

Elsenham Parish Council

Finance Committee Meeting

held on Wednesday 3 December 2020

at 10.30am via Zoom

Present

Mr. P Johnson (Chairman PJ), Mr. P Clear (PEC), Mrs. F Lambert (FL),
Dr. G Mott (GM), and Mrs. L Johnson (Parish Clerk LJ).

Minutes

1. Apologies for absence; None.
2. Declarations of Interest; None.
3. Open to the public; None present.
4. The minutes of the meeting held on 5 November 2020 were approved.

5. Item outstanding from last meeting

There were no outstanding items from the last meeting.

6. Consideration of budgets for 2021/22 Precept, including:

The budgets figures for 2021/22 were assessed again and amended where necessary.

Budget 1200 Grants, increased to £15,000, offset by increasing budget 4301 Outdoor Gym to £20,000.

Paying field budget 4226 reduced from £3,400 to £2,500 £ 900

Playground DWH additions

Budgets 4235 General Maintenance £500. £ 500

Budget 4236 RoSPA safety Inspection £100. £ 100

Budget 4237 Weekly inspection £400. £ 400

Budget 4238 Litter picking £1,000. £1000

Budget 4253 Allotment Water Rates reduced from £600
to £250. £ 350

Allotment Smith Road additions

Budget 4255 General Maintenance £1,000. £1000

Budget 4256 Water Rates £500. £ 500

Add budget 4551 Street Lighting reserve £1,000. £1000

Total increase. £3250

These amendments increased the final figure from £82,069 to £85,319.

FL said that as EPC donates to the Citizen Advice, maybe there should be an article advertising their services on EPC's website, LJ to forward an article on the Citizen Advice to FL.

It was agreed that the budgets decided at today's meeting, would be circulated to all Councillors prior to the Parish Council meeting on Monday 7 December 2020. It would be stressed that EPC would not be proposing a final precept until January's meeting. December's meeting would be the time for Councillors to ask any questions. A final figure could not be agreed until EPC has received the 'ready reckoner' from UDC. The 'ready reckoner, gives the increase or decrease the projected precept would have on individual households.

7. Any Other Business

PEC said that the Playing Field Committee had been successful in obtaining a Community Project Grant from UDC of £1,734. The total cost of the new path in the children's play area is £2,824, so EPC will be contributing £1,090.

LJ said that due to this year's lockdowns the internal auditor has been unable to carry out the six-monthly audit inspection. LJ to contact the internal auditor to confirm that due to the unforeseen circumstances' EPC will ask that she audits the whole financial year 2020-21 at the beginning of April 2021.

Next meeting to be confirmed.

The meeting finished at 11.45am