

BRANDESTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minute of the meeting of Brandeston Parish Council held on Tuesday 9th January 2018 at 7.30pm in the Committee Room of the Village Hall.

Present: *Councillors Elson (In the Chair), Duffy, Mitson-Woods and Norman. Mary Mitson-Woods (Clerk). No members of the public, County or District Councillors attended.*

6-1718/1 The Chairman welcomed Councillors to the meeting

6-1718/2 To receive any Declarations of Interest – There were none.

6-1718/3 Apologies for absence: Councillor Kirton sent his apologies as he was unwell and Councillor Buckingham couldn't attend because of work commitments. These apologies were accepted.

6-1718/4 The minute of the Meeting of the Council held on 29th November were approved as a true and accurate record.

6-1718/5 Finance

- a) The Clerk reported on Council's finances. The balance at 09/01/2018 in the PC account is £3394.05. Less cheque to be authorised for £100.00 brings the balance to £3294.05. The projection to year ending is c.£1794.00 + allocated reserves of £1000.00 for work at Manse Hill and £500.00 allocated to the War Memorial restoration.

The 100+ Account has a reconciled balance of £784.44. After prizes for January, February and March 2018 the projected balance before members pay subs for 2018 is £679.44.

- b) Clerk's salary from 1st December to 5th Jan 2018 5 weeks at £20.00 £100.00. **It was resolved that this should be paid.**
- c) From 100+ Club January, February and March prizes payable to Clerk £105.00. **It was resolved that this should be paid.**

6/1718/6 Budget for 2018/19

Councillors had prepared a first draft of the 2018/19 budget at the meeting of 28th November 2017 and decided to take time to reflect on their deliberations and readdress the subject at this January meeting after the original draft was amended to reflect their first deliberations. It was proposed that the budget omit the £500 to the Village Hall and £50 from the donations column. The Clerk offered to pay expenses out of her new salary and this reduced the expenses column. It was agreed that the Precept needs to be raised to increase the Council's reserves and the Precept request should be £2400 + £600. This will enable the Council to rebuild its reserves to a more acceptable level. **It was resolved that once the Clerk has reflected these changes in the Draft Budget the Chairman should sign it on behalf of the Council and SCDC be requested to raise a precept of £3000.00 for 2018/19.**

6/1718/7 Highway Matters - Councillor Kirton had sent his apologies and a message reporting movement of SID and data collection.

Councillor Mitson-Woods raised the issue of road signs getting dirty after the initial clean up and suggested that a work party be organised to wash them in early March. It was also agreed that the trees on Mutton Lane Hill should be pruned back to remove the lower branches and to encourage even growth that does not obstruct traffic.

6/1718/8 War Memorial and WW1 centenary 2018

Councillor Elson reminded Councillors that the Council has £500.00 in it's reserves for the War Memorial and this has been offered to the War Memorial Committee. SALC has advised that there is little to be gained by taking ownership of the Memorial as this will involve legal fees and arrangements for renting land under it. **It was resolved that the sensible way forward is for the PCC to retain ownership and the Council to commit to maintaining it in the future in it's present location.**

6/1718/9 Date of next meeting: Tuesday 13th March 2018 at 7.30pm in the Committee Room of the Village Hall.