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# WINDLE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting  
held on Monday, 31 January 2005

PRESENT: \*Councillor W Ashcroft (Chairman)  
Councillor Mrs N J Ashcroft  
Councillor Mrs K S Barton  
Councillor A F Rigby

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

\*As the Chairman, Councillor W Ashcroft, was initially delayed at a prior meeting, Councillor Mrs N J Ashcroft took the Chair for the earlier part of the meeting until his eventual arrival.

1. Income and Expenditure 2004/05 – Balances, etc

The Clerk submitted a verbal report, advising on balances related to anticipated income and expenditure, as per the Precept/Budget 2005/06. Details are given on the attached sheet of the projected income and expenditure to 31 March 2005 and budget proposals for 2005/06.

2. Annual Audit 2003/04

The audit of the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2004 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.

3. Internal Audit 2004/05

The Internal Auditor, Mr I Friar, had completed his review of transactions and balances up until 31 December 2004.

4. Projects

During the year 2003/04 the security provision at Lynton Way Play Area had helped to largely control youth trespass and disturbance. However, this item was a large part of the Council's expenditure at £2500 per annum approx.

For the Christmas Tree Lighting 2004 it had, at last, proved possible to use the "Christmas Tree" planted several years ago in the Bleak Hill School grounds by

Councillor Mrs P Fraser. It had proved necessary to purchase a new set of tree lights for the 2004 ceremony.

The purchase of the computer, plus setting up of the website, should be completed over the next few months.

For 2005/06 it was hoped to replace the roundabout at Lynton Way Play Area in conjunction with St Helens Council. Initial discussions had taken place and information re details of costs involved promised.

5. Precept 2005/06 – 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 1014 (Band D equivalent properties). The Parish Council had already agreed (18.1.05) to the suggested dates for the payment of the precept, ie 50% on 30 April 2005 and 50% on 30 June 2005.

After studying the budget proposals the Finance Committee recommended a level of £11000 for the amount of the Parish Precept.

6. Clerk's and Typist's Salaries

Circulars from NALC had been received, giving details of the recommended salaries from 1 April 2005. The Finance Committee recommended acceptance of the new adjustments to the Spinal Column Points, etc and the improvement in the level of salary grade points from LC17 – LC19 for the Clerk. The increase for the Typist would be at 2.95% recommended. Both to apply from 1 April 2005.

The Clerk indicated that he would need a later review of the hours to be worked, which would possibly need to be increased to cover the expected heavier work commitment for the computer and website involvement.

The meeting closed at 12.20 pm.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

Date \_\_\_\_\_

LJK/SAH