Parish Council meeting - Monday 16th January 2017