

FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

MINUTES of the Wrockwardine Wood & Trench Parish Council Finance Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 2nd December 2014 at the Parish Council Centre, Church Road, Wrockwardine Wood at 7pm.

PRESENT: Cllr's. S.A. Watkins – Chair, C.F. Smith – Vice Chair, K. Hanmer and Shirley Reynolds.

14/800 Apologies

RESOLVED – to accept apologies from Cllr. M. Hanmer (working).

14/801 Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

There were no interests declared.

14/802 To receive budget information

RESOLVED – to accept the statement of grants issued to date that shows a balance of £1085.20.

14/803 Grant Applications

To consider a grant application from Wrockwardine Wood Toddler Group.

RESOLVED –.to award a grant of £100 towards a Christmas Party.

14/804 Banking Arrangements

a) To consider changing banks.

The Clerk was instructed to make enquiries with Lloyds and Barclays Banks to find out which bank can offer the best terms.

b) To consider cheque signatories

It was AGREED to have four cheque signatories plus the Clerk who will be an account signatory but will not be permitted to sign cheques.

14/805 To consider the Street Lighting Contract

The Clerk informed members that questions raised at our meeting in July where Gemma Williams was in attendance had recently received a response.

In reply to our first concern that the precept will have to be increased every six years to cover the cost of column testing Gemma advised that we should precept for one sixth of the cost every year and put the funding aside.

Gemma provided a breakdown of the charges for last year in response to our request for details of costs of repairs and replacement parts.

Regarding our concerns that there may be extra costs because we still have some old columns and cannot be expected to enter into new management arrangements with old lanterns Gemma explained that the purpose of the exercise is simply to refresh and bring clarity to the arrangement for day to day management of the existing street lighting. Gemma said that if we wish to explore ways of improving the street lighting stock she will work with us to find external sources of funding to assist with this. Gemma said that TWC currently hold £12,561 of our funding and would like to meet with us to discuss options for either investing this in our lighting stock or reducing our 2015/16 payments.

The Committee suggested that we should carry on with the street lighting contract, but agreed that we need to talk to the Street Lighting Department about changing some of the old lanterns so that we can offer a better service.

14/806 Precept 2015/16

Proposed figures were tabled for consideration by the Committee. It was AGREED to hold a meeting early in January to set a figure for recommendation to the Full Council.

14/807 Date & Venue of the Next Meeting - Tuesday 6th January 2014 at the Parish Council Centre.

14/808 Private Session

RESOLVED – that in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted which will involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and press will be temporarily excluded from the meeting and they are instructed to withdraw.

Signed.....
Chair.

Date