

Minutes of the **Parish Council** meeting held in Messingham Village Hall on **Monday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2014** commencing at 7.00pm.

**PRESENT:** Councillors N Poole (Chair), J R Walker, A Clark, Mrs B Todd, M Proctor, J McKellar-Main, J Mountain, W Elsome, J England, Mrs J Briggs, M Caley and T Foster; two members of the public and the Clerk.

**96. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Received from Councillors Mrs G Sherwood, P Wright & R Nixon

**97. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The Clerk advised that Dispensations given to Councillors would be valid for the duration of the

1. Councillor N Poole – Bowls Club application for grant aid – personal and prejudicial as member of bowls club
2. Councillor J England – Playing Field application for grant aid – prejudicial as Vice President of the Playing Field committee.
3. Councillor J Walker – Clerk’s Salary & Allowance – personal & prejudicial as husband of the Clerk
4. Councillor W Elsome – Playing Field application for grant aid – personal as trustee of playing field committee
5. Councillor J Mountain – Playing Field application for grant aid – personal as member of playing field committee
6. Councillor M Caley – Village Hall application for grant aid – personal as Parish Council representative to village hall committee
7. Councillor A Clark – Bowls Club application for grant aid – personal as member of bowls club
8. Councillor M Proctor – Playing Field application for grant aid – personal as member of playing field committee

**98. ANNUAL PRECEPT**

The Chairman explained that NLC propose to offer the Council Tax Benefit Support Grant to all town and parish councils regardless of an increase in their precept.

**a) Summary of 2014/15 Budget**

A budget summary to date with supporting notes was circulated to all members prior to the meeting. It was agreed to accept this summary as a basis to agree the 2015/16 budget.

There were no questions.

**b) Salaries/Wages Review**

1. Clerk's Salary

*Councillor J R Walker and the Clerk left the room prior to discussion.*

The Clerk had provided details of the current salary scale and had advised that a new national pay scale and not yet been agreed. The Clerk was asked before leaving the room if she considered the weekly hours appropriate for the job and she confirmed that they are.

It was agreed to make a 1% increase from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015.

Salary = 15 x 15.48 per hour x 52 = £12,076.97 per annum + holiday pay = 35 x 15.48 = £541.80 = £12,618.77 total pay + employers NI contribution

2. Clerk's Allowance

It was agreed to make a 2.6% increase based on RPI June 2014 = £605.34 per annum.

3. Play Area Attendant

It was agreed to make 1% increase to the pay rate for 2015/16 to £136.60 per month = £1639.23 per annum

4. Handyman

It was agreed to make 1% increase to the pay rate for 2014/15 to £7.94 per hour.

The Clerk provided a summary of the handyman's hours for the year 2014/15 for information.

**c) 2015/16 Budget**

1. Administration

Including Clerk's Salary & allowance of approx. £13,850; Village Hall office/storage £2938; plus general administration costs – **total budget £23,000**

2. Play Area/MUGA

The additional cost of an attendant for the MUGA will £960 plus Play Area Attendant salary of £1640 plus general maintenance costs – **total budget £3500**

3. Handyman

Including gardening duties – **total budget £2500**

4. Holme Meadow

It was noted that weed spraying and fertiliser will be needed in the forthcoming year – **total budget £2000**

5. Grass Cutting/Churchyard

Three quotations were obtained from North Lincolnshire Council, Veolia Environmental Services and Barton Mowing Services. It was agreed to accept the lowest quotation from Veolia Environmental Services under the terms of the grass cutting schedule agreed. – **total budget £6000**

6. Pest Control

No increase notified – therefore **total budget £800**

7. Memorial

It was agreed to maintain the 2014/15 **budget £750**

8. Village Enhancement

It was agreed to continue using NLC for flowerbed maintenance at the Memorial, Brigg Road and Benson Close. Following a request from Mrs England a quotation was received from North Lincolnshire Council for flowerbed preparation and planting of all flower beds for an estimated cost of £700 . **Total budget £4000**

9. Chairman's Allowance

It was agreed to maintain the current budget = **budget £250**

10. Public Works Loan

The Public Works Loan of £35,000 received in November 2014 is to be repaid over 15 years at a cost of £2900 per year. **Budget £2900**

11. Miscellaneous

Agreed to make a budget for unforeseen expenditure. **Budget £1000**

d) **Applications for Grant Aid (S137)**

All applications were considered individually and granted as follows:

1. Messingham Bowls Club – *Councillors N Poole & A Clark left the room prior to discussion* £1000 requested towards the completion of the fencing project. It was noted that a grant application has also been made to North Lincolnshire Council for the same project. Granted **£500** on condition that if the full grant is received from NLC it will not be requested from the Parish Council.
2. Messingham Village Hall – *Councillor M Proctor left the room prior to discussion.* £2500 requested for new window on first floor for office area and Trinity Suite ceiling replacement. A letter was received from Mrs J Levitt to argue that the Little Imps Playgroup, which is a business, is given preferential hire rates in comparison to the Parish Council. Granted **£1000** for the Trinity Suite ceiling project only. *Councillor Caley abstained from voting on this application.*
3. Messingham Memorial Playing Field (*All playing field committee members left the room prior to discussion*) - £2000 requested for various repairs/remedial works. Granted **£1000**
4. Messingham Methodist Chapel - £3589 requested for sound and loop system for hard of hearing and improvement to the sound system in the Chapel and main room. Granted **£2000**
5. 2<sup>nd</sup> Messingham Brownies - £214 requested for neckerchiefs and wooggles. Granted **£100.**
6. 1<sup>st</sup> Messingham Rainbows - £150-200 requested for animal education. Granted **£100.**
7. 6<sup>th</sup> Scunthorpe (Messingham) Scout Group - £214 requested to purchase equipment and programme planning manuals. Granted **100.**
8. 6<sup>th</sup> Scunthorpe (Messingham) Scout Group (Beaver Section) – £120 requested to provide a kayak taster session. Granted **£100.**
9. HWRCC Community Transport – Donation towards running costs of the community transport service. Granted **£100**

**e) 2015/16 Precept to NLC**

A total budget of £51,700 was agreed as follows:

| <b>Min Ref</b> | <b>Detail of Expenditure</b>                   | <b>Budget</b> |
|----------------|--|---------------|
| 98c/1          | Administration inc. Clerk's Salary & Allowance | 23,000        |
| 98c/2          | Play Area                                      | 3,500         |
| 98c/3          | Handyman                                       | 2,500         |
| 98c/4          | Holme Meadow                                   | 2000          |
| 98c/5          | Grass Cutting                                  | 6000          |
| 98c/6          | Pest Control                                   | 800           |
| 98c/7          | Memorial                                       | 750           |
| 98c/8          | Village Enhancement                            | 4000          |
| 98c/9          | Chairmans Allowance                            | 250           |
| 98c/10         | Public Works Loan                              | 2900          |
| 98c/11         | Miscellaneous                                  | 1000          |

**GRANT AID – Section 137**

|       |                               |      |
|-------|-------------------------------|------|
| 98d/1 | Messingham Bowls Club         | 500  |
| 98d/2 | Messingham Village Hall       | 1000 |
| 98d/3 | Messingham Playing Field      | 1000 |
| 98d/4 | Messingham Methodist Church   | 2000 |
| 98d/5 | Messingham Brownies           | 100  |
| 98d/6 | Messingham Rainbows           | 100  |
| 98d/7 | Messingham Scout Group        | 100  |
| 98d/8 | Messingham Beaver Scout Group | 100  |
| 98d/9 | Voluntary Car Service         | 100  |

**A proposal to precept £50,000 was unanimously agreed.**

**99. Application for Grant Aid**

A request from Holy Trinity Church for a financial contribution for emergency repairs was received on 24<sup>th</sup> November which could not be considered at this meeting. It was agreed to discuss this at the next Parish Council meeting.

**100. Accounts – to be passed for payment**

|    |   |                |
|----|---|----------------|
| a. | Veolia ES – grass cutting September/October                               | 1069.17 online |
| b. | A.Com Computer Solutions – computer repair                                | 65.00 online   |
| c. | 6 <sup>th</sup> Scunthorpe (Messingham) Beaver Scouts – 2014/15 grant aid | 100.00         |
| d. | H Simpson & Son – In Bloom supplies                                       | 51.88          |
| e. | PPL Limited – interim payment for MUGA                                    | 34,992.00      |

**101. Other Business**

**a) Christmas Tree Lights**

Councillor Walker provided information for lights available from Xmas Direct. These were agreed to be suitable and a budget of £150 was agreed to purchase them.

**b) MUGA Mains Electricity Supply**

Councillor Elsome reported that the reinstatement of the land after the utility supply is not satisfactory. The Clerk to contact the electrical contractor to rectify.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING.