

MINUTES OF THE ST NEOT PARISH COUNCIL FINANCE COMMITTEE
MEETING CONDUCTED USING ZOOM ON MONDAY 30TH NOVEMBER 2020

Present: Councillors C Smith (Chairman), Dr L Jones, H Bunt and A Bellringer.

Sue Blaxley (Parish Clerk/RFO)

The Chairman opened the meeting at 8pm

1. Apologies

There were no apologies for absence.

2. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 4th December 2019

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 4th December 2019 were agreed as an accurate record.

3. Draft Precept for 2021/2022

To discuss figures for the Precept for 2020/21

The Clerk produced figures detailing the end of year accounts for 2019/2020, the current year's Precept, the Income and Expenditure as at 31st October 2020 and an estimation of expenditure until 31st March 2021. She also produced figures detailing a draft proposal for the Precept for 2021/2022. The draft precept was considered and compared with the other information provided. In terms of income and expenditure, each item listed was discussed and the anticipated income and expenditure justified. Considerable discussion took place on the allocation of earmarked reserves to specific community projects. These have been detailed on the precept figures. It was noted that inflation is currently 0.9%. It was proposed by Councillor Dr L Jones and seconded by Councillor H Bunt that a formal recommendation to keep the precept the same as 2019/20 at £32,320 for 2021/22 would be made to members at the next full Parish Council meeting. All Councillors voted in favour of this proposal.

4. Parish Council Rent Charges and Salaries

To review current Parish Council rent charges for the Pavillion, Goonzion Downs and Cott Yard and to review the expenses and salaries paid to the cleaner and clerk

It was noted that the Clerk is paid at spinal point 33 which will increase in accordance with the NJC scales which are inflationary linked. It was noted that she is also paid administration expenses for the use of her home as an office at £25/month and for the use of her home telephone at £15/month. It was agreed that the charge for the Pavillion at £10/session and the rent charged to the Post

Office remain unaltered. It was noted that at the meeting of the parish council in July 2020, it had been agreed that the rent for Cott Yard remain unaltered (£5,755pa). It was agreed that the rent charges for Goonzion Downs remain unaltered: Mr and Mrs Wilton's rent is £124.50, Jane William's rent is £25.10 and Adrian Copplestone's rent is £12.50. It was noted that the cleaner is currently paid £9.00/hour and it was agreed that this will remain unaltered. It was proposed by Councillor Dr L Jones and seconded by Councillor H Bunt that formal recommendations as outlined in this minute are made to members at the next full Parish Council meeting. All councillors voted in favour of this proposal.

5. Date of next meeting

To be arranged

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9:30pm.