

TAPLOW PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE OF TAPLOW PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 15th JANUARY 2013 AT 6.30 P.M. IN THE PERKINS ROOM TAPLOW VILLAGE CENTRE HIGH STREET TAPLOW

Present

Cllr. John Bamberg (Chairman) Cllr. Josie Corio
Cllr. John Kennedy Cllr. George Sandy
Cllr. Gaaney
Mrs. Hilda Holder –Clerk
The Chairman declared the meeting open at 6.30pm.

FC/13/13 Apologies for absence and declarations of interest

There were none. The Chairman explained that this was the reconvened meeting from 11th January 2013 which had not been able to take place for want of a quorum. Accordingly most items on the agenda would not be addressed but those present would focus on two pressing issues; being the need to recommend a Precept for 13/14 and to recommend the appropriate increase in hall hire charges as these were matters on the main council meeting later this evening that required some advance thought.

FC/14/13 To recommend a Precept for 13/14

- 14.1 The Chairman advised that the main items of expenditure this year which had been not in keeping with the budget were as follows:-
Village Centre – over budget by £1,400
Village Green – under budget by £500
Street lighting- over budget by £700
- 14.2 Income usually came from the Precept and hall hire. Hall hire was down £1,700 against budget. This year we had had a windfall of £1,200 from filming rights and remuneration was down £3,500.
- 14.3 As a result the net effect was that we were now more or less back on target with income and expenditure equalling out at about £36,500. He reminded the Clerk that when forecasting footpaths and Jubilee items in the budget should always be in at zero.
- 14.4 The Chairman intended to prepare a budget for 13/14 assuming £14,000 for remuneration, £6,500 for admin, £9500 for the Village Centre, £2,300 for the Village Green, £7,000 for street lighting giving a total outlay of £38,300. He encouraged greater restraint on expenditure on the Village Centre. Cllr. Corio highlighted two items of potential major expenditure being issues with drainage and the need to resurface the main hall floor.
- 14.5 The Chairman would budget for an income of £17,000 – it had been nearer to £16000 this year – and so he anticipated a deficit of £2,300 which would reduce the bank balance to £38,000. He recommended retaining the precept at £19,000. Following discussion on the increase in the number of households and the usefulness of having some contingency funds it was agreed to apply for a precept of £20,000 which would effectively keep the cost per household to the same figure as it has been this year.

FC/15/13 Hall Hire Charges

- 15.1 Cllr. Corio declared an interest as an employee of the Playgroup.

15.2 It was agreed to adopt all the recommendations of the Clerk in respect of the increases to hall hire charges circulated in her report prior to the meeting in respect of all charges other than the playgroup charges. The Clerk should ensure that all regular hirers are informed that the charges will be implemented from 1st March 2013

15.3 In respect of the playgroup it was agreed that charges should be increased to £9.50 per hour and that the contract should be ongoing with provision to increase the charges by 2.5% each year.

15.4 Concern was expressed that many hirers leave the centre in an untidy way. The Clerk was asked to ensure that a letter outlining the terms of hire is drafted to be given to hirers and it is made clear that if the Village Centre is left untidy there will be an appropriate reduction in the amount of deposit returned.

FC/16/13 To consider the next meeting

The Chairman would organise a meeting in March and would consider 15th or 22nd as possible dates.

The meeting closed at 7.25 pm

This concludes the Minutes