

HAMPTON-IN-ARDEN PARISH COUNCIL BUDGET MEETING

Held at
THE MEETING ROOM

On
WEDNESDAY 7 JANUARY 2015

Present: **Councillors: Dr G Lewis (Chair)**
 Mr M James
 Mr J Doidge
 Mrs C Sellars
 Mr C Bowen
 Mr D Sandells
Clerk: **Mrs J Richardson**

14/86 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor Blomer.

14/87 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

14/88 RISK ASSESSMENT

The meeting considered any changes to the Council's responsibilities in the last year.

A survey of trees on Parish Council land has been completed and remedial work will be carried out to ensure public safety.

Any incidents are recorded in the council's accident book.

Councillor Bowen confirmed that a risk assessment had been carried out for the Remembrance Day Parade, and insurance for this was in order.

There are no issues with the play areas and Councillor Sandells will attend a RoSPA training course in March.

14/89 BUDGET SETTING FOR 2015/16

The basis for the draft budget, circulated prior to the meeting, was reviewed together with explanatory notes and details of reserves.

It was proposed that grass cutting and maintenance costs should remain the same. The Clerk's salary should be increased by 1 increment in line with local councils guidelines, together with an increase to £1600 to allow a 4 page newsletter.

Councillor James had obtained an estimate for resurfacing the Recreation ground Car Park; at today's prices this would be between £60,000 and £90,000. As this work is likely to be required in 2020 it was agreed to continue to build up reserves with a contribution of £5000. Councillors discussed whether the Sports Club rent should be increased as they are the main user of the car park. The clerk will check the lease to see when it is due for renewal; it can then be discussed further.

Following discussion about the rate support grant from Solihull MBC being reduced and the parish council having to undertake maintenance work which

is no longer being carried out by SMBC, **the Chair proposed that the precept be raised by 2% to balance estimated expenditure. This was agreed by the majority of councillors.**

As there are more dwellings paying council tax this year and we are to receive a support grant of £633, the cost per band D household will be £28.08, which will be an increase of 55 pence.

This 2015/16 budget, proposed by the Chair and seconded by Councillor James was agreed by all Councillors present.

It was noted that following receipt of various grants towards the Under 7 Play Area the Parish Council had met the balance of approximately £2900.

14/90DATE OF NEXT MEETING

14th January 2015 – Parish Council Meeting

4th February 2015 – Maintenance Meeting

The meeting closed at 8.30pm

