

# WRIGHTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

At the Budget Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2020 at 6:30 pm, at Mossy Lea Village Hall, prior to the February Parish Council Meeting, the following were present:

Councillors: Mr F Hodgkinson (Chairman), Mrs J Burton, Mr F Johnson, Mrs K Jukes, Mrs R Critchley and Mr C House.

1. Apologies – No apologies were necessary.
2. To discuss the Current Financial Years Expenses and Anticipated Expenses - The Council discussed in detail expenses paid to date and anticipated expenses for the remainder of the year, assessing the potential balance to be carried forward into the 2020/2021 financial year. The Clerk confirmed that none of the predicted balance carried forward will be CIL money as this had been used during the 2019/20 financial year to pay for replacement windows at Appley Bridge Village Hall, the remainder being used towards the cost of repairs to the wall and metal fence at Appley Bridge Village Hall. This was noted and confirmed by the Council.
3. To discuss projects and anticipated income and expenditure for the next Financial Year + Review Clerk's Salary - The Clerk reported that the Borough Council top up grant and concurrent contributions for 2020/21 would remain unchanged. Using previous years budgets and estimates the Clerk explained which estimated expenditure she had increased, by how much, and for what reasons. The Clerk confirmed that she would not be looking for an increase in her hourly rate this year and therefore the Clerk's Salary figure remains unchanged. For the purposes of explanation and calculation, the Clerk has used the same Precept figure in the budgets as last year to provide a starting point for this year's discussions. The following projects remain in place which the Parish Council would like to deliver in 2020/21: Marking the car park at Appley Bridge Village Hall to make the most of the space available. To install 2 picnic tables, the same as those installed at Mossy Lea play area by the Parish Council, at the playing fields at Appley Lane South. The estimated cost of this project includes possible installation costs if the Borough Council does not agree to install them as they did at Mossy Lea. £500 towards forthcoming VE Day Celebrations in the Parish. Possible tree work which is required at Appley Bridge Village Hall to safeguard the trees and the building. The Parish Council will also be progressing with new windows and doors and additional outdoor lighting at Appley Bridge Village Hall with a contribution from West Lancs. BC as part of the successful Capital Bid. It was also confirmed that even if the current Capital Bid application to West Lancs. BC for new Notice Boards at both village halls is unsuccessful the Parish Council would like to install them and therefore will need to budget for them. Taking account of the fact a new central heating boiler may be required at Mossy Lea Village Hall and an extension of the heating system in to the small meeting room is required the Parish Council will budget for this possibility also. The Council discussed the budget required to improve and update the website properly in the future. It was suggested that if over the next few months the existing website co-ordinator proves ineffectual it may be necessary for the Parish Council to contract with someone to do this. The Council will budget for this eventuality as an up to date website is an important tool. It was confirmed that honorariums are paid to the treasurer and booking secretary of each village hall for the responsibilities they take on. Planting and maintenance costs at the village halls were discussed and it was explained how the budgeted figures had been reached. Having taken account of all of the above and discussed the budget in detail the Clerk reported that: if the Parish requirement for 2020/21 remains the same as last year (£19,300) this would result in a 0.57% decrease for a Band D property from last year. If the requirement is increased to £19,500 this would result in a 0.5% increase for a Band D property from last year.
4. To confirm the Parish Precept for 2020/2021 - Following detailed discussions it was proposed and seconded that the Parish Requirement remains the same as last year. Following a vote it was **Resolved** – **That the Parish Requirement for 2020/21 is £19,300.00 - £613.00 (Council Tax Support Grant) = £18,687.00 Parish Precept, the same as last year. Therefore, Wrightington Parish Council will Precept for £18,687.00 for the financial year 2020/21.**

Chairman:

Date: