

**MINUTES OF BUDGET MEETING OF SILVERTON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**held WEDNESDAY 22nd JANUARY 2018**

Present: Cllr J Barrett (Chairman) Cllrs G Barrett, F Derbyshire, J Roach, S Roach & K Faulhaber

Minute 112846                      Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr A Lawson, District Cllr Bob Deed and County Cllr Margaret Squires

Minute 112847                      Meeting open to members of the public – 15 minutes

No members present

Minute 112848                      Budget items for consideration to include:

(i)                      Items highlighted from walk around village (weeds, grass cutting, repairs to Old Fire Station etc)

It was noted there are some bad potholes in High Street. It was agreed that an article be placed in the Parish Newsletter explaining that individual potholes must be report by individual residents via the DCC website which will have more effect than the Parish Council continually reporting them.

Bottles are being left around the Football Field after a match which the Football Club needs to clear up. It was agreed to email the Manager asking him to arrange this.

After discussion regarding the work carried out by the Contractor Cllr G Barrett proposed that in order to achieve Best Practice a Time Sheet be prepared which should be completed monthly. Cllr S Roach seconded the proposal A vote was taken which was unanimous.

With regard to the weeds throughout the village it was agreed to write to both DCC and MDDC asking which Authority should clearing these and would they authorize the Parish Council to arrange clearance .

With regard to repairs to Old Fire Station it was agreed funds should be allocated for this work.

(ii)                      Discuss possible avenues for financial funding for Youth Club

If was agreed that should the Parish Council provide revenue funding for the Youth Club this would set a precedent for applications for revenue funding from other groups in the village. This is a DCC responsibility and County Cllr Margaret Squires should be approached by the Youth Club for funding via the Community Budget.

(iii)                      Village Christmas Celebrations for 2018

Some parishioners would like to arrange an annual Christmas Celebration which would include the purchase of the village Christmas Tree. The Chairman stated that the Street Market public liability insurance may cover any celebration. It was agreed to have funds

available to a maximum of £250.00. It was confirmed there was no electricity supply at the Old Fire Station.

(iv) Update re Air Ambulance Night Landing Site and to consider on-going electricity costs once up and running

On-going electricity costs were noted but it was felt these would be minimal.

The Chairman stated that Dave Langdon had suggested a further coat of paint was required on the Tennis Hut at a cost of approximately £100 - this was agreed

(v) Provision of Defibrillator for Ellerhayes - update

A TAP fund application had been submitted to MDDC with the support of Bradninch and Thorverton. It was agreed that if the application was not successful the balance of funds would be taken from reserves.

Minute 112849 Consider tenders for grass cutting

Only one tender from 5 specifications sent had been received and this was from D&G Home and Garden. DCC will only be cutting areas where there may be a visibility issue and these costs will only be 4 times per year. MDDC will cut their own grass. It was agreed the Parish Council will concentrate on grass cutting on land it owns. The tender from D&G Home and Garden was £250 per cut. It was agreed to ask for the area at Hederman Close on which the gas hut is situate to be cut a mower's width around the edge of this area. Agreed to ask that confirmation is supplied to the Clerk when the cuts are carried out and these not to be when the grass is not growing.

Minute 112850 Approve appointment of Internal Auditor

The Clerk confirm that Mr Dave Hinchliffe had indicated he would be willing to audit the Parish Council accounts for the same fee as last year - £225. Cllr G Barrett proposed Mr Hinchliffe be appointed the Internal Auditor for the financial year 2017/2018. Cllr Derbyshire seconded the proposal. A vote was taken which was unanimous.

Minute 112851 To consider budget papers prepared by Clerk and set precept for the financial year ending 31 March 2019

An Email received from Mr G Knowles regarding the level of parish precept had previously been circulated to all Councillors

It was agreed the Hall Committee be asked if the Parish Council could be exempt from payment due to it having paid the loan for the Hall for the past 25 years.

Insurance – to ensure the Insurers were aware of the repairs to the Tennis Hut (re-build cost approximately £5,000.00), the Night Landing Site and the Defibrillator.

Cllr Derbyshire proposed the Parish Council continue with the annual subscription to the Devon Association of Parish Council. Cllr G Barrett seconded the proposal. A vote was taken with 4 in favour and 2 abstentions

Clerk to chase for churchyard grass cutting invoice

It was agreed to check the agreement relating to the pay equipment checks carried out by MDDC.

Jubilee Garden –the possibility of obtaining low growing tight shrubs to cover all the area to minimise maintenance was discussed. It was agreed to send out specification to ground maintenance contractors for this work. Cllr Faulhaber will draw up a specification for the Clerk.

MDDC have been asked if they would do a trial project for a recycling trolley to benefit people who cannot carry the recycling. The Assisted Collection is available but this involves having to leave a garage/door open which some people would not be comfortable with. The recycling trolley allows people be independent. £38 per trolley. Cllr J Roach proposed asking MDDC to pilot 10 trolleys in the village to see how it works. Cllr G Barrett seconded the proposal A vote was taken which was unanimous.

The draft Budget papers prepared by the Clerk were considered and anticipated expenditure for the year 2017/2018 was agreed as per the “Anticipated Expenditure” form.

Cllr J Roach proposed a precept of £15,000.00. Cllr Derbyshire seconded the proposal. A vote was take which was unanimous

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