

Parish Council Meeting 7.30 pm Wednesday 27 January 2021

Virtually via ZOOM

PRESENT

Cllr. Miles Lewis – Chairman. Cllr. Steve Chewins – Vice Chairman
Cllr Louse Rees - Cllr. Brian Holmes – Cllr Chris Whitehurst (Also acted as the Facilitator)
Richard Salmon (Clerk)

ABSENT

Cllr. Helen Groves

PUBLIC – None

1 - APOLOGIES.

57. **Resolved** council formally accepted apologies from Cllr Betty Young – Family commitment.

2 - DECLARATION OF INTERESTS.

None

3 - PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

4 - MINUTES

- 58.. **Resolved** that circulated Minutes of the meeting held Wednesday 30 September 2021 be accepted as a true record.

5 - PLANNING.

No new Planning applications

6a - ACCOUNTS.

59. **Resolved** council accepted the circulated Cash Book up to date, and the following Payments - R Salmon Office Expenses £52.00 – Postage £2.83 - Pay Roll £19.80 – One.Com £119.84 - Total £194.47

7. – COVID 19

Council agreed to consider this agenda item during the budget

8 – BUDGET

Cllr Whitehurst read a message on behalf the clerk.

Our basic running costs are much higher than our income; I recommend that the Precept be £4000 which is an increase of £5.21 (Corrected) per year on a band D property.

2020 – 2021 – Band D = £21.40 per year

£4000k Precept = Band D £26.61 a 24% increase

Less than 52p pence per week or less than £2.22 per month.(Total precept)

It should be noted that the Parish Council’s running costs are exceeding its income (precept), as the Council has not increased its precept over recent years we are now coming to a crunch point where reserves are dwindling and without a significant increase, in percentage terms, to the precept we will not be able to cover our costs to stand still.

At the same time it should be recognised that many residents are under financial pressures due to the on-going pandemic.

The Council needs to have regard to pressures on both residents and also on Council’s ability to function when setting the precept this year.

Thought should be given to the role which the council plays in the community and whether the services and support the Council provides residents with is good value for money, it may be argued to raise the precept and become more active in the community is better value of than to keep it artificially low and do nothing.

At this point in time there was interruption in the ZOOM.

When council reconvened Cllr Chewins had left the meeting.

2020 – 2021 Financial out turn. Expenditure for 2020 -2021 is forecasted to be £4,309.

This has been funded by a precept of £3,261 and the forecasted £1,048 reserves.

Councillors consider this proposal for the precept was unacceptable in the present climate.

The clerk should look at ways to reducing the council admin costs and report back.

60. Resolved that the Budget set the for the year 2020 -2021 was as follows:

Item	BUDGET	2021-2022
Clerks Salary		3000
Administration		550
Insurance		300
Defib		125
Web		150
Room hire		150
Training		100
Subs		80
History website		20
Poppy		50
Election Costs		200
Contingency	1000	Covid 19 A contingency is included in the Precept
Total		5725

9 - PRECEPT

- 61. Resolved** Precept for the year 2021 -2022 **£3400**

The meeting closed at 8:45 pm

Next meeting 31 March 2021

Virtually via Zoom

Signed

Dated

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<http://www.threapwoodparishcouncil.co.uk>