

# CHARNOCK RICHARD PARISH COUNCIL

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The Minutes of the BUDGET MEETING of the Parish Council held on Monday 5 February 2018 at 6:45 pm in the Parish Rooms.

**Present:** Councillors: A J Shaw (Chairman), J Hill, Mrs J Ogden, Mrs A Bishop, Miss E Walmsley, Mrs L Watson, H Heaton, L Cheetham, A Cornwell and G Brennand. Also present Borough Councillor Whittaker.

**Apologies:** Were received and accepted from Councillors Mrs C Pilling, J Taylor and BC Leadbetter.

**Declarations of Interest** – Members were asked to consider any disclosable pecuniary interest they may have to declare in relation to matters on this Agenda in accordance with the Localism Act 2011, Parish Council Standing Orders and the Code of Conduct currently in force – **There were no declarations of interest at this point.**

**To discuss the Current Financial Years Expenses and Anticipated Expenses:** The Clerk read aloud, and the Council discussed, Income, Expenditure and Estimated Expenditure for the remainder of the current financial year. The estimated income and expenditure was explained in full and accepted by Councillors. The Chairman confirmed he would like his Chairman's allowance to be carried forward again this year. Following discussions it was **Resolved:** **The Lengthsman's current hourly rate of £8.00 per hour, 25 hours per week, will be increased to £8.50 per hour w/e/f April 2018, totalling £11,050 per annum.** The Clerk reported she is happy with her currently hourly rate, however, she would like the Parish Council to consider the implications on her time of the General Data Protection Legislation which will come into force in May 2018. There is likely to be a considerable amount of information to read and policies to be drawn up and implemented which will impact on the number of hours the Clerk will work over the coming months. Once in place, the Clerk will determine what additional time/work will be involved to ensure that the Parish Council remains compliant with Data Protection Legislation. The Clerk requested the opportunity to report back to the Parish Council in 4-6 months time once the impact and implications of the legislation become more evident, with a view to increasing the hours worked, rather than the hourly rate. **Resolved** - The Clerk's hourly rate of £14.00 per hour, 12 hours per week, totalling £8,736.00 per annum will remain unchanged for the moment but, that the Council will review the number of hours required, and a potential increase in hours, later in the year.

**To discuss projects for the next Financial Year:** 'Orchard Gardens' planted garden, and proposals to create a parking area on the land adjacent remain ongoing. The Clerk reported that £2000 has been promised towards this project by the Neighbourhood Team at Chorley Council in 2017/18 and £600 carried over from 2016/17. The Clerk submitted a successful funding bid for £1000 from another funding source with the Parish Council match funding this with £1000. This gives a total of £4600 to start the landscaping and planting side of the project. Plans and supporting information are being gathered together and a planning application will be submitted as soon as the Chorley Council Officer has prepared the plans. The Parish Council budgeted sum of £5000.00 towards phase III at Mossie Close Play Area, remains unchanged. This, together with the £47,286.27 s106 money from Chorley Council Play & Recreation Fund, has resulted in a project costing £54,000.00 being delivered without the need to secure any further outside funding. The Parish Council will make up the shortfall from accumulated funds. A new fence and gate will also be required at the entrance to the play area, specifications must allow access for prams and wheelchairs and take account of finger traps etc. The Parish Council continue to support the Community Centre Trust and the remaining £5000.00 budgeted, will be carried forward to 2018/19 to support the refurbishment programme on this building provided that, when the expenditure is required it is approved at a full Parish Council Meeting and funds are permitting, remain in place.

**To set the Parish Precept for 2018/2019:** Taking account of all above factors, potential income and expenditure for the remainder of the current financial year, projects, and the predicted balance to be carried forward it was **Resolved:** **The Parish Requirement for 2018/19 will remain unchanged from last year. Therefore, the Parish Council will request a Precept of £28,000.00 for the financial year 2018/19, including the top up grant of £345 from Chorley Council. ie: £27,655.00 (Precept) + £345.00 (Top up grant) = Parish Requirement of £28,000.00**

Meeting Closed: 7:30pm.

Chairman:

Date:

Minutes – Budget Meeting – Charnock Richard Parish Council