

Hilton Parish Council

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Minutes of the Meeting of Hilton Parish Council Finance Committee held on Monday 8 January 2024

Present

Councillors G Andrew, S Stanton, C Nield, M Coney (Chair), C Cuddington, J McCreddie

Apologies for absence

Councillors Gaskin, Davies and Meghani

Variation of the Order of Business

It was agreed that items 5 and 6 on the agenda should be discussed together as details were itemised in the same spreadsheet

Declarations of Members' Interest

Cllrs Cuddington and Andrew declared an interest in Hilton Harriers Football Club as they are members of the Committee

Public Speaking

No members of the public were present

Review of 2023/2024 Budget and Proposed Budget for 2024/2025

The purpose of the meeting was to make recommendations to the Parish Council Meeting on 31 January 2024 for formal agreement on the forecast for the balance of the year 2023/24 and the budget and precept for 2024/25.

Councillor Andrew presented initial proposals for discussion and amendment. Key recommendations for approval were:

1. Salaries – notional 5% pay rise noted. Pay included for Office Manager for 10 hours per week with effect from 1 April 2024
2. Training budget to be increased to £3,000 to take account of additional training requirements of staff
3. Property maintenance budget to be increased to £2,000 to take account of essential maintenance requirements.

4. Waste collection budget increased to £3,500 to take account of an increase in the provision of bins and the need for additional consumables
5. Tree strategy budget to be increased to £5,000 in the light of additional requirements
6. Emergency planning (flooding) budget to be increased to £1,500
7. Lamp post testing requirements – budget proposed at £850
8. Provision of hanging baskets increased to £13,000 due to an increase in baskets
9. Summer and community events budgets proposed increase to a total of £5,100
10. The Hilton Parish Council Plan (attached) to be approved at a total cost of £237,200 for 2024/2025 subject to a review of the SIDS timescales which are dependent upon Derbyshire County Council support

Based on the above, the recommendation is to agree the precept at £172,900 which would result in a 2.03% reduction in the Parish Council element of the Council Tax bill for Band D from £56.17 per house per year to £55.12, whilst allowing the Parish Council to continue to enhance our facilities and deal with inflationary pressures.

It was RESOLVED that the draft budget for 2024/2025 be recommended for approval at the Parish Council meeting on 31 January 2024

PROPOSED by Councillor Andrew and SECONDED by Councillor Nield