

**MINUTES OF AN EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL****DATE: Tuesday 9th January, 2024    TIME: 7.00PM    VENUE: Wouldham Village Hall**

Present: Cllr Bell, Cllr Marr, Cllr Britchfield, Cllr Miles, Cllr Yard, Cllr Gray, Cllr Hopper

Tina Miles (Clerk) 1 member of public.

1.	<b>Apologies:</b> Cllr Parris	
2.	<b>Declarations of interest.</b> NONE	
	<b>PRECEPT:</b>	
3.	<b>Clerks Salary:</b> Cllr Bell advised that the Finance Team recommend a 2-point increase to NALC level SCP15. Proposed by Cllr Marr, seconded by Cllr Miles. All agreed. Clerk explained that she had allowed for 3% salary increase for 24/25. However, point increases are usually published around November for the financial year, so the exact amount will not be known until then.	
4.	<b>Litter Warden Wages.</b> Agreed: Living wage rises in April 2024	
5.	<b>Council Administration:</b> Clerks' expenses, Donations, Audit fee, Legal/banking/election, stationary, subs/training, Insurance, street lighting, donations, funded projects, PWLB  Cllr B noted that there is only one payment left of the PWLB loan which has contributed to keeping costs down. Clerk explained that the 3-year insurance plan comes to an end in September and although an increase has been budgeted, it could be more. Also, Churchyard maintenance has been removed as payments are not allowed to 'open' churchyards. Agreed	
6.	<b>Grounds Maintenance:</b>  Cllr Bell noted that it had been previously agreed to go out to tender again as the 3-year contract comes to an end in November. However, as any new contract would start in April 2025, alternative costs will be included in next year's precept. Agreed	
7.	<b>Allotments:</b>  Cllr Bell explained that the budget has remained the same and the additional income will be used to offset any works needed i.e. hedge cutting. Agreed	
8.	<b>Special projects.</b>	Agreed

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Dated \_\_\_\_\_

9.	<p><b>Reserves.</b></p> <p>Cllr Bell explained that the funded projects are in reserves where they are funded over 2 or more years. Also, this will be reviewed over the year and any recommendations to via between headings will be brought to Full Council. Agreed</p> <p><b>VOTE TO APPROVE PRECEPT:</b> Proposed by Cllr Yard Second by Cllr Britchfield that this year's Band D precept will be <b>decreased</b> by 10.05%. <b>All agree.</b></p> <table data-bbox="220 633 1189 786"> <tr> <td>Total Gross Expenditure</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£124,466.60</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Minus payments expected</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£4,575.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Minus receipts from reserves/funding</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£50,005.90</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total precept requirement</b></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><b><u>£69,885.70</u></b></td> </tr> </table> <p>It was agreed that the Clerk would therefore submit the precept figures to TMBC by January 14<sup>th</sup> January, 2024</p>	Total Gross Expenditure	£124,466.60	Minus payments expected	£4,575.00	Minus receipts from reserves/funding	£50,005.90	<b>Total precept requirement</b>	<b><u>£69,885.70</u></b>	
Total Gross Expenditure	£124,466.60									
Minus payments expected	£4,575.00									
Minus receipts from reserves/funding	£50,005.90									
<b>Total precept requirement</b>	<b><u>£69,885.70</u></b>									
10.	<p><b>Any other Business</b></p> <p>The meeting closed at 7.15pm</p>									