

CLAY CROSS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council meeting held in the Clay Cross Parish Council office on Tuesday 18 December 2007 at 6.00pm

Present: Councillor G Morley Chair
Councillor J M Holmes Vice Chair

Councillor Mrs K M Holmes	Councillor K G Savidge
Councillor M Holmes	Councillor D Skinner
Councillor P Riggott	Councillor B Wright

513/07 Apologies for Absence

It was reported that Apologies for Absence had been received from Councillor A Jackson and Councillor E Manbridge.

514/07 Declaration of Interest

Councillor P Riggott declared a prejudicial interest in the North East Derbyshire Safety Partnership: North East Derbyshire Safety Project as he is a Member of the Safety Partnership.

515/07 Precept 2008/09

The following report was discussed in detail. A number of items were queried and clarified satisfactorily by the Parish Clerk and Councillor J M Holmes, Chair of the Finance Sub-Committee.

Administration: Page 2

Wages: an increase of 3% from 1 April 2008 has been allowed along with an increase in Employers Pension Contributions from 375% to 390% again from 1 April 2008.

Watersafe Management Contract: we have under budgeted this year so this budget has been based on a cost of £165 per quarter. We have also included £500 for any remedial work that may be required during the year.

Rates: we have increased this budget by 4%.

Building Maintenance: we have retained this budget for next year. Any additional expenditure has been shown on Page 7, Special Expenditure.

Tel/Fire/Security Alarms: this budget has been increased based on this years current spend.

General Expenditure: Page 3

Provision of Entertainment: we have increased this budget so that the Social Centre Working Group can consider putting on events at the Social Centre.

Purchase of Lunch Club Provision: this budget has been based on the current spend so far this year which is an average of £403 per month.

Bus Shelter Maintenance: the County Council are carrying out work to replace a number of bus shelters in the Parish free of charge so we have reduced this budget to cover cleaning and maintenance only.

DCC Footpath Maintenance: we have increased this budget to allow for the clearing of footpaths in the Parish. We have also allowed a budget for our Cemetery staff to obtain PA1 and PA6 Certificate's as it is a legal requirement for spray operators to be hold at PA1 and PA6 when spraying in public areas, footpaths etc. The cost of £370 per person is based on 2 days training and a 2 hour assessment on the third day.

Community Economic Development Officer: we have retained this budget for next year. For information, this years contribution has brought the total contribution to this post over two years to £15,000.

Section 137: Page 4

OAP TV Licence Refunds: the total payments made in the year ended 31.3.07 was £7,577 and based on payments made so far this year we feel that this budget can be reduced to £8,000.

OAP Parties: the total cost of last year's Parties was exactly £1,700 so we have increased this budget to allow for an increase in costs of food and entertainment.

Community Expenditure: Page 4

Remembrance Day: this years payments will be a total of £535.50 however, the Royal British Legion Band will disband at the end of the year so a band will have to booked for next year's service at Clay Cross; we have made provision in this budget for the change.

Hanging Baskets: this budget is based on our existing Market Street and High Street Scheme plus extending the scheme further into the Parish onto Valley Road, Pilsley Road and Ashover Road. This budget can be reduced if required.

Christmas Lights: this budget has been increased to include the running of the 'Creative Kids' competition again next year.

Cemetery Expenditure: Page 5

Wages: an increase of 3% from 1 April 2008 has been allowed along with an increase in Employers Pension Contributions from 375% to 390% again from 1 April 2008.

Rates: we have increased this budget by 4%.

Grave Digging: we have under budgeted this year so this budget has been based on an average of £160 per month.

Buildings/Ground Maintenance: this budget has been based on £1,500 for general maintenance and £1,360 to carry out work to reduce height etc of the hollies, this work was deferred last year. Any additional expenditure has been shown on Page 7, Special Expenditure.

Cemetery Lodge Maintenance: we have retained this budget for next year. Any additional expenditure has been shown on Page 7, Special Expenditure.

Machine Purchase/Maintenance: this budget has been increased to accommodate the purchase of a new mower and replacement strimmer with hedge cutting equipment. We have also included a budget for the maintenance of the proposed new and existing equipment.

Printing and Stationery: we feel that it is prudent to allow a budget for the purchase of stationery. A new Exclusive Right of Burial book may be required next year and this will cost between £300-£500.

Van Running Costs: due to the increase cost per litre for diesel we have probably under budgeted this year so this budget has been based on an average cost of £65 per month for diesel, £700 for insurance and £500 for maintenance, MOT etc.

Cemetery Income: PAGE 5

Purchase Plots etc: we have based this budget on an increase in fees of 3% from 1 April 2008.

Cemetery Lodge Rent: we have based this budget on this years rent of £200.14 per month with December being rent free. We feel that any decision to increase the rent from 1 April 2008 should be a Parish Council one.

Market Street Toilets: Page 6

Wages: we have increased this budget by 3%.

Rates: we have increased this budget by 4%

Building Maintenance/Cleaning Materials: this budget has been increased to allow the block to be improved by providing dispensers for toilet paper, hand towels, soap, sanitary towels etc.

Playing Fields/Play Areas: Page 6

General Maintenance: we have increased this budget in line with current spend. We have received a request from the residents of 10 Holmgate Road to cut back trees in Kenning Park; quotations received to be discussed at the meeting as we feel that this work can be accommodated this year.

Vandal Repairs: we feel that this budget can be reduced slightly for next year.

Ground Maintenance to NEDDC: this budget has been increased in line with information received from Steve Brunt, previously circulated.

Meadow Farm Fishing Pond: Page 6

Fishing Pond Rent: the rent received from Clay Cross Angling Association is due for review under the terms of our Agreement. We feel that any decision to increase the rent from 1 April 2008 should be a Parish Council one.

Special Expenditure/Projects: Page 7

The following projects were discussed in detail:

Bevan Road Play Area - **it was agreed, in principle, that this land is not sold and that £7,500 from balances is earmarked to develop a project further.**

New curtains for Clay Cross Social Centre. Parish Clerk reported that two quotations had been received, the cheapest being £2,320 – **it was agreed to look into the cost of cleaning the existing curtains.**

New recessed spot lights in the Social Centre main hall. Parish Clerk reported that three quotations had been received, the cheapest being £720 – **it was agreed that the Parish Clerk contact YK Electrical to request they resubmit their quotation to include re-wiring.**

Replacement of worn-out and faulty exterior lighting at Clay Cross Cemetery. Parish Clerk reported that three quotations had been received, the cheapest being £1,195.71 – **it was agreed that the Cemetery Working Group consider these quotations and then make recommendation to the Parish Council.**

Remedial Damp Proofing at the Cemetery Lodge. Parish Clerk reported that two quotations had been received, the cheapest being £1,633 – **it was agreed that the Cemetery Working Group consider these quotations and then make recommendation to the Parish Council.**

North East Derbyshire Safety Project. Following on from Sgt Rawlinson's attendance at last month's Parish Council meeting, the information presented and the requested funding of this scheme was discussed in detail.

Income: Page 8

Please note that there have been no increases on income since the 1 April 2006.

Lunch Club: we recommend that the admission is increased by at least 30p from £2.50 to £2.80 per person so we have based this budget on an average attendance of 75 people per week @ £2.80 per head = £210 per week x 40 weeks = £8,400 for the year.

Bingo: we recommend that the admission is increased by 5p from 40p to 45p. The attendance on Monday is lower than Wednesday so we have based this budget on an average income of £55 per week x 49 weeks = £2,695 for the year. Wednesday is still well attended with an average income of £98 per week x 51 weeks = £4,998, giving a total of £7,693 for the year.

Dance: we have over budgeted this year as attendance on Thursday nights has ebbed and flowed during the year so we have based this budget on an average of £54 per week x 52 weeks = £2,808 for the year.

Allotment Rents: we recommend that the rent is increased by at least £1 from £11 to £12 per plot so we have based this budget on rent from 64 plots plus £50 received for lease to land at the rear of the allotments on North Street.

Market Rent: we have based this budget on an average rent of £76.50 per week x 52 weeks = £3,978 for the year.

Sale of Refreshments: we have based this budget on an average of £81 per month x 52 = £972 for the year.

Resolved That:

1. *the Administration Building Maintenance budget is reduced to £2,500*
2. *the Administration Purchase/Maintenance of Equipment budget is reduced to £1,500*
3. *the Professional Fees/Website budget is reduced to £2,5000*
4. *the Bus Shelter Maintenance budget is reduced to £2,500*
5. *the Street Lighting budget is reduced to £3,000*
6. *the Footpath Maintenance budget is retained and that, following a vote of 6 in favour and 1 against, all our Cemetery staff receive training to obtain PA1 and PA6 Certificates*
7. *following a vote of 6 in favour and 1 abstention, Clay Cross Parish Council withdraw from contributing to the post of Community Economic Development Officer, budget zeroed*
8. *lamp post baskets are erected on Valley Road and Pilsley Road in addition to our existing scheme on High Street and Market Street, budget reduced to £7,630*
9. *that a new strimmer with hedge cutting fitting is purchased, budget reduced to £2,250*
10. *the purchase of plots etc at Clay Cross Cemetery is increased by 3.5% as from 1 April 2008*
11. *following request from residents of 10 Holmgate Road, Ian Trueman Specialist Tree Services Ltd carries out work to cut back trees in Kenning Park, at a cost of £910 plus vat*
12. *the Meadow Farm Fishing Pond General Maintenance budget is reduced to £1,000*
13. *the rent received for Meadow Farm Fishing Pond from Clay Cross Angling Association is increased to £400 plus vat as from 1 April 2008 for three years, as per the terms of our Agreement*
14. *Clay Cross Parish Council provide £5,000 in funding toward the North East Derbyshire Safety Project and this money is taken from balances*

15. *Lunch Club admission is increased to £2.80 per person as from 1 April 2008*
16. *Bingo admission is increased to 45p per person as from 1 April 2008*
17. *Allotment Rent is increased to £12 per plot as from 1 April 2008*
18. *all other budgets, expenditure contained therein and recommendations be approved and accepted*
19. *the Clay Cross Parish Council Precept 2008/09 is set at £196,000*