



DITCHLING PARISH COUNCIL

Ditchling Village Hall 18 Lewes Road Ditchling East Sussex BN6 8TT
 Tel: 01273 844733 Email: parishoffice@ditchling-pc.gov.uk Website: www.ditchlingpc.org.uk
 Parish Clerk: Sarah Mamoany Deputy Clerk: Derek Blackhall

Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held in the Parish Office, Ditchling Village Hall, Lewes Road, on Monday 11 November 2019 at 6.00pm

Present: Cllr Orme (Chairman), Cllr McBeth, Cllr Smith, Cllr Madden, Cllr Farrands, the Clerk Mrs Sarah Mamoany and the Deputy Clerk, Mr Derek Blackhall

Public Participation:

No members of the public were present

1.	No apologies were received.	
2.	Declarations of Interest – no declarations of interest were made.	
3.	Minutes of the Finance meeting held on the 14 th October 2019 were agreed by the Committee and signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record.	
4.	<p>To consider funding of major projects in 2020/21 and consider draft capital project budget.</p> <p>The Clerk had produced a separate capital project budget so as to avoid the confusion in the previous year with capital and revenue budgets being shown together.</p> <p>This was produced on the basis of discussions at the last meeting and the projects that the Council were looking to achieve. Further discussions were held and it was agreed that the main focus for 2020/21 should be to complete the car park project. If the other projects were to be completed it would mean possibly borrowing upto £150,000 which would be annual payments in the region of £8,500 which the committee felt was too much to increase the precept. Therefore it was agreed that a potential loan of £75,000 would be required to complete the car park project if funding couldn't be found elsewhere. However, if a Public Works Loan were to be taken, the repayments need to be shown in the budget as part of the application process.</p> <p>The Clerk noted that she was unsure if a Public Works Loan could be taken out for more than one project, or if you needed to take individual loans out for each project.</p> <p>It was also agreed that the £5,000 on the capital project for Traffic Consultation would be changed for contribution funding to the Spatham Lane speed reduction limit. An additional £5,000 would be added to the revenue budget for the Traffic Consultation work as discussed at the recent Parish Council meeting.</p> <p>The Clerk was requested to amend the capital project budget in line with discussions and amend the dates of projects and circulate.</p>	Clerk
5.	<p>To consider second draft precept and budget 2020/21 for recommendation to the Full Council</p> <p>The loan amount was changed to £4,300 from the previous figure discussed of £8,500. The figure of £5,000 was added for Traffic Consultation (note under code 4550 as a new code will need to be set up).</p> <p>With the calculations using last years tax base (which could be subject to change by LDC) with a precept of £98,905 for 2020/21 this will increase a Band D from £76.19 to £87.65 for the year or equates to an increase of .21p per week and a percentage increase of 15.04%.</p> <p>It was felt that the Council could justify this increase if their focus was to complete the car park project within the 2020/21 financial year.</p>	

	The Clerk was requested to circulate the revised budget and figures to the Committee prior to sending out to the full council for discussion on the 25 November meeting.	Clerk
6.	To consider Scout Headquarter premises moving forwards. A brief discussion was had on the premises and the options of selling it in the future and building a new premises on the recreation ground. It was the general view that this was a long term project and although it was understood it needs to be a serious consideration to the Council, it was agreed that this would be a project for 2022/23 bearing in mind all the other projects the Council wish to complete.	
8.	Next meeting – 11 th May 2020 at 6pm (provisional date)	

The meeting closed at 7.12pm