

Barkway Parish Council

Appendix A - To the Parish Council Meeting

held on Monday 9th January 2017

Notes from the meeting of the Finance Committee

Held in the Reading Room on Wednesday 4th January at 7.30pm

1. Present:

Rev'd. Cllr. Sonia Falaschi-Ray

Cllr. Dr Robert Davidson

Cllr. Dr Giuseppe Frapporti

Clerk/RFO Catharine Toms

2. Apologies:

None

3. To consider and make recommendation for arrangement for internal audit for 2016/17

It was agreed that Carol Willis had done an excellent job carrying out the internal audit last year and it was proposed to recommend to the Council that Mrs Willis be appointed again for the 2016/17 internal audit.

4. To check and agree bank balances - Sage Trial Balance reconciliation to Barckays bank statements:

The Clerk/RFO provided members of the Committee present with copies of the Sage reports for the Parish Council accounts, copies of a bank reconciliation and bank account statements. These were crossed checked and verified by Cllrs. Falaschi-Ray and Davidson as correct.

5. To look at finances to 31st December 2016 and total forecast to 31st March 2017

The spreadsheet was examined in detail, actual expenditure against budget and forecast (separate back up schedules were provided for the 'Pavilion Net Cost' line and the 'Push Energy Contribution Balance' line). The Parish Council bank balance as at 31.12.2016 was £66,130.15 (including petty cash balances of £25.00 and £50.00) and forecast balance to be carried forward to 2017/18 was £51,175.50. Of this amount currently £22,575.15 was Push Energy Community Contribution fund. The Committee asked the Clerk to investigate where it might be allowed, under Council guidelines, to place this money safely in order to gain more interest than currently being achieved. **Action: Clerk**

The Push Energy Community Contribution fund, since the arrival of the 3rd payment of £11,000, now had an unallocated balance of £20,289.00. The most recent grant awarded was £700.00 to the Barkway Parochial Church Council as a contribution towards their Alarm Project.

6. To finalise budget for 2017/18

It was agreed to increase the budget for the Neighbourhood Plan / B4B from £3,000.00 to £6,000.00. It was felt that having got the current stage with the Neighbourhood Plan, and in view of the flood of planning applications that could come in, it was imperative to try and finalise the Plan to try and protect the village. This could well involve having to spend money on Planning Consultancy services.

Cllr. Davidson requested that the budget for play area repairs and inspections should be increased from £600.00 to £1,000.00 in view of the age of some of the equipment. He would contact Stuart Izzard / Stephanie Blunt at NHDC to talk to them about the possible release of S106 monies for the car park project and some play equipment on the Rec. **Action: RD**

Having made changes to the 2017/18 budget the budget carried forward figure for 2018/19 was £44,496.00 (including £22,575.15 Solar Farm Funds).

7. To consider and make recommendation for Precept application for 2017/18

Having scrutinised the financial statements the Finance Committee agreed to recommend to the Council that the Precept application for 2017/18 should not be increased but remain the same as 2016/17 at £36,000.00. The Clerk reported that the deadline for submitting the Precept application to NHDC was 20th January 2017.

8. AOB

None

The meeting closed at 8.45pm