

Minutes of Whaddon Parish Council Precept Meeting held on 7th January 2019 at 8pm in the Village Hall, Church Street, Whaddon, Cambridgeshire, SG8 5RY.

Present:	Chair	L Ginger
	Councillors	R Scott, N Strudwick, J Vries, A Birch & A Milton
	Parish Clerk	A Bridges

1.0 Apologies for Absence – W Elbourn

2.0 Parish Running Costs budget for 2019/20 – discussion and agreement of recommended budget – the Parish Running Costs were reviewed. Areas that have been underspent include the Handyman and verge cutting (the latter was assumed to be due to the very hot summer in 2018). The grass cutting of footpaths would now be added to the budget (funded from a lump sum from Cambridgeshire County Council). Local farmers would be approached to assist with cutting the grass on both the footpaths and permissive paths from this year. It was also agreed that there should be an increase in the number of Whaddon Newsletters printed and the subsequent slight cost increase was agreed. The Cllrs agreed that the recommended Parish Running Costs for 2019/2020 to be £12,940 (2018/19 be £14,058 - £1,000 was allocated in 18/19 for prospective election costs).

3.0 Consideration of the Parish Council’s Priorities for 2019/20 (and potential financial implications) – the forecast Parish running costs were reviewed and discussed. The Whaddon Village Hall & Recreation Ground Trust grant was assumed to remain at the same amount as 2018/2019 and to be kept as a joint fund. Future funding requirements relating to the village hall, garage and playground equipment were discussed. It was suggested by Cllr Birch that the PC could consult the residents of Whaddon over the next 12 months to ascertain what they felt was needed in the village. The PC conducted a Village Plan in 2006 and 2013 to gain input into future projects, many of which were subsequently adopted and completed. It was thought that work on the next Village Plan should begin in the next financial year and as part of that process, another questionnaire should be sent to all villagers.

4.0 Consideration of project costs/additional expenditure for 2019/20 – discussion and agreement of recommended project costs for inclusion in the budget – It was suggested that possible future projects could be discussed and agreed on between now and the April 2019 Parish Council Meeting. Suggestions included:

- The Village Hall and Playground - £1,500 for a new fence between the recreation ground and car park, which was damaged and a potential health and safety risk.
- A further £2,500 was suggested for the village hall, recreation ground and playground for renovation projects.
- The reserve for highways (traffic calming), footpaths and verges to be £1,443. It was suggested that a further MVAS unit could be purchased to install around the village.

- 5.0 Consideration of projected cash and reserves at 31st March 2019** – considered together with agenda item 4.0 (above). It was agreed that a further meeting be convened at the end of March to consider the reserves when a more accurate figure will be available.
- 6.0 Review of Projected Income for 2019/20 and Agreement of 2019/20 Precept to be recommended to the Parish Council for approval:** the Cllrs agreed to recommend a total Parish Council funding requirement for 2019/20 (for Parish Running Costs plus additional Project Expenditure) of £18,383. After deducting the anticipated income of £905, the precept for 2019/20 would be £17,478 (2018/19 £17,478). This would equate to a cost per household (Band D equivalent) of £79.30 (2018/19 £80.92). This recommended precept would be considered and approved if appropriate at the next PC meeting. The supporting calculations would be posted on the website and circulated via the village email system. Action: the Clerk.
- 7.0 Items for next Parish Council meeting – noting of requests for agenda items:** Item 6.0 above to be agreed on at the next PC meeting. Action: the Clerk.
- 8.0 Date of next Parish Council meeting - Monday 14th January 2018**

The meeting closed at 8.55p.m.