

**SCOTTER PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Council held on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2011**

**PRESENT:** Councillor C. Day (Chairman), Councillors M. Armstrong, C Baker, B. Billam, J. Bullivent D. Capes, J. Fillingham, S. Hinman, S. Rayner and A. Sheardown. Mrs N. Altoft (Clerk).

With no members of the public present, the meeting commenced at 7.31pm.

**151 2011/12 To receive and approve apologies for absence**

No apologies were received with all Councillors present.

**152 2011/12 To receive declarations of interest in accordance with the Local Government Act 2000.**

Councillor Day declared an interest in relation to item 6 on the agenda (minute reference 156 2011/12), and Councillor Sheardown declared an interest in relation to item 4 on the agenda (minute reference 154 2011/12) and stated their intentions to abstain. No other declarations were made at this point.

**153 2011/12 To discuss the payment of Mrs M. Brown's wages for the setting up of the cemetery database.**

After a short discussion it was;

**RESOLVED: to pay Mrs M. Browns wages out of the Cemetery reserve.**

**154 2011/12 To consider a request from Scotter Village Hall to include a donation to the Association when setting the 2012/13 Precept.**

The Council then discussed the unquantified request for consideration of a grant during 2012/13 against the background of size of the Association's reserves (as witnessed by its most recent accounts).

**RESOLVED : to include a further donation of £2000 to Scotter Village Hall Association in the 2012/13 Precept.**

**155 2011/12 To consider a request from Scotter Forward to include the funds to cover an extra 2 hours of litter picking per week.**

After a short discussion it was;

**RESOLVED : not to include the funds to cover an extra 2 hours of litter picking per week. This is due to the fact that the litter that is on the streets is the responsibility of West Lindsey not the Parish Council, and it was this that was highlighted as an issue at the Scotter Forward consultation day.**

**156 2011/12 To consider a request from Scotter War Memorial Playing Field's Committee to include £800 in the 2012/13 Precept to cover employers liability and public liability insurance at the fields.**

The Council has historically approved this annual request for recompense of insurance costs and included an amount of £800 in its Precept for 2011/12 to meet the expected request in March 2012 (currently estimated at £800). Council noted that the Committee has requested the same amount to be included in the 2012/13 Precept for this purpose. With the exception of Councillor Day who abstained, it was :

**RESOLVED : To include an amount of £800 to cover the cost of employers liability and public liability insurance at the fields in the 2012/13 Precept.**

**157 2011/12 To consider a request from Scotter Junior Football Club to include £1565 in the 2012/13**

The Council considered the letter of request from SJFC with accompanying quotation, showing how the sum requested would be spent during the 2012/13 cutting season and :

**Initialed ..... Chairman**

**RESOLVED : To include £1565 in the 2012/13 Precept to cover grass cutting and bank strimming costs during that season, such monies to be released on receipt of invoices in substantiation.**

**158 2011/12 To consider a request from Scotter United Football Club to include an amount of £1200 in the 2012/13 Precept as a contribution towards groundsman costs, and to cover fertilizer and Grass seed costs.**

The Council considered the letter from SUFC, which requested support this year towards groundsman costs, and to cover fertilizer and grass seed costs. It also examined the financial position of the Club for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2011 and :

**RESOLVED : To include the sum of £1200 in the 2012/13 Precept towards groundsman costs, and to cover fertilizer and grass seed costs, such monies to be released on receipt of invoices in substantiation.**

**159 2011/12 To consider a request from Scotter Tennis Club to include an amount of £3000 in the 2012/13 Precept as a contribution towards the cost of instillation of water and electric supplies to the new tennis pavilion.**

After a short discussion it was;

**RESOLVED : to write to Scotter Tennis Club and inform them that the Parish Council would consider making a contribution towards the cost of the instillation of water and electric supplies to the new tennis pavilion out of the community projects fund in the 2012/13 financial year. However the Council are unable to commit to a specific amount at this time.**

**160 2011/12 To consider a request from West Lindsey Citizens Advice Bureau to include an amount in the 2012/13 Precept in support of its work.**

The Council considered the request for assistance against the background of the significantly increased debt-management workload faced by the local CAB due to the current economic downturn and

**RESOLVED : To include £200 in the 2012/13 Precept in favour of West Lindsey Citizens Advice Bureau, such monies to be paid in April 2012.**

**161 2011/12 To consider and approve the Council's Precept requirement for the financial year 2012/13.**

The Council considered the paper circulated with the agenda in relation to this item, which included an evaluation of payments expected for the rest of 2011/12 and an estimate of payments expected to be made in 2012/13, an evaluation of the income expected for the rest of 2011/12 and an estimate of income expected in 2012/13 (excluding the Precept amount). The expected payments figures were amended in light of the resolutions already passed at the meeting. The Council then considered the proposed payments and receipts on a line by line basis and made the following specific resolutions in support of or to amend the paper :

With some wear and tear starting to be visible, it was

**RESOLVED : To include £450 in the 2012/13 Precept to re-paint the War Memorial plinth.**

Considering the support that the Parish Council has given to various funding bids (in the form of matched funding), Council felt that a significant sum may also be required for the 2012/13 financial year. Therefore it was;

**RESOLVED : to include a sum of £5000 in the 2012/13 Precept towards community projects.**

It was further :

**RESOLVED : that, in accordance with its powers under section 137 of the Local Government Act, 1972, the Council intends to make a donation of £75 in 2012/13 for a poppy wreath which,**

**in the opinion of the Council, is in the interests of the inhabitants of the Parish and will benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure.**

On the conclusion of the line by line examination and taking into account the resolutions already passed, the summary position is as follows :

Opening Cash Book Balance at 01.04.2011	81,569.70
Add Projected Receipts to 31.03.2012	<u>149,087.38</u>
	230,657.08
Less Projected Payments to 31.03.2012	<u>155,886.38</u>
Projected Closing Bank Balance at 31.03.2012	<u><u>74,770.70</u></u>
Opening Cash Balance at 01.04.2012	74,770.70
Less Mower Replacement Reserve at 01.04.2012	1,850.00
Less Memorial Safety Reserve at 01.04.2012	1,840.00
Less The Granary & Elizabeth Close reserves at 01.04.12	64,500.00
Less Key Deposit Reserve at 01.04.12	48.00
Less Budgeted Payments for 2012/13	<u>55,637.28</u>
	- 49,104.58
Add Budgeted Income for 2012/13 (excl. precept)	<u>5,940.00</u>
Nett Expenditure (excl. precept)	-43,164.58

The Council then considered and discussed an appropriate level of contingency to be applied to this figure to cover unexpected expenses and to allow for a year end bank balance and it was :

**RESOLVED : To submit to the District Council a Precept for 2012/13 to cover general expenses in the amount of £46000.**

This represents an increase of 5.1% in the level of general expenses requested compared with 2011/12. The necessary paperwork in support of this will be completed at the December meeting.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.29pm.

Clerk: .....

Chairman: .....

Date: .....

**Initialed ..... Chairman**