



ELSTON

PARISH COUNCIL

Est: 1894



MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 24 JANUARY 2020 AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, ELSTON 7.00 PM

Present: Cllrs Bertie Pinchera (in the Chair), Michael Key, Rev Liz Murray, Matt Dyer and Andy Biddlecombe

In Attendance: Lynda Ogilvie (Acting Clerk), Cllr Ivor Walker (NSDC) and 2 members of the public

1. Apologies for Absence

Cllr Peter Clark were received and accepted.

Apologies from Cllrs Sue Saddington (NCC), Keith Walker ((NSDC) and Neil Misson (NSDC) were noted

2. Minutes of the meeting held on 16 January 2020

These were approved as correct record and signed (proposed Cllr Murray, seconded Cllr Biddlecombe, all in favour).

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest

4. To Approve the budget and set the precept for 2020-21

Chairman went through the explanatory note which had been previously circulated, and outlined the anticipated costs for the coming year. A sum was being set aside to cover legal costs should Council proceed with a compulsory purchase order, but the main increase in costs would be for the community led plan. It was noted that Council expected the current year's expenditure to be over £30,000 and, even allowing for grants received, this meant that the Council had dipped into its reserves. The increased precept for the coming year would maintain reserves at present levels and allow for anticipated additional expenditure/

7.15 pm With approval of members, Chairman then opened the meeting so that residents present could ask questions

Queries raised included the following:

What would be the effect of the precept rise on individual council tax payers?

Answer – Band D property would rise from £64 per year to £97 per year to cover Elston PC precept.

The Chequers – a referendum regarding the possible purchase had been proposed, when was this likely to happen?

Answer: The Parish Council has only been actively involved in pursuing the possible purchase of The Chequers since August 2019. A meeting is being arranged for 17 March 2020 to begin development of the community led plan, and discussion of the purchase of the pub will be considered within this process.

It was noted that a successful village pub needs customers from outside its own area, and parking will be an important issue for the re-establishment of The Chequers.

7.25 pm The meeting was re-convened

Cllr Murray proposed, and Cllr Dyer seconded, that the precept for the year 2020 be £27,000. All members voted in favour.

7.30 Cllr Dyer left the meeting for another appointment.

Members discussed other points concerning funding for the sports field, and also registration of the car park and access road to the village hall.

Meeting closed at 7.47 pm