

**RIVENHALL PARISH COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF THE PRECEPT MEETING HELD ON 17 DECEMBER 2014.**

**Present:** Cllrs. Abbott, Bills, Wright, Brailey, Clark, Prime and Turner.

**In the Chair:** Cllr. Abbott.

**Also present:** Parish Clerk.

**1016.. Apologies for Absence.**

There were no apologies for absence, all Members present.

**1017.. Declarations of Interest.**

Cllr. Abbott declared a Pecuniary Interest in item 1019(ii) re Chairman's Allowance.

Cllr. Wright declared a Non-pecuniary Interest in item 1022 as an employee of the Council's current insurers.

**1018.. Public Forum:**

No members of the public were present.

**1019.. Discussion and Agreement of the proposed budget items for year 2015/2016.**

The Clerk had distributed to each Member copies of his budget estimate to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015 and for the year 2015/2016.

**Proposed by Cllr. Abbott, seconded by Cllr. Wright, and agreed by a vote of 6 with 1 abstention**, that the basic calculation of the Clerk's salary be amended to 30 hours per month at £11.95 per hour (£358.50) with effect from 1 January 2015, as recommended by the NALC/SLCC, until a review at the Precept meeting in December 2015.

**Proposed by Cllr. Abbott, seconded by Cllr. Wright and unanimously agreed** that the question of erecting either a 30mph VAS in Henry Dixon Road or a 40mph VAS in Church Road be re-visited in February 2015 when options should have become clearer.

Following discussion it was **proposed by Cllr. Abbott, seconded by Cllr. Wright and agreed by a vote of 6 to 1** that the following Budget figures be agreed for the year 2015/2016.

- i. Parks & Open Spaces... £5,500.00
- ii. Administration.. £8,537.00
- iii. Payments made under Section 137... £106.00
- iv. Special Reserve Fund Projects... £7,000.00

**1020.. Requirements under the Audit Regulations.**

- i. Appointment of Responsible Financial Officer (RFO).

**Proposed by Cllr. Abbott, seconded by Cllr. Wright and unanimously agreed** that the Parish Clerk continue as the Responsible Financial Officer for the year 2015/2016.

- ii. Appointment of Internal Auditor.

- iii. **Proposed by Cllr. Abbott, seconded by Cllr. Prime and unanimously agreed** that Mrs. Ann Clarke be reappointed Internal Auditor for the year 2015/2016.

**1021.. To set the Precept for the year 2015/2016.**

Taking the budget figures at item 1019 above, the proposed budget for 2015/2016 is £14,143.00, excluding £7,000 from reserve funds for Capital expenditure.

Less the estimated BDC's Localism Fund Grant and Street Cleaning Grant of £2162.00 and £1753.00 respectively the estimated budget expenditure for 2015/2016, therefore, is £10,228.00.

**Proposed by Cllr. Wright, seconded by Cllr. Abbott** that any increase in the Precept should be kept to within 5% of the previous year by making a small additional transfer from balances. **This was lost on the vote.**

**Proposed by Cllr. Clark, seconded by Cllr. Prime and agreed by a vote of 4 to 3 with 1 abstention and the Chairman having the casting vote in favour** that a Precept amount of £9450 be levied for the year 2015/2016.

This gives an estimated Band D equivalent Council Tax of £36.28, an increase of £0.04 per week for a Band D property..

This Budget and Precept **was recommended** for final approval at the next Parish Council meeting on 6 January 2015.

**1022.. Insurance Provider for 2015/16.**

At the recommendation of the Clerk/RFO it was **agreed by a vote of 6 with 1 abstention** to obtain a second insurance premium quotation from Zurich Insurance who also specialise in Local Council insurance.

**1023.. To consider any planning applications with decision date prior to the January meeting.**

There were no planning applications requiring immediate consideration at this meeting.

**1024.. Date of the next meeting.**

Tuesday 6 January 2015 in Rivenhall Village Hall, commencing at 20.00 hours.

**1025.. Closure.**

The Chairman closed the meeting at 20.40 hours.

Signed: .....

CHAIRMAN.

Date: .....