

**Minutes for the Parish Council Planning/Finance Meeting on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2010 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.**

**Present**

Rosie Weaver, Bob Kipling, Graeme Goodsir, Shirley Goodsir, Melanie Lee. Marilyn Hamilton arrived 7.55pm

**1 Apologies**

Sarah and Will Markham – their babysitter cancelled due to the severe weather.  
Apology accepted.

**2. Declaration of Interest**

The Chair invited members to make declaration of personal and prejudicial interest in respect of items on the agenda of the meeting.  
None.

**3. Public Participation**

None – very severe weather.

**AGREED** that the following thank you letters be sent.

- To the 900 bus service as they have maintained a good service throughout the prolonged snow.
- To Enterprise who did good job of clearing the snow outside the shops on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January.
- To Alan Lole for arranging another superb Macmillan Tree of Thought in Meriden. Clerk also to enquire whether the lights on the tree are PAT tested and if not offer to have them tested prior to next year.

Chair requested that the planning be dealt with prior to finance – this was agreed.

**5. Planning**

5.1 2009/1980 – Meriden Shafts BPS Showell Lane, Meriden, Solihull – erection of a new GRP fluoride bulk storage and dosing kiosk.

**RESOLVED**

In greenbelt so please camouflage as required to keep the landscape green.

5.2 2009/1993 – Little Meadow, Harvest Hill Lane, Meriden – Infill extension between the house and detached garage to provide boot room and ensuite to first floor.

**RESOLVED**

Concerned this constitutes development in the greenbelt.

5.3 2009/2009 – Little Meadow, Harvest Hill Lane, Meriden – Extension to existing stable block to provide a chicken coup and run and a covered sheep pen on existing hard standing.

**RESOLVED**

Concerned this constitutes development in the greenbelt.

*Marilyn Hamilton arrived.*

**4 Finance**

The Chair formally handed this part of the meeting over to the Clerk who is also the Responsible Finance Officer. The Clerk gave a brief explanation of the purposes of the budget. Notification has been received from SMBC that they must receive the precept request by 12<sup>th</sup> February 2010.

The Clerk referred Councillors to a handout which had been provided for them.

Page 1 – showing the actual and predicted expenditure for this current financial year 2009/2010. (Actual expenditure from April – December and predicted for January – March).

Page 2 and 3 - showing the budget/precept calculations for the two previous financial years ie 2007/2008 and 2008/2009.

The Clerk asked Councillors to refer to page 1 of the hand out and requested that each line item is discussed in turn. The following adjustments were agreed.

- Allotments – rent to be increased by £5 to £25. (Clerk advised that the estimated water cost for the year was £500 and rent received was only £300. Rent needs to be increased to cover the gap).
- Office expenses – reduce by £1800 to £1500.
- Salary/NI/Pension – clerk to find out the expected increases to NI. To be agreed at next meeting.
- Chairs Allowance – increase by £10pa to £1000.
- Public conveniences - £13063 to be carried forward to 2010/2011 for project and to add £300 running costs.
- Electricity playing fields – increase to by £25 to £150.
- Water allotments – increased by £50 to £550.
- Hire of Village Hall – reduced by £120 to £600.
- Advertising/Marketing/Website – increased by £200 to £400 as now includes website.
- Insurance – clerk to find out what it would cost to include volunteers on public liability insurance. To be agreed at next meeting.
- British Legion/Cyclists – to be changed to “Commemorative Services”. To increase by £605 for financial year 2010/2011 for remembrance day service equipment already agreed but not spent in 2009/2010.
- Appraisal/Parish Plan – change to “Meriden Village Action Group” – increase budget by £1000 to £3000.
- Community Speed Watch - £750 unspent carried over to 2010/2011.
- Pool - £2000 unspent carried over to 2010/2011.
- Football Academy - £2000 unspent carried over to 2010/2011.
- Clerk to find out the costs associated with an application for Quality Parish Status.

Clerk advised that we have managed to build up quite a substantial surplus this year. This is partly due to SMBC paying our solicitor fees of approx £7,000 (to be deducted from sale of playing fields). Chair suggested we look into the costs of having a hearing loop and internet access being installed in the Village Hall.

**6. Date of next meeting.**

The next meeting is the Parish Council Meeting on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2010 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

There being no further business, the Chair thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting closed at 8.51pm.

**Chair :** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date :** \_\_\_\_\_