

**The Minutes of the Meeting of Detling Parish Council  
held on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at 6.00pm in Detling Village Hall.**

**Councillors present:** *Bowie  
Bryant  
Clayton  
Coles  
Evernden  
Finn*

***Also, present: Parish Clerk, Mrs Sherrie Babington, and Members of the Public.***

***The meeting was chaired by Councillor Bowie.***

***Councillor Bowie opened the meeting and read out a statement regarding the recording and filming during the meeting.***

**1. Apologies.**

*Members who cannot attend a meeting shall tender their apologies to the Parish Clerk prior to the meetings, under Section 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972, the members present must decide whether the reason(s) for a member's absence shall be accepted.*

Apologies were received from KCC Councillor Shellina Prendergast and MBC Councillor Nick de Wiggondene-Shepperd.

**2. Declaration of Interest.**

*To receive Declarations of Interest in respect of matters contained in this agenda, in accordance with the provisions of the Localism Act 2011 in respect of members and in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1972 in respect of officers.*

*To consider any Dispensation requests received by the Parish Clerk and not previously considered.*

Cllr Coles declared an interest in the grant application from Making Miracles due to be considered at the meeting.

There were no Dispensations were considered.

**3. Public Comments and Observations.**

*The meeting is adjourned to enable members of the public to raise issues with the Parish Council. Public Comments and Observations will last a total of 15 minutes with each speaker being given a maximum of 3 minutes to speak.*

***The meeting was adjourned at 6.05pm.***

A resident spoke regarding the Community Shop and stated that he had heard positive feedback from residents in the village. He stated that this was a credit to Detling and all who participated in setting it up.

Cllr Coles stated that she had also received positive feedback and the Shop was being used by people living outside of the parish and the post office was a positive asset for Detling.

Cllr Bowie reported that over 200 people had attended the opening of the shop and it was well used by all in the community. She stated that it had brought the village together. She congratulated the CIC for their work in setting up the shop and Cllr Finn for his work and dedication in initiating the project.

Cllr Finn stated that over 527 people used the shop in a week and takings had exceeded expectations.

**4. Parish Councillor Vacancy.**

The Clerk informed members that one application had been received and details were circulated to members.

It was agreed that in line with the Parish Councils Cooption Policy, the application would be discussed as a confidential item excluding the press and public.

**5. 2020/2021 Budget.**

The draft 2020/2021 Budget was circulated to all members.

The Chairman and Clerk took members through the proposals for the budget with a recommended Precept increase of 2%.

The following allocations were discussed:

Horish Wood

Allocation of £8500 approved for Horish Wood to cover the cost of the maintenance and management for the year.

The Chairman stated that the quotations sought for this were in the region of £8500.

This was discussed.

Cllr Evernden stated that the PC could consider leaving the Woodland as the Management Plan did not have to be followed.

Cllr Finn stated that he felt that the woodland should be maintained with minimal work to maintain the walks and the quotations could be negotiated down.

It was agreed that the allocation should remain in the budget and the level of management of Horish Wood would be discussed at a future meeting.

Parish Maintenance

An allocation of £4000 was agreed for Parish maintenance.

Website

An allocation of £1000 was approved for the website to enable a new website to be constructed to comply with the accessibility regulations that come into force in September 2020.

Following discussions on the draft budget, Cllr Bowie proposed a Precept of £35772.00, a 2% increase on last year's budget.

Cllr Evernden commented on the budget and the level of reserves held by the PC.

He proposed to reduce the 2021 Precept to £22150 and reduce the balance of reserves.

This was discussed and Cllr Bryant spoke regarding the advice from NALC to hold at least one and a half times the Precept in reserves, he confirmed that Detling Parish Council was holding the correct level of reserves.

The Chairman stated that Cllr Evernden had tabled a proposal and she asked if a Councillor would second the proposal to set a Precept of £22150.

The proposal was not seconded and therefore the proposal fell.

The Chairman stated that her proposal to set the 2021 Precept at £35772, this was seconded by Cllr Coles and agreed by all present with the exception of Cllr Evernden.

A member of the public asked to speak. He stated that the Parish Clerk Mrs Babington was an exceptional Clerk and that the Parish Council and the community were indeed lucky to have her. The Chairman and Councillors concurred and thanked him for his kind comments.

**6. Items for the next Agenda.**

1. Bus Service in Detling.
2. Villager of the Year Award.
3. Communication with residents
4. Neighbourhood Plan

***Action: Clerk to place items on next agenda.***

**7. Date of next meeting.**

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2020 in the Meeting Room of Detling Village Hall at 7.00pm.

***There being no further business to discuss the meeting was closed to the press and public at 7.00pm.***

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Chairman

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_