

ASHINGDON PARISH COUNCIL



Clerk to the Council: Mrs Kelly Holland
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Minutes of the Parish Council budget meeting held at Ashingdon and East Hawkwell Memorial Hall on Monday 27th November 2017 at 7.30pm.

Present: Chairman: Cllr. T. Flowers
Councillors: Cllr. D. Catchpole Cllr. S. Chittenden Cllr. D. Constable
Cllr. D. McCarthy Cllr. S. Williamson
Officers: Kelly Holland, Parish Clerk
Members of press and public: None

17/175 Apologies for Absence

No apologies were received from Cllrs. R. Clark, G. Dryhurst and D. Parsons.

17/176 Declaration of Interests and Dispensations

None.

17/177 Public participation session

None present.

17/178 Finance 2017/18

RESOLVED that an additional donation of £30.00 be made to the British Legion for the poppy appeal.

17/179 Training

The list of training provided by the Essex Association of Local Councils was received.

The Clerk advised the Council that her health and safety and risk assessment qualifications expired in 2018 and requested permission to attend two training courses in May 2018 to renew the qualification. Canewdon Parish Council had agreed to contribute 50% towards the cost of the training session and mileage accrued.

The Clerk had been advised by the EALC that some Councillors had not attended training that has been paid for (some cases were due to ill health) however this has cost the Parish Council £350.00 to date in 2017/18, consideration was given to creating a policy in relation to this.

Cllr. D. McCarthy, arrived at the meeting, 7.41pm

RESOLVED that

- (a) the Clerk be authorised to attend the health and safety and risk assessment training in 2018;
- (b) the following policy be adopted in relation to training:

Should a Councillor not attend a training session for which they have been booked onto, the Councillor will reimburse the Parish Council 50% of the course cost in the first instance and then 100% of the course costs thereafter. If a Councillor is unable to attend a training session for which they have been booked onto due to ill health, the onus is on the Councillor to find a replacement for the training session.

17/180 Member Allowances

Members discussed whether allowances would be claimed during 2018/19. Cllrs. R. Clark, D. Constable, G. Dryhurst and T. Flowers intended to claim allowances.

RESOLVED that the four member allowances of £350.00 be budgeted for during 2018/19.

17/181 Activities for the youth during School holidays

The Parish Council had provided a mobile skate park over the past few years however the event in 2017 had not gone entirely as hoped. Consideration was given to using an alternative provider for the facility.

RESOLVED that an additional budget of £5000.00 be allocated towards providing this facility in 2018 by an alternative provider.

17/182 Budget and precept for 2017/18

Members reviewed and amended the budget report for 2018/19.

RESOLVED that

- (a) the following budget headings be added to the budget:

Play area depreciation with a budget of £5,000
Social Inclusion (youth workers/bus) - £2,500

- (b) a budget of £86,707 is required for 2018/19. Confirmation of the Local Council Tax Support Grant from Rochford District Council was expected late December 2017; the precept figure could not be calculated until this had been received. The precept figure for 2018/19 would be confirmed at the Parish Council meeting on 8th January 2018.

17/183 Reserves

Members reviewed the general and earmarked reserves.

RESOLVED that the following be allocated funding from the reserves to make the earmarked reserves for 2018/19:

Office & IT Equipment	£1,200
External Audit	£500
Elections	£3,500
Asset Maintenance	£2,000
Gate Locking	£3,945
Street light supply	£2,140
Street Light replacement	£9,000
Play equipment	£1,865.68
Allotments	£1,250
Church Hall rebuild	£2,000

17/184 Date of next meeting

The next Parish Council Meeting is on Monday 4th December 2017 at 7.30pm.

The meeting was closed at 8.52pm

Chairman's Signature

Dated
4th December 2017