

NUTHURST PARISH COUNCIL

REPORT FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

meeting held on Wednesday 16th November 2016,
at Mannings Heath Village Hall, Mannings Heath
commencing at 8.45pm

PRESENT: Mrs V Court Mr T Nelson (Chairman of the
Mrs G Dixon Finance Committee)
Mrs A Gaffney

3911/16 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Councillor V Court proposed Councillor T Nelson as Chairman of the Finance Committee for the ensuing year, the motion was seconded by Councillor G Dixon.

RESOLVED for Councillor T Nelson to be Chairman of the Finance Committee for the ensuing year.

4011/16 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Councillor O Hydes and Councillor J Mercer.

4111/16 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST none.

4211/16 PUBLIC FORUM none.

4311/16 REVIEW OF THE CURRENT FINANCIAL YEAR

The precept for 2016/2017 was set at £33,670.00 and for the first 6 months of the year most items of expenditure have come in under budget (Finance Nov 16 Appendix A). There are a few items which are over budget and the details of which are listed below:

£ 212.78	Clerks Salary (includes Feb, Mar, Apr 2016)
£ 27.48	Postage
£ 20.40	Other Equipment (includes miscellaneous expenses)
£ 42.33	Subscriptions
£ 8.71	Audit Fees
£ 369.08	Street Lighting Repairs (estimated)
£ 153.00	Chairmans Allowance (Neighbourhood Plan Summer BBQ – 2015/2016 budget)
£3,500.00	Mannings Heath Play Equipment Maintenance (Replacement Wetpour)
£ 200.00	Mannings Heath Tree Work (estimated)
£2,317.50	Replacement Finger Posts (financed from WSCC grant & S106 funds)
£ 292.00	Parish Design Statement (financed from reserves)
£7,143.28	Total

The following items of Parish Council expenditure are all within/under budget for the first 6 months of the year and are not anticipated to go over budget at the end of the financial year:

Clerks Pension, telephone/internet, office allowance, travel, stationery, photocopier rental, WSCC payroll, hire of halls, insurance, street lighting energy, street lighting maintenance, street lighting replacements, grass cutting, bus shelter cleaning, parish website hosting, maintenance of bus shelters/benches and replacement noticeboards.

4411/16 2017/2018 BUDGET/PRECEPT

The Clerk's salary should have been increasing annually by one Spinal Column Point. The Clerk has been in the employment of the Parish Council for the last 8 years and should have moved from SCP 15 to SCP 22, instead of the 1% increase she has been claiming. It is proposed that the salary be increased from £8.873 per hour to £10.739 per hours effective 1st April 2016.

The Clerks salary was under the limit for auto enrolment in 2015/2016, however with the proposed pay increase it will now exceed the £10,000.00 threshold. The Clerk has made inquiries for the

Parish Council to contribute £20.00 per month into her personal pension and to transfer the ringfenced sum of £1,251.00 into the same pension scheme.

It is proposed that the office administration, other administration and election budget remain the same, excluding, postage to be increased from £100.00 to £150.00, photocopier rental reduced from £300.00 to £250.00, hall hire increasing from £440.00 to £500.00 and subscriptions increasing from £800.00 to £850.00.

The budget for street lighting energy , maintenance, repairs and new/replacement lighting columns will remain the same.

It is proposed that the training budget be increased from £1,000.00 to £1,500.00, the Parish Councillors allowance to be increased from £50.00 to £100.00, the annual grant to Heartbeat to be increased from £200.00 to £250.00, website hosting to be increased from £220.00 to £400.00, with any additional costs for designing a new website coming out of reserves and for the noticeboard budget to increase from £500.00 to £1,000.00 so that the noticeboard opposite the village store and outside St Andrews School can be replaced.

The budget for the following items will remain the same (Finance Nov 16 Appendix B) Chairman's allowance, Nuthurst Cricket Club, St Andrews PCC, St Andrews Governors, the Link grants, grass cutting, bus shelter cleaning, maintenance of bus shelters/benches, Mannings Heath play equipment, Mannings Heath tree work, fingerpost repairs, general maintenance in the parish and Parish support.

The Roads and Footpath Committee have been looking into erecting village gateway signs and the proposal is for the approximate cost of £5,000.00 to come from the General Maintenance budget.

The sum of £68,259.46 was held in the Parish Councils bank account on 30th September 2016 and from this the following have been ringfenced:

£2,968.00	Nuthurst Cricket Club
£4,000.00	Elections
£5,000.00	General Maintenance
£1,251.00	Clerks Gratuity (Pension)
£3,000.00	Street Lighting Replacements
£1,000.00	Parish Support

£17,219.00 Total

The following has already been allocated, but is not included in the above ringfenced items:

£7,000.00	Street Lighting Replacements (10 Columns in Mannings Heath)
£4,537.00	Operation Watershed Grant (Grant banked, Landbuild completing works in Jan 2017)

£11,537.00

£68,259.46	Bank Balance
£17,219.00	Ringfenced
£11,537.00	Allocated

£39,503.46

RESOLVED for the Finance Committee, to recommend to the next Full Parish Council meeting, that the budget for 2017/2018 should be set at £36,500.00 (£8.95% increase/1540 Electorate).

4511/19 INFORMATION FOR COUNCILLORS none

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.40PM