

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF EASTRY PARISH COUNCIL FINANCE COMMITTEE
HELD ON MONDAY 23rd JANUARY 2017 AT THE PARISH ROOM AT 7.30pm**

Present: Councillors A. Barwick A Wiles M Pemble P Bailey
 N Kenton

Sarah Wells Clerk to the Parish Council

1. APOLOGIES

Cllr Jones

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Pemble declared a prejudicial interest in item 3. (b) As she is an allotment holder.

3. FEES & CHARGES

To review fees and charges for 2017/18

a) Churchyard Fees

RESOLVED the Churchyard Fees should remain the same for the coming year. Appendix A.

Allotment Charges increased by 20p in from 1st Oct 2013 to £2.20 per rod. £2 per plot administration charge added in Oct 2014.

RESOLVED the allotment charges should remain the same for the coming year.

4. GROUND WORK TENDERS

6 companies were invited to tender for the Ground Work for 2017-22. In addition the Grave Digger (Trevor Oku) had quoted just for the grass cutting in the Churchyard and Cemetery. All the main contractors have been informed that the grass cutting may be removed from the quote.

The Clerk had entered all the quote onto a spread sheet so that they could be compared easily. The quote for the grass cutting in the Church yard and Cemetery from Trevor Oku was far cheaper than any of the main contractors.

RESOLVED the grass cutting in the Church yard and cemetery should be removed from the main contract and the quote of £1760 from Trevor Oku for this work be accepted.

After removal of the above grass cutting the remaining quotes were considered. The two lowest quotes were from reputable firms that worked for other Parish and Town Council in the area. Both had the required insurance and staff qualification needed to undertake the work. The quote from Harmer & Sons Ground Maintenance worked out £1500 cheaper over the life of the contract.

RESOLVED the quote from Harmer & Sons Ground Maintenance should be accepted.

Action Sarah Wells

5. BUDGET FOR 2017/18

To discuss and agree the budget & precept for 2017/18 for recommendation to full Council.

a) Receipts and Payments to date & Predicted outturn for 2016/17

The Clerk went through the document explaining the details and her reasoning behind the figures. See appendix B.

b) Budget for 2017/18

The Clerk had produced a draft budget for 2017/18. This was discussed and after some alterations was agreed by the members.

RESOLVED the budget be recommended for adoption by the full Council all agreed. See Appendix C.

b) Precept for 2017/18

RESOLVED a Precept of £50,517 be recommended to Council, this added to the Revenue Support grant of £922 would give a total resource of £51,439. An increase in Council tax of 1.99% or £1.26 pa for a Band C property.

6. ANNUAL RISK ASSESMENT

The Clerk to produce a Risk Assessment document, for circulation to the Finance committee for comment.

Action Sarah Wells

7. CORRESPONDENCE

a) Email from Eastry Cricket Club

Eastry Cricket Club were granted £500 by Eastry Parish Council, to purchase a scarifier. Following the payment of the grant the Club was offered a second hand scarifier similar to the one that had broken from another Cricket Club. The Club had been able to get a scarifier in good working order using the best bits of both of them.

As a result, the Club has £450 remaining from the grant. The Club asked if the remaining portion of the grant should be returned or could it be used for projects upcoming this year. The club has two in mind, one is to replace the settles in the pavilion with fixed benches to provide more room and another is to make the toilets more welcoming and to sort out the plumbing

RESOLVED the Club should be permitted to keep the funds and use them for improvements to the pavilion and toilets.

The meeting closed at 8.20pm