

SCOTTER PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Council held on 2nd December 2013

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

With no members of the public present, the meeting commenced at 7.33 pm

123 2013/14 To receive and approve apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Councillors Baker and Capes.

RESOLVED : To accept and approve the apologies from Councillors Baker and Capes.

124 2013/14 To receive declarations of interest in accordance with the Localism Act 2011.

Personal interests were declared by Councillors Billam, Fillingham and Sheardown in relation to agenda item 5 (minute ref. 112 2013/14), by Councillor Day in relation to item 6 (minute ref. 113 2013/14), and by Councillor Billam in relation to item 11 (minute ref. 118 2013/14), the Councillors concerned being sitting members of the committees of the organisations in question. They declared their intention to refrain from voting on the relevant matter. No other declarations were made at this time.

125 2013/14 To discuss a request from Scotter Tennis Club regarding a bid for funding for floodlights.

RESOLVED: To apply for the bid for the new floodlights for the tennis courts in Scotter Parish Councils name.

126 2013/14 To examine proposals for income and expenditure during the financial year 2014/15.

The Council then considered the paper circulated with the agenda in relation to this item, which included an evaluation of payments expected for the rest of 2013/14 and an estimate of payments expected to be made in 2014/15 and an evaluation of the income expected for the rest of 2013/14 and an estimate of income expected in 2014/15 (excluding the Precept amount). With the exception of the proposed expenditure covered in other items on the agenda, the Council considered the draft payments and receipts on a line by line basis and made the following specific resolutions in support of or to amend the paper :

RESOLVED : To accept the figures on the paper, and 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 2013/14 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.

127 2013/14 To consider a request from Scotter Village Hall Association to include a donation to the Association when setting the 2014/15 Precept.

The Council discussed the request for consideration of a grant during 2014/15 towards the cost of new lights in the main hall. The request was considered against the background of the Council's usual level of support for this community asset, the size of the Association's reserves (as witnessed by its most recent accounts). On this information the Council

RESOLVED : To include a donation of £2000 to Scotter Village Hall Association in the 2014/15 Precept.

128 2013/14 To consider a request from Scotter War Memorial Playing Fields Committee to include £800 in the 2014/15 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 2013/14 to meet the expected request in March 2014

Initialled Chairman

(currently estimated at £800). Whilst the cost in March 2015 is not known, the Council noted that the Committee has requested the same amount to be included in the 2014/15 Precept for this purpose. 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 2014/15 Precept.

129 2013/14 To consider a request from Scotter Junior Football Club to include £3000 in the 2014/15 Precept to cover the cost of grass cutting and bank strimming at the playing fields.

The Council discussed the request - but noted that a set of accounts had not been produced. Whilst the Council still wish to see the accounts it was

RESOLVED : To include £3000 in the 2014/15 Precept to cover grass cutting and bank strimming costs during that season, such monies to be released on receipt of invoices in substantiation.

130 2013/14 To consider a request from Scotter United Football Club to include an amount of £1200 in the 2014/15 Precept towards fertiliser, grass seed and general ground maintenance work.

The Council considered the letter from SUFC, which requested support during 2014/15 in relation to grounds maintenance costs. It also examined the financial position of the Club for the year ended 30th June 2013 and :

RESOLVED : To include £1200 in the 2014/15 Precept towards grounds maintenance costs, such monies to be released on receipt of invoices in substantiation.

131 2013/14 To consider a request from Scotter Good Companions to include an amount of £500 in the 2014/15 Precept to fund the hire of the room for its meetings, replacement large print Scrabble sets and playing cards and transport costs for 6 No. trips for members throughout the year.

The Council considered the letter from Scotter Good Companions and whilst supportive of the Club's purpose, the submitted request appears to cover the vast majority of its expenditure in any year and was seen as rather excessive for the number of members involved. In consequence, it was :

RESOLVED : That the Clerk should request further information from the Good Companions as to there membership numbers, and there current accounts.

132 2013/14 To consider an expected request from West Lindsey Citizens Advice Bureau to include an amount in the 2014/15 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 £300 in the 2014/15 Precept in favour of West Lindsey Citizens Advice Bureau, such monies to be paid in April 2014.

133 2013/14 To consider a request from the Eau Community Centre to include an amount in the 2014/15 precept.

The Council considered the letter from the Eau Community Centre, which requested support during 2014/15 in relation to a loss in income from the library closure. It also examined the financial position and

RESOLVED : To include a £1500 grant in the 2014/15 Precept.

134 2013/14 In light of all the foregoing, to consider and approve the Council's Precept requirement for the financial year 2014/15.

In light of the foregoing resolutions, the Clerk amended the expected payments figures and the position was summarised as follows :

Opening Cash Book Balance at 01.04.2013

95,212.67

Initialled Chairman

Add Projected Receipts to 31.03.2014	<u>68,309.99</u>
	<u>163,522.66</u>
Less Projected Payments to 31.03.2014	<u>79,978.66</u>
Projected Closing Bank Balance at 31.03.2014	<u><u>83,544.00</u></u>
Opening Cash Balance at 01.04.2014	83,544.00
Less Mower Replacement Reserve at 01.04.2014	2,150.00
Less Memorial Safety Reserve at 01.04.2014	1,200.00
Less The Granary, Elizabeth Close & The Rookery reserves as at 01.04.14	68,000.00
Less Key Deposit Reserve at 01.04.14	56.00
Less Budgeted Payments for 2014/15	<u>59,177.00</u>
	- 47,039.00
Add Budgeted Income for 2014/15 (excl. precept)	<u>11,243.85</u>
Nett Expenditure (excl. precept)	-35,795.15
Contingency req'd & allow for yr end bank balance	
Amount Needed for Precept	<u><u>-35,795.15</u></u>

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 2014/15 to cover general expenses in the amount of £41,500.

This represents an increase of 1.2% in the level of general expenses requested compared with 2013/14. The necessary paperwork in support of this was completed and signed at the meeting.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.19pm.

Clerk:

Chairman:

Date:

Initialed Chairman