

CHEDWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES – PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – 22nd JANUARY 2024

PRESENT: Mr D Broad (Chairman) Mr G Broad, Mr M Dentith, Mr A Kingsley, Mr A McLellan, Mr I Morgan & Mrs E Broad (Clerk)

ABSENT: Mr A Cola

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES: The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 8th January 2024 were agreed and signed as a true record.

OPEN SESSION FOR THE PUBLIC: Mr Hutton Potts, Chairman of the Village Hall committee, explained what finance the Village Hall might require in the coming year. He explained that the Village Hall would like £10,000 for soft furnishing and lighting for the games room, £1,400 for new rear stage curtains and £15,000 towards the Solar Panels project for the Village Hall.

ALL OTHER MATTERS TO BE HELD OVER UNTIL THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY 12th FEBRUARY 2024:

SETTING THE 2024/25 PRECEPT: The Chairman & Clerk had produced a draft budget which had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting. Discussion ensued and agreement reached on each item. The following budget was then agreed: -

EXPENDITURE:

Parish Council Running Costs

Village Hall Rent (L.G.A. 1972 S. 111)	300.00
Insurance (L.G.A. 1972 S 111)	500.00
Clerks Salary (L.G.A. 1972 S. 112)	2926.00
Telephone/Broadband (L.G.A. 1972 S. 111)	400.00
Chairman's Allowance/Travel Expenses (L.G.A. 1972 Sch. 12)	150.00
Audit Fee (L.G.A. 1972 S. 111)	350.00
Stationery (L.G.A. 1972 S. 111)	150.00
I.T. Support/Website (L.G.A. 1972 S. 111)	300.00
Subscriptions (L.G.A. 1972 S. 111)	200.00

Maintenance and Improvements to Parish Land and Assets

Playing Field Grass Cut (L.G. (MP) A. 1976)	800.00
Playing Field (L.G. (MP) A. 1976)	100.00
Land Below Tennis Courts (L.G.(MP) A. 1976)	500.00
Diggers Field (L.G. (MP) A. 1976)	100.00
Lower End Graveyard (L.G. (MP) A. 1976)	750.00
Fitness Equipment (L.G.A. 1972 S. 137)	100.00
Defibrillator & Xbox (L.G.A. 1972 S. 137)	400.00

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Noticeboards (L.G.A. 1972 S. 111)	100.00
Storage on Diggers Field (L.G.A. 1972 S. 145)	200.00
Grit Bins (H.A. 1980 S. 96)	200.00

Verge and Hedge Cutting (H.A. 1980 S. 96) 4200.00

Community Funding and Donations to other Bodies

Donations (L.G.A. 1972 S. 137) 4300.00

Additional Items

Christmas Lights (L.G.A. 1972 S. 137)	250.00
Community Orchard (L.G.A. 1972 S. 137)	100.00
Election Costs (L.G.A. 1972 S. 111)	600.00
Speed Gun & Accessories (L.G.A. 1972 S. 137)	200.00

18176.00

ESTIMATED INCOME:

HVLTC Ground Rent	250.00
Playing Field Rental	100.00
Rent from Vodaphone Pole	1000.00
Income from GCC for Verges	2963.00
Interest on Deposit Account	200.00
Estimated VAT Refund 2023/24	2000.00
Shed Rental	300.00

6813.00

Estimated Expenditure	18176.00
Less Estimated Income	6813.00

11363.00

Council noted that the year end balance was high and that it had increased considerably over the past year due to extra income from CIL, significant underspends due to the weather and the growing season also outcomes had been achieved without incurring the expected costs. It was noted that the Village Hall is seeking a very considerable sum for refurbishment and maintenance, L.G.A 1972 section 133 & 145. There was also concern that the local pub is under threat of permanent closure being temporarily closed and there was considerable feeling within the community that the Parish Council should be actively involved in measurers to reopen the premises as a community facility. Councillors debated whether this support for the pub was L.G.A. 1972 sec. 137, if CIL money could be used, and if CIL expenditure came under section 137. As the sums suggested prior to the meeting (£400) had been well below the section 137 limit, but the sums mentioned at the meeting considerably above, the question had not previously been

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addressed. Under the circumstances it was prudent to make provision for the possible assistance for the Village Hall and potentially the pub by maintaining the precept at effectively a zero percent increase. It was proposed by Mr Morgan and seconded by Mr Kingsley to set the 2024/25 precept at £16,426, the same as in 2023/24 agreed unanimously.

The meeting concluded at 8.50pm.

NEXT MEETING: Monday 12th February 2024 at 7.30pm

Chairman.....

Date.....