

**Minutes of Shevington Parish Council
Finance Committee Meeting
Held Thursday 10 January 2019
7:00 pm Shevington Library**

Present: Councillor I Whiteley (Chairman), Councillors W McKnight, C Horridge, J Ball and K Shaw.

Two members of the public.

Officer in Attendance: Mrs K Pilkington (Clerk)

1. Apologies

Cllrs C Miles, J Fletcher and A Bland

2. Declaration of Interests

None

3. Minutes of the Last Finance Committee Meeting (6 December 2018)

Resolved: The Minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on 6 December 2018 were approved as a true and correct record.

4. Budget & Precept 2019

The draft budget document circulated to the December meeting of the Committee had been updated in line with changes that had been agreed at that meeting.

Cllr K Shaw joined the meeting.

Levels of reserves as they would be on 1 April 2019 had been estimated and were risk assessed. Some cost centres were reviewed, but no changes were made.

The possibility of extending the Christmas lighting provision was considered and it was agreed that the Street Lighting Officer would be invited to a future meeting to advise on the possibilities.

Resolved: The Committee agreed a budgeted expenditure of £115,506 (including Expenditure Contingency) and recommended it to the Council for approval.

Proposals for the precept were considered.

Resolved: The Committee agreed a precept of £69,889 and recommended it to the Council for approval.

5. Letter to the Heritage Lottery Fund

The Chairman had composed a draft pre-application letter to the Heritage Lottery Fund in relation to the Memorial Park Project. This had been previously circulated and was considered by the Committee. Members made several observations.

Resolved: The Chairman, the Clerk and Mr B Lomas would meet to revise the letter.

It was suggested that the LA's Community Funding Officer should be consulted before anything was sent to the HLF.

6. January Newsletter

A member reported that most of the saplings planted in Vicarage Lane Fields in November had been removed - together with their canes. During his investigation the member had found that the protectors associated with them had been left strewn over the field. This had led him to draw the conclusion that the saplings had been stolen. He had collected the protectors (counting 200 in total) and had put them into storage. The matter was discussed.

Resolved: The Chairman would write a lead article about the suspected theft for the newsletter. The Clerk would report the theft to the Police and issue a Press Release.

Several issues of concern in relation to the cycle track works at J27 were raised:

- Residents had been mis-informed about the times when the approach roads to the roundabout would be closed. This had resulted in people planning alternative routes to and from their homes at these times, only to find that there had been no closures.
- The activities had resulted in a range of detritus (broken flags, workmen's lunches, etc) being deposited in the hedgerows, barriers being stacked without warning notices being displayed and grass verges being churned up.

One of the District Councillors was dealing with matters associated with these works and would raise the above issues with the appropriate agencies.

The previously circulated text for the January newsletter was considered.

Resolved: It was agreed that the article about the Christmas Shop Front competition would be edited. Subject to one or two minor changes, the remainder of the text was approved.

7. Financial Aid Applications

None.

8. Dates of Next Meetings

24 January (Council); 7 February (Policy & General Purposes Committee)

There being no further business the Chairman closed the Meeting at 8:15 pm.

Chairman