

**WOMBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL**

MINUTES of the meeting of the FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE held in the Council Chamber on Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019, commencing at 7.00 p.m.

Present:	Councillors	Mrs F M Bond	... Chairman
		A Hinton	... Vice Chairman
		B Bond	
		M Davies	
		D Kinsey	
		J Pike	
		Miss M Roberts	
		Miss D Tait	
		J Tudor	
		K Upton	
		R Williams	

In attendance: A Peace

Mrs R Wright ... Clerk

**01/19 APOLOGIES**

There were no apologies for absence.

**02/19 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**03/19 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES****90/18 - PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960**

RESOLVED: that in pursuance of the powers contained in Section One of the above Act the press and public be now excluded from the meeting on the grounds that the business to be transacted was of a confidential nature and that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest.

**91/18 - PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960**

RESOLVED: that in pursuance of the powers contained in Section One of the above Act the press and public be now excluded from the meeting on the grounds that the business to be transacted was of a confidential nature and that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest.

**92/18 – POLICIES**

The Chairman advised the standing orders are still be reviewed and updated.

**93/18 - PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960**

RESOLVED: that in pursuance of the powers contained in Section One of the above Act the press and public be now excluded from the meeting on the grounds that the business to be transacted was of a confidential nature and that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest.

**94/18 – CHRISTMAS LIGHT SWITCH ON**

The Chairman thanked everyone for their involvement in the Christmas light switch on and noted a few areas for improvement had been noted and a quotation for these was being obtained.

#### 97/18 - PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960

RESOLVED: that in pursuance of the powers contained in Section One of the above Act the press and public be now excluded from the meeting on the grounds that the business to be transacted was of a confidential nature and that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest.

#### 99/18 – INTERACTION WITH THE PUBLIC

The Chairman advised everyone will be aware following receipt of an email from Councillor Miss Roberts that Councillor Green had resigned, and therefore no further action will be taken on this matter.

#### 04/19 2019/2020 budget and precept

A spreadsheet setting out the budget proposals was set up on a projector screen for all Members to see. The Committee having reviewed the income and expenditure items discussed at some length the 'big ticket' and/or new items included in the 2019/2020 budget and agreed to defer the chain of office, licence fee, Wi-Fi, refurbishment of the disabled toilet and resurfacing at Poolhouse play area until next year, when these budget headings would be reviewed again. It was agreed the proposal for the cost of elections should be left in given they are due to take place in May. The lease on the Parish Council van would not be renewed in October 2019, due to the amount of use and the cost of the lease, it wasn't economical to run it any longer. The Committee agreed to use the earmarked reserves in respect of planned maintenance.

It was proposed by Councillor Davies and seconded by Councillor Miss Roberts that a budget of £325,812 be set for 2019/2020 and a precept of £195,000 be requested. With a base rate of £4,990.70, band D properties in Wombourne will pay £39.07 annually (£1.00 increase per annum) and 0.75p weekly (0.02p increase per week) equating to a 2.63% increase in the precept.

#### 05/19 CORRESPONDENCE

a) The Clerk explained she had responded to an email from a lady whose mother lives in Wombourne, complaining about various matters such as the lack of a skate park in Wombourne, the state of the Wom Brook walk and the state of pavements and roads in the Village. In doing so, the Express and Star have now been in contact asking for permission to publish the letter, Members were in agreement to this.

b) An email has been received from a local resident who volunteers for Wombourne Online asking for copies of the agendas and minutes to try and promote the work of the Parish Council on the website. The Clerk explained she had re-directed the resident to the Parish Council's website where this information was available, however, he had asked for a quick resume of the meetings the morning after to post online. It was agreed by all that minutes are only available once ratified and would remain to be the case. It was agreed that going forward, the agendas for Committee meetings would be split into two parts, with the second part being items where the public could be excluded under the Public Bodies (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) Act 1960 for ease if several items on the agenda fall within this criteria.

The meeting terminated at 7.50 p.m.

