

RICHARDS PARISH COUNCIL (HEREFORDSHIRE) PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Mr C E Williams 2 Jockeyfields Ludlow ST8 1PU

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Minutes of Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 8th December 2014 commencing at 7.00pm at Richards Castle Village Hall

35/15 Present:

Cllr D English (Chairman)

Cllr: Mr M Saunders, Mrs R Thomas, Mr A Davies, Mr T Evans

Clerk: Mr C E Williams

36/15 Apologies:

Cllrs Mr P Owen, Mr S Broom and Herefordshire Councillor Mr S Bowen

37/15 Declarations of Registrable and other Interests:

Nil

38/15 Confirm Minutes of the Previous Meeting:

The minutes of the meeting held on the 24th November 2014 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

39/15 Chairman's Items:

No Items

40/15 Highway items/Footpath Items:

No Items

41/15 Financial Items:

The Parish Council considered the Precept Report produced by the Clerk giving details of estimated Income and Expenditure for the financial year 2015/16, it was estimated that the Parish Council would have balances of £6,300 at the 31st March 2015.

In explaining the detailed expenditure the Clerk highlighted the following items which needed to be given consideration before determining the precept amount.

a) Lengthsman Scheme – From the 1st April 2015 Herefordshire Council is to introduce a new scheme which will result in the current grant received by the Parish Council being substantially reduced.

To provide the same level of service would result in the Parish Council having to contribute £500 towards the Scheme. It was agreed by the Council that the details of the scheme will need to be considered when produced by Herefordshire Council and that there may have to be some reduction in the present service undertaken.

b) Speed Indicator Device – In view of the increase in the cost of deploying the Speed Indicator Device in the village from £100 to £150 per occasion it was agreed by the Parish Council to reduce deployment of the device from four occasions to two occasions during the year.

c) Clerks Salary – The Clerk indicated that during 2015 he would be retiring and that it would be necessary to make provision for the appointment of a new Clerk and suggested that the current salary payable was below the national minimum wage.

From the 1st January 2015 there has been a National Agreement to increase the minimum hourly rate of a part-time Clerk to £8.613 per hour, most Parish Councils pay the minimum of 4 hours per week which would result in an annual payment of £1,791 at present the Clerk was paid £900 per year.

After considering the items raised by the Clerk and in view of the current balances of the Parish Council it was agreed to make a precept requirement of £4,150 for the financial Year 2015/16 an increase of £500, a further increase of £500 may have to be made in 2016/17.

42/15 Next Meetings:

Monday 19th January 2015, Monday 30th March 2015 and Monday 18th May 2015.

Chairman