

CHEARSLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 10TH DECEMBER 2020 BY VIDEO CONFERENCE
AT 7.30PM WITH LIVE STREAM ON YOUTUBE

PRESENT

Councillors: Julia Witcher (**JW**), Martin Hearmon (**MH**), Keith Turnbull (**KT**), John Howard (**JH**), Paul Bown (**PAB**), John Lewis (**JL**) (chaired the meeting in **NB**'s absence)

Officers: Ian Houseman

1. APOLOGIES

Nic Brown (**NB**), Robert Parkes (**RP**), Helen Spurgeon

Introduction – It was explained that this was a limited meeting just to set the budget for 2021/22.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no interests declared.

3. APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 2020 MINUTES

Minutes were **agreed** as a true record.

4. TO SET THE BUDGET FOR 2021/22

JL ran through the budget line by line, with the document on the screen.

There were no questions from councillors – all expressed satisfaction with the way the process had worked this year.

It was pointed out that the precept is a balance between keeping the charge as low as possible, whilst maintaining the ability of the PC to maintain and improve the village.

A precept of £35,000 was proposed, the same as last year.

By a show of hands, this was unanimously adopted.

5. PARISHIONERS QUESTION TIME

A question was received from a parishioner “The proposed work at the horse chestnut island – Is the objective of this to make life easier or harder for HGV’s?”. **JL** responded saying the focus of the planned work is on safety and speeding, with the HGV issue being addressed separately by the Bucks Council Community Board Freight Group and the Waddesdon Freight Project. Unlikely that whatever we do at the junction has a realistic chance of impacting freight traffic on its own.

6. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

- Monday 18th January 2021 at 7.30pm by Zoom videoconference with live YouTube feed.

Merry Christmas to everyone.

Appendix - Recommended Budget 2021/22

Chearsley Parish Council Budget 2021/22

Item	Income £	Expenditure £	£	Notes
Opening Balance			58,200	Estimated Balance at end March 2021. Comprises: - General Reserve £ 26,200 - HCl Fund £ 32,000
Income				
Precept	35,000			Same as 2020/21
Other	1,500			VAT refund plus any grant income
Expenditure				
1. Regular running costs				
Administration		8,000		Salaries, insurance, audit, training, hall hire, subscriptions, professional fees, etc
Grass cutting		1,400		Current programme
Dog & Salt bins		650		
Minor maintenance		400		e.g. benches
IT		700		Subscriptions and consumables
Events		400		Remembrance day wreath & Royal British Legion donation; Christmas tree & lights
Drain clearance		1,000		Contingency in the event work needed that Bucks Council cannot cover
2. Election		250		Parish Council elections due May 2021
3. Village Trees maintenance		5,600		Ongoing programme
4. Signage in village centre		1,000		Pedestrian direction signs village centre (£500). Renewed footpath signs (£500)
5. HCl Junction improvements		25,000		Assumed expenditure in 21/22. From the HCl Fund.
6. Grants		1,700		s.137 provision. Maximum amount allowed is £8.32 per elector
7. Stockwell		500		Minor maintenance plus brickwork. More major work would need a grant and Project Leader
8. Upkeep of footpaths gates		2,000		Survey to be complete. 19 gates @ £150-£220 + £100 installation. Assumed spread over 3 years
9. Verges maintenance		2,400		Contractor payments.
10. Additional kerbing:		18,000		Total kerbing spend. Priorities below - may also be informed by verges survey. Volunteer needed.
HCl area				Depends in part on work included in main HCl project (line 5)
Shupps lane				To address parking issue
Stockwell				Item from Nov PC minutes
Winchenden Rd				Desireable if funds available
Sunken Lanes - bank protection				e.g. Dark Lane by The Rosary.
11. Additional SID		3,800		May fall into 2020/21 expenditure
12. Neighbourhood plan		2,500		Costs incurred by Cuddington to be investigated.
13. CCTV		500		In-principle discussion required. Figure is seedcorn funding if required.
Total Income	36,500			
Total Expenditure		75,800		
Closing Balance			18,900	Closing Balance comprises: - General Reserve £ 11,900 15.7% of expenditure - Sinking Fund £ 7,000 Balance of opening HCl fund after HCl expenditure