

Minutes of a Meeting of FULBOURN PARISH COUNCIL held in The Fulbourn Centre, Home End, Fulbourn on Wednesday, 14<sup>th</sup> February 2018.

**Present:** Councillor Drage (Chairman), and Councillors Brown, Cone (and District), Dawson, Johnson, Lacey (from item 114), Lockwood, Newell, Shepherd, Scarr, Smith, Thorn, Ward (until Item 121.12), County and District Councillor Williams and the Clerk .

	Action
<p><b>111 Parish Council Vacancy – Co-option for Resolution.</b> Cllr Newell proposed co-opting Neil Scarr onto the Parish Council, proposal seconded by Cllr Thorn and agreed by the Council. Neil duly signed a Declaration of Acceptance form and was welcomed by all Members.</p> <p><b>112 To accept apologies for absence.</b> Cllrs Rickett and Sitton.</p> <p><b>113 To notify the clerk of any declarations of interest that will be declared by members for any item to be discussed.</b> Cllr Brown – Personal Item 118; Cllr Cone – Personal Item 121.11.</p> <p><b><u>Public &amp; Press</u> - You are invited to attend the whole meeting and are welcome to speak at our Open Forum at the beginning of the meeting.</b> No one present.</p> <p><b>114 To receive reports from County and District Councillors.</b> 114.1 County Councillor Williams issued the attached report. 114.2 District Councillor Williams issued the attached report. <i>Cllr Lacey arrived at this point.</i> 114.3 District Councillor Cone issued the attached report.</p> <p><b>115 Fulbourn Primary School – Multi-Academy Trust formal Consultation.</b> Cllr Drage attended the presentation meeting at Fulbourn Primary School on 6 February 2018. The presentation was given by David Boyd, Chair of Governors, and Rachel Snape, head teacher of The Spinney School. The Governors and head teachers of Fulbourn Primary School had been looking into how a MAT could benefit Fulbourn Primary School for two years along with The Spinney School and Mayfield Primary School and now felt the time was right to take this further. A consultation exercise was running until 19 February so that the governors and staff could evaluate the responses. An Academy is a state school that is run by an Academy Trust and not the local authority. The Academy Trust is a charitable body which enters into an agreement with the Secretary of State for Education that sets out its responsibilities and accountabilities for the effective running of the Academy. The Academy is funded directly by the Government and not through the Local Authority. The Multi - Academy Trust would be known as Cambridgeshire Innovation Trust (CIT) and the sponsoring school is The Spinney. The Trust would be run by a Board of Directors and further details can be found on Fulbourn Primary School's web site. In summary, each school would still be accountable to the local authority, would keep its own name and uniform and there are no plans for a change to the curriculum. The final decision will be taken by the Governing Body in due course based on what is considered best for the school, children, staff and wider community.</p> <p><b>116 To approve the minutes of the last meeting.</b> The Minutes were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.</p>	Clerk
<p><b>117 Matters arising from the last meeting.</b> 117.1 <u>Manor Walk</u>. Cllr Ward was concerned about a Horse Chestnut tree opposite the War Memorial. The Clerk will ask Michael Downs to inspect and assess. 117.2 <u>Stonebridge Lane</u>. Cllr Ward and the Clerk met Pat Matthews from SCDC who advised the ditch work was the responsibility of the Parish Council. Cllr Lacey has a meeting with drainage contractors later in February and will seek their advice.</p>	Clerk  RL

117.3 Pavilion recesses. Cllrs Ward, Drage and Brown met Dent Security regarding CCTV equipment around the pavilion. It was agreed to write to the sports clubs asking for a donation towards the costs.

117.4 Windmill Lane. Accent Group has repaired the footpath however it needs to be monitored as there is already a slight dip.

### **118 To consider planning applications.**

Refusal: S/4216/17/FL, 50 School Lane – Two storey side/rear and single front/rear extensions.

Permissions: S/4395/17/FL, 1 Town Close; S/4116/17/FL, 24 Cambridge Road and S/4198/17/FL, Land to east of Cox's Drove.

Certificate of lawful development: S/0374/18/LD, 4 Dunmowe Way – Proposed extension and loft conversion. Noted by the Council.

Revised plans: S/3915/17/FL, Tesco Superstore, Yarrow Road – Installation of petrol filling station and alteration of Click and Collect facility; Recycling, car parking and internal access adjustments to facilitate.

#### New applications:

S/4598/17/FL, 17 Birdfarm Road – Single storey rear and two storey side extension; Recommend support.

S/0377/18/FL, 23 All Saints Road – Two storey side and rear wrap around extension with single storey living room extension & new front porch to a semi detached dwelling.

Recommend support.

**119 Tree works:** S/0076/18/TC, Balsham Road – Re-reduce crown to Acer; reduce height and re-balance the crown. No comment.

S/0271/18/TP, Teversham Road – Crown reduce Ash Tree. No comment.

6 Stonebridge Lane – Horse Chestnut has permission to reduce to 6m bolling due to its condition, locality to road and power line through its crown. Note – Ash Tree.

Land bordering 4 Stonebridge Lane: S/0516/18/TC, Horse Chestnut – Crown reduce to 8-10m due to loss of significant limb.

Disclaimer: Fulbourn Parish Council Tree Officer and the Parish Council accept no liability for the advice given above.

### **120 Youth Building Update.**

Cllr Drage explained when the ground was being measured it was found that there was a discrepancy over where the correct boundary was on both pieces of land between Fulbourn Institute and the Parish Council. A meeting was held with Fulbourn Institute who were adamant that the boundary was where they said it was and part of the new youth and community building was encroaching on their land. The Institute still want access and to retain their land and are in the process of obtaining replacement deeds as the originals were stolen some years ago. As the PC knew there were covenants on the Institute land, they had not intended any part of the new building to be on it. Following this meeting, the Youth Committee and the Clerk met with the architect who had revised the plans by moving the office and meeting rooms that were on the disputed area to the dormer space above the scout hut which the planning permission allowed so the building was only on Parish Council land. Due to the new "L" shape, installing the heating will cost less, savings will be made as less bricks and materials will be required, or shutters or demolition of the old Institute building. The savings made would more than cover the installation of a disabled lift and stairs to the upper area and extra fees. The PC has asked the architect to submit a revised plan to SCDC. A new government department is now dealing with the loan application which they have received via CAPALC (Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Local Councils Association). CAPALC has received an email with some basic queries assuming the Parish Council had also received a copy. This is not the case so CAPALC will forward it for completion to avoid

<p>any further delay in processing the application. It is still hoped work can commence in March once funds are in place and an agreed contract has been issued. A Risk Assessment will be completed when the contract has been drawn up.</p>	<p><b>1338 Clerk &amp; RFO</b></p>
<p><b>121 Correspondence.</b></p>	
<p>121.1 <b>Fulbourn Arts</b> – What’s On; list of future events.</p>	
<p>121.2 <b>Clerks &amp; Councils Direct</b> – January 2018 magazine.</p>	
<p>121.3 <b>Highways England</b> – A14 Cambridge to Huntingdon (A14C2H) has received a nomination for the BBC Countryfile Magazine Conservation Award.</p>	
<p>121.4 <b>CAPALC</b> – January &amp; February 2018 news bulletins.</p>	
<p>121.5 <b>R Bielecki Transitions</b> – Enquiring if Parish Council has land to rent or purchase as wishes to build units and has an energy company interested in renewable energy projects, mainly solar farms. The Clerk has replied that there is no land available at present and in fact the Parish Council is actively seeking land for allotments.</p>	
<p>121.6 <b>Stagecoach East</b> – Notification from 18/2/18 to frequency at Fulbourn of Citi 1 and Citi 3; new timetable is being introduced. Timetable on Council’s website.</p>	
<p>121.7 <b>A14 Cambridge to Huntingdon</b> - The latest A14C2H news release is out now - <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/news/thousands-benefit-from-a14-community-fund">https://www.gov.uk/government/news/thousands-benefit-from-a14-community-fund</a>.</p>	
<p>121.8 <b>Cambs Constabulary</b> – Reporting non-emergency situations can now be done online or you can have a live webchat. Please visit <a href="http://www.cambs.police.uk/report/">www.cambs.police.uk/report/</a></p>	
<p>121.9 <b>Biodiversity Partnership</b> – Funding opportunities for wildlife projects: More information is available at: <a href="http://www.cpbiodiversity.org.uk/funding-tips">http://www.cpbiodiversity.org.uk/funding-tips</a></p>	
<p>121.10 <b>SCDC</b> – January 2018 Parish e-bulletin.</p>	
<p>121.11 <b>SCDC</b> – Seeking views regarding District Councillor Engagement with Parish Councils post the May 2018 elections; Most District Councillors will cover a wider area and some will have more Parish Councils under their ward. Feedback by 9/3/18. After discussion, it was agreed the Parish Council would make a response. <i>Cllr Ward left the meeting at this point.</i></p>	<p><b>MD</b></p>
<p>121.12 <b>CCC</b> – Update on the Fulbourn Road Cycleway with copies of correspondence being sent to residents in the Fulbourn Road/Yarrow Road area.</p>	
<p>121.13 <b>Team Big Things</b> – A major UK Broadcaster is funding numerous art projects and villages are being encouraged to say why they are special, have they a rich history or local traditions to qualify for a large piece of Public Art. The Clerk has forwarded this information to local groups and organisations.</p>	
<p>121.14 <b>Fulbourn &amp; Teversham RBL</b> – As this year marks the centenary of WW1, a “Thank You” campaign has been launched giving the public a chance to thank the generation who made that sacrifice and contributed to so much of what we have today. Representatives are being invited to a meeting on Monday, 19/2/2018 at The Six Bells to take this forward. Cllrs Drage and Thorn to attend.</p>	<p><b>MD &amp; DT</b></p>
<p>121.15 <b>CAPALC</b> – Lobby Day, 20<sup>th</sup> March 2018; this is an annual opportunity for local county associations and local councils to form stronger relationships with their MP’s. Please contact CAPALC if there are any questions or concerns the Parish Council would like put forward to their local MP.</p>	
<p>121.16 <b>Cambridge Past, Present and Future</b> – This charity are passionate about keeping Cambridge and neighbouring villages special; request a meeting to find out about challenges Fulbourn faces regarding Conservation Areas at risk. Cllrs Drage and Smith offered to attend a meeting.</p>	<p><b>MD &amp; DS</b></p>
<p>121.17 <b>CCC</b> – Fire hydrant repair works in Cow Lane due from 9-11 April 2018.</p>	
<p>121.18 <b>SCDC</b> – Parish Planning Forum, Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> February 2018 at Cambourne. Cllrs Drage and Thorn to attend.</p>	<p><b>MD &amp; DT</b></p>
<p>121.19 <b>CCC &amp; Kier Construction</b> – Invitation to Topping Out Ceremony at Fulbourn Primary School on Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2018 at 13.45pm. Cllr Drage to attend.</p>	<p><b>MD</b></p>
<p>121.20 <b>Greater Cambridge Partnership</b> – Cambridge South East Transport Study,</p>	

Consultation runs until 3/4/18; project covers all forms of transport with local exhibitions being held.  
 121.21 **Cambs Constabulary** – Due to restructuring, next round of Area Panel Meetings have been cancelled.  
 121.22 **angliEAR** – Free talks to small groups of people reading the link between hearing loss, dementia and social isolation and the impact hearing loss has on people around them.  
 121.23 **SCDC** – Cambridge Council for Voluntary Services (CCVS) is holding a Trustees Training and Funding Guidance event on 21/2/18.  
 121.24 Resident from the Beechwoods Estate had asked whether they could be included in the half-yearly litter picks. Members said this was done by Cllr Williams.  
 121.25 **CCC** – Copy of letter sent to local residents concerning road closed along Pierce Lane whilst footpath re-surfacing works are completed 19-22 February 2018.  
 Mr Ling has been clearing the hedge along Cambridge Road and has asked if the Parish Council would supply some bulbs to enhance the area. Council agreed these should be planted in the autumn ready for next year.

**Action Plan**

**122 To resolve the accounts for the month.**

Wages: Clerk + expenses.....1,110.49	Wages: Swifts cleaner.....210.00
Gardenworks: Tree surgery.....1,146.00	BT: Internet services.....169.68R
Camb Courts: Re-surface tennis court.....4,243.48	Barclays: Fees.....19.82R
HP Ink: Monthly supplies.....3.49	B’s Travel: Shopper Bus.....220.00R
DBS Electrical: Light repairs.....715.03	Ridgeons: Supplies.....11.11R
TalkTalk: January phone calls.....37.06	The Mill: Advertisement.....60.00R
Shelford Heating: Boiler service.....1,572.06	MT Roofing: Repairs.....138.00R
Replay: Service agreement.....354.00R	Wages: Pavilion cleaner.....119.00
Falcon Print: Village Pump.....375.00	C Lawrence: Re-surfacing....1,716.00
e-on: Swifts electricity.....602.66	e-on: Pavilion electricity.....296.93

Cllr Lockwood proposed the accounts are passed, proposal seconded by Cllr Newell and agreed by the Council.

**123 Council Committees.**

123.1 **ACE** (Allotments, Cemetery & Environment). Minutes of a meeting held on 19/01/18 were issued. Discussion took place about the main drive. Cllr Smith will enquire about costs for gravel/shingle for the main driveway with possibly laying tarmac along the side path. Report accepted.

123.2 **Finance**. Minutes of a meeting held on 24/01/2018 were issued and accepted.

123.3 **Highways**. Minutes of a meeting held on 19/01/18 were issued. Reported last autumn, road markings outside the school in St Vigor’s Road have still not been done. The Clerk will contact CCC again. Report accepted.

123.4 **Precept**. Minutes of a meeting held on 30/01/2018 were issued and accepted.

**DS**

**Clerk**

**124 To receive items for inclusion on the next Agenda for decision and/or action.**

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 9.45pm.

Additional reports:

### **Item 114.1**

#### **County Councillor Report to Fulbourn Parish Council**

1. Due to a budget deficit of £4.3 million the county council has agreed to increase County Council Tax to the maximum permitted by the Government – a 2% precept for adult social care and 2.99% for the Basic Council Tax. This increase of 4.99% will add £59.40 annually to the Council Tax bill for band D property (£1.14 per week). For several years now, opposition councillors have pointed out that increasing council tax is the only way to protect the services that local residents' value. Inflation takes its toll and the Government has reduced its funding to councils to zero. The population is ageing. The number of children in care continues to increase. Patients are stuck in hospital because there is nowhere appropriate for them to move to. Roads crumble. If the council had raised Council Tax by the previously permitted 1.99% over the past few years it would now have an extra £50 million to spend and a Council Tax rise of such magnitude may not have been necessary.
2. Work starts next Monday to reconstruct the footpath in Pierce Lane between Haggis Gap and the High Street. To do this section of Pierce Lane will be closed from 09:30 – 15:30. Access will be maintained to the properties along this section as long as they speak to the Traffic Management crew on site. A letter is being delivered to affected properties to explain this.
3. Additional highways income that would normally be re-invested in preventative highway maintenance is instead being used to cover the pressure on the council's Waste PFI budget which is some £1.6 million in the red. As confirmed by the councillor responsible for highways the road surfaces are deteriorating and this has been exacerbated by the cold weather. The local highways team have no budget remaining this financial year to complete unplanned carriageway patching works.
4. As to potholes the council now has a specialist machine, known as the 'dragon patcher', to work across the county's roads to complete pothole repairs. It is the first in the region and has already made around 1700 repairs. It can repair up to 150 potholes a day, faster and quieter than traditional methods as a pothole is fixed in around three minutes. In order to keep the potholes repaired you need to help us by coming forward and reporting them: Telephone: 03450455212 Website: <https://highwaysreporting.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/>
5. The Mayor's Combined Authority has approved spending of £600,000 to develop an outline business case and options appraisal report for a 'Cambridgeshire Autonomous Metro'. The Mayor had promised a light rail system, but an independent report suggested this was not the best solution. The CAM is an electric battery powered vehicle which operates without rails and can be run on busways. (You may call it an articulated bus – I couldn't possibly comment). It would entail about 31 miles of new busways, and four to six miles of tunnels under Cambridge. The price tag for the project would be around £1.5-£1.7 billion. It is not proposed to come to Fulbourn. Instead it is proposed a new station will be built for Fulbourn on the Newmarket rail line as part of the Cambridge – Oxford East-West Rail project.

John Williams

### **Item 114.2**

#### **District Councillor Report to Fulbourn Parish Council**

1. South Cambridgeshire District Council will be meeting next Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February to set the Council Tax for 2018/19. In line with its three year plan this is expected to amount to an increase of £5 per band D property for the year which is the maximum increase permitted by the Government for a council with a very low Council Tax base.
2. Further to the surveys, interviews and meetings with residents about the future of the day rooms for St Vigor's and Chaplin's Close its been decided not to progress any further

with the latter has it is well used by the residents. But as to St Vigor's officers are now looking for alternative uses for the building.

3. A £200,000 Green Energy Loan Fund will become available in July to help South Cambridgeshire's residents, community groups and businesses become more energy efficient. This will allow householders, voluntary groups including parish councils and companies with up to 250 staff to borrow loans from £1,000 to £10,000 per year for the next four years money specifically to spend on energy saving initiatives such as air source heat pumps, solar panels, battery storage, electric car charging points, LED lighting, insulation or draught proofing. Residents and community groups will pay no interest on the loans. Small and medium-sized businesses will be charged interest at the same rate as offered by Government for start-up loans. Loans will be paid back over three years, so recipients can spread the cost of purchasing energy saving products.

John Williams

### **Item 114.3**

#### District Councillor report to Parish Council February 2018

##### Local Highways Initiative

Following my application on behalf of the Parish Council to raise the kerb and path on the corner between Church Lane and Station Road, I was invited to present the case to a panel made up of County Councillors and Highways Officers at Whittlesford Highways Department. I have worked with Parish Councillors, residents and Highways Officers to present the strongest case I can to make improvements on this corner. The funding from the Parish Council has been agreed and I hope the funding from County Council will also be agreed to improve safety in this area of the village. It is expected that the County Council will report back to me at the end of March to let us know whether our application was successful.

##### Fromont Close

Most of the tree works and landscaping has now been completed on Fromont Close. There are still some roots to be cleared and seeding to be completed which has been delayed due to pressures on the private company carrying out the work due to the recent storms.

##### Bin collections

As District Councillor I have worked with team leads and service managers at SCDC to swiftly collect bins that have been missed and get to the bottom of why bin collections have not been made. Our refuse collection service remains good with collection rates across the district being very high but it is important that any non-collections are reported and fed back to the team so that they can learn from their mistakes and improve the service.

##### Taxi licensing policy

I have worked very hard for some time as a member of SCDC's licensing committee to improve and bring up to standard our taxi licensing policy. Changes to this policy can be viewed on the SCDC website however I would like to highlight one of the very important changes that I have been calling for within the committee which is CCTV to be installed in vehicles from 2020. This policy will protect drivers and passengers and benefit residents in Fulbourn that use Hackney Carriages or private hire vehicles.

##### Ermine Street Housing

As District Councillor for Fulbourn I was very pleased to see senior Councillors at SCDC back a draft council budget that will see £1.7million of income generated from a housing company that was set up to make money that will then be used to protect local services that we all use in Fulbourn and across the district. Ermine Street Housing is a project that I have always supported and voted to support. I will never be afraid of supporting the Conservative group's commercial approach which

has been vital in protecting local services. Ermine Street Housing is set to generate 10% of the Council's overall budget in the next financial year. If it wasn't for Ermine Street Housing being set up in 2011, SCDC would have to look at generating this money in other ways. This could mean higher taxes, service cuts or cost savings throughout the Council.

#### Mobile speeding device

The mobile speeding device has been relocated from Teversham Road to Apthorpe Street following negotiations from residents. I will continue to forward on the data.

#### Bus reductions

As District Councillor I have made representation to the Chief Executive of Stagecoach and MP Lucy Frazer regarding service reduction especially at peak times. Ultimately as the Citi 1 and Citi 3 are both commercial routes, it is for the operator to decide if they are viable or not. I was disappointed that the County Council hadn't informed District or Parish Councillors before bus drivers were telling residents that the service was going to change and I have contacted an officer at County Council within the department to firstly confirm changes and secondly to get the information out ASAP (this was then done).

Graham Cone

#### **Item 123.1**

Minutes of a meeting of the **ACE Committee** held on Friday 19 January 2018.

**Present:** Councillors Drage, Smith, Lacey, Shepherd and Johnson

**Apologies:** None

#### **Election of Chairman**

As so few people had turned up for the meeting, those present agreed that it would not be possible to elect a Chairman at this meeting.

#### **Minutes of previous meeting**

No Minutes of the previous meeting were available.

Allotments – agreed to check with the Clerk on the condition of the Allotments with a view to increasing the fees to take account of inflation.

Cemetery – the Map Box is dilapidated and needs replacing; agreed to recommend that R Drage be asked to give a quote to repair/replace.

Shed break in – this is still ongoing with the Clerk and the PC's insurance company. Consequently repairs have not been made or the stolen equipment replaced.

Entrance gate - the entrance gates need repainting. Quote to be obtained.

Driveway - as previously mentioned, the driveway is shabby and needs updating. Quotes are being sought by Cllrs Smith and Lacey for the cost of tarmacing it. If it is too expensive council may have to precept half the cost in next financial year's budget and half in the following year. The pathway and kerbs also need remedial work done.

War memorial roundabout – although previously recommended for updating, this has not yet been done. The committee would look into various options.

Benches – it was noted that some of the benches are in a bad state of repair. Some of the benches have a name on a plaque and it is recommended that these people are contacted with a view to repairing, cleaning or replacing their benches. Of the others that have no name on, Council should

consider putting a notice on the main gate to say if no-one has contacted the Clerk in, say, 6 months, the benches will be removed and disposed of.

Burial fees – as Fulbourn Parish's burial costs are some of the lowest in the district it was recommended that the fees be looked at with a view to increasing them.

#### **Item 123.2**

Minutes of a **Finance Committee** meeting of Fulbourn Parish Council held on Wednesday, 24<sup>th</sup> January 2018 at The Fulbourn Centre.

**Present:** Councillor Drage (Chairman). Councillors Newell and Thorn; the R.F.O. T Fretwell and the Clerk.

**Apologises:** Councillor Cone.

#### **Matters arising from the meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> October 2017.**

Ida Darwin draft Section 106 agreement was debated at the January 2018 Full Council meeting and a reply has been sent to South Cambridgeshire District Council.

Clerk's salary review; Official letter to be issued.

#### **Finance report 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter Oct – Dec 2017.**

Mr Fretwell explained we were on budget; it is expected the figures to be at 75%. Some Cost Centres are over budget which include the pavilion as insurance for the building is paid in advance.

From the report it showed: - Recreation Ground is due Club Support income; costs are down at The Swifts; no improvements have yet been carried out at the Cemetery with Grass cutting and Open Spaces over spent due to higher agency fees. This total does include a recovery payment from CCC.

Cost Centre total shows 71% as against the expected 75%.

From the Finance Report it showed an opening year balance of £350K and now stands at £408K. Mr Fretwell explained the reserves have crept up as the Capital Budget has not been spent. Two replacement street lights were installed and the electricity box for the Christmas lights erected but Council has saved in other costs.

#### **Precept meeting discussion.**

The R.F.O. went through the forecast 2018/19 showing a start balance of £376K however Reserves will be at a low level at the end of the financial year forecast at £60K. A Precept comparison for the years covering 2014/15 through to 2018/19 was presented and explained.

Following discussion, the Committee recommends increasing the Precept to £176,000.00.

#### **Set date for Precept Meeting.**

Tuesday, 30<sup>th</sup> January 2018, 7.30pm at The Swifts.

#### **Item 123.4**

Minutes of a **Precept Meeting** of Fulbourn Parish Council held on Tuesday, 30<sup>th</sup> January 2018 at The Swifts, Haggis Gap, Fulbourn.

**Present:** Councillor Drage (Chairman). Councillors Cone, Dawson, Johnson, Lacey, Newell, Smith and Ward. The R.F.O. T Fretwell, the Clerk and 1 parishioner.

**Apologises:** Councillors Shepherd, Sitton and Thorn.



Mr Fretwell explained as there were many unknowns to forecast, it was very difficult to set the precept. SCDC were unavailable when the R.F.O. telephoned for advice, so when the Parish Council submits its requirements, we will also send a covering letter. The main concern was the new Youth/Community building.

Mr Fretwell said he had had to forecast Council spending up to the end of March 2018, then for the next financial year 2018/19.

Councillors were given a draft precept 2018/19 Cost Centres report.

The R.F.O. explained it included extra funds for the pavilion to cover repairs and maintenance costs and towards its upgrade.

Although insurance premium costs are known, other Cost Centres are hard to predict.

Drainage works at the Recreation Ground had pushed costs up; further consideration was needed for tree works and maintenance of the benches. Grass cutting costs at the ground are rising so Mr Fretwell has increased the budget slightly to assist.

Grounds and Open Spaces had received some recovery from CCC to offset grass cutting, but this cannot be relied upon and is a bonus if received. The main grass cutting village contract will be much higher next season. It also depends on the climate as to whether more or less cuts are required.

The usual expenses incurred by Council have been forecast as last year.

The R.F.O. then went through the Precept estimate for 2018/19 saying if the Youth/Community building proceeds as planned, the loan would become effective late May, early June 2018 as Council would use its money at the start.

The normal annual expenditure total came to £89K, loan interest and contingencies built in, increased the final total to £175,520. By increasing the Precept to £176,000, this would leave an end of year balance of £68,000 as of March 2019.

Council would need to build its reserves back up again.

This would mean a Band D property would pay £92 per annum, an increase of £21 however it would be compounded by other council and emergency services increases. Mr Fretwell said the precept would be on a par with other parishes of the same size.

Cllr Drage proposed increasing the Precept to £176,000 for 2018/19, proposal seconded by Cllr Cone and agreed by a majority. Cllr Ward abstained.

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 8.40pm.

### **Item 123.3**

Minutes of a meeting of the **Highways Committee** held on Friday 19 January 2018 at 6.30pm.

**Present:** Councillors Drage, Smith, Lacey, Shepherd and Johnson

**Apologies:** None

### **Election of Chairman**

As so few people had turned up for the meeting, those present agreed that it would not be possible to elect a Chairman at this meeting.

It was also agreed this would be a joint Highways and ACE committees meeting.

### **Minutes of previous meeting**

No Minutes of the previous meeting were available.

### **On going matters**

Lamp posts in Cow Lane – the Clerk was obtaining quotes for the refurbishment/replacement of the old lamps in Cow Lane which were in a bad state of repair. In the meantime it was agreed to

recommend that one lamp is taken down and sand blasted it to see if the lampposts are worth refurbishing. If not, and depending on the costs, the Committee would recommend that 3 be replaced in the next financial year and 3 the following year and so on until all were replaced or in a good state of repair.

Entrance to Fromont Close – it was reported by Cllr Shepherd that the entrance to Fromont Close was crumbling and in a bad state of repair. This would be reported to Cambridgeshire County Council and to County Councillor Williams.

General – Councillors should regularly check the state of the footpaths and roads and that lamp posts in the parish are not impeded by greenery and report any that are.

As there was no further business the meeting closed at 7.30pm.