

Furneux Pelham Parish Council Meeting

09/01/2014
20:00
Village Hall

Note taken: Clerk

Councillors: D Pigg, H Smart, C Cantes
C Hadley, M Watson, J Birch

Agenda

- 1) Apologies
- 2) Adoption of Previous Minutes
- 3) Matters Arising
Follow up from the Chair on action items in November minutes
- 4) Finance
Council to review end of year position
Council to decide level of Precept for 2014/15
- 5) Allotments
Update from Janet Birch
- 6) Election of Councillors
Council to review proposed wording for advert - C Cantes
- 7) Correspondence

Minutes

1) Apologies

Apologies were received from C Hadley and M Watson

2) Adoption of Previous Minutes

The Minutes from the November Meeting were adopted unanimously.

3) Matters Arising

- The chairman advised that he intended to complete the cleaning of the School noticeboard in January.
- The clerk advised that he had received a letter from FPPPC thanking the Council for their contribution of £600 towards the upkeep of the Church graveyard.

4) Finance

The council reviewed the balance sheet of expenditure for the 2013 Calendar year and noted that the year end balance would be approximately £13600. This balance was greater than in previous years due to the impact of the New Homes Bonus, and good housekeeping, but was necessary due to the impending cost of a new bus shelter in The Wash which was due to be completed in Q1 2014.

Even so, it was still likely that the Council would run a "bigger than necessary" surplus at the end of 2014 if the Precept was kept at present levels.

It was therefore decided to reduce the Precept request for the 2014/15 year from £5000 to £3000. All parishioners will then see the benefit of this in a reduced Council Tax demand (as applied to the Parish component) for the coming year.

5) Allotments

- Janet Birch advised that she had received a long letter of apology from Veolia concerning the problems the Association had encountered during the connection of water to the allotments in 2013. Veolia have undertaken to review their processes to ensure that the situation cannot happen again.
- The issue of the maintenance of the path in the allotments was raised. This was felt to be the last item that now required the Councils attention, as the current path was in a poor state. Janet Birch undertook to get 3 builders quotes for the work to be done on a permanent basis, and to advise at the next PC meeting.

6) Election of Councillors

C Cantes read out a proposed advertisement designed to encourage parishioners who may be interested in Parish Council duties to come forward.

The Clerk undertook to include it in the next edition of St Mary's review.

7) Correspondence

- C Cantes reminded the Council of their previously stated intent to support the Furneux Festival more actively in future. With this in mind ,he advised that one area where this support could be forthcoming would be to fund the provision of flowers in the Church during the festival. The Council unanimously approved the expenditure of up to £150 . C Cantes undertook to advise H Davidson.
- The Council agreed to renew the membership of "Stop Stansted Expansion" at a cost of £10.
- H Smart undertook to look into the likely cost of retaining a Barrister to advise the Council on what steps it could take with regard to the growing waste pile on the field at the Pallet Yard
- C Cantes advised that he had asked R Noades at EHDC Highways to accompany him on a survey of the parish's roads in January in order to identify the areas most in need of repair.

The Meeting ended at 21.05

The next meeting will be on **March 6 at 8pm.**