

Windle Parish Council

Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting
held on Tuesday 7th February 2006 at
26, Kiln Lane, St. Helens

Present: Councillor K.D. Roughley (Chairman)
Councillor Mrs. K.S. Barton (Deputy-Chairman)
Councillor W. Ashcroft (Immediate Past-Chairman)
*Councillor Mrs. N. Ashcroft

Also in Attendance: L.J. Kilshaw (Clerk to the Council)

*Cllr. Mrs. N. Ashcroft had been invited to the meeting, by the Chairman, to deputise for Cllr. A.F. Rigby, who was unable to attend and had apologised for his absence.

1. Income & Expenditure 2005/06 – Balances etc.

The Clerk submitted a verbal report, advising on balances related to the anticipated income and expenditure, as per the Precept/Budget 2006/07. Details are given on the attached sheet of the projected income and expenditure to 31 March 2006 and budget proposals for 2006/07.

2. Annual Audit 2004/ 2005

The Audit of the Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2005 had been carried out satisfactorily. Copies of the Auditor's Report, Annual Return etc., had been posted, as requested by law, on the Parish Notice Boards at the appropriate time.

3. Internal Audit 2005/06

The Internal Auditor, Mr. J. Friar, was due to carry out his review of transactions and balances up until 31 January 2006 this very week.

4. Projects

During the current year the setting up of a Windle Parish Council Website, plus the purchase of computer equipment/ Broadband etc., had been a major project for the Council. Thanks had been expressed to Mr. Brian Walsh for his help and the benefit of his expertise in these matters.

For 2006/07, it may be possible to install a further W.P.C. Noticeboard at the refurbished retail outlet at the junction of Kiln Lane and Coronation Road.

5. Precept 2006/07 – Council Tax Base

A letter had been received,from St.Helens Council,advising that the Council Tax Base for the Parish had been set at 1,016 (Band "D" equivalent properties).The Parish Council had already agreed (see min.181c 17/01/06)-to the suggested dates for the payment of the precept,i.e. 50% on 28th April 2006 and 50% on 30th June 2006.

After studying the budget proposals the Finance Committee recommended a level of £11270 for the amount of the Parish Precept.

6. Clerk's Salary and Terms of Employment

Circulars from NALC had been received giving details of the recommended salaries from 1 April 2006.The Finance Committee recommended acceptance of the new adjustments to the Spinal Points etc.,and the improvement in the level of salary from LC 19 to LC 20 for the Clerk. -As from 1 April 2006.

The Clerk said that he had not implemented the rises agreed last year, but would do so with the necessary adjustment before the financial year ending 31/03/06.

The Typist,had resigned at the end of 2005,and was not being replaced as the typing was now being completed by the Clerk.This,together with the extra work involved with the website etc. would need some adjustment to the hours for which the Clerk is employed and paid.

The Clerk indicated that a further review of this situation would need to be carried out after several months of carrying out the new tasks etc.

The meeting closed at 8.40 p.m.

Signed=====

Chairman

Date =====

LJK