

# Woodchester Parish Council

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## Minutes of the Finance Meeting held in the Village Hall on 8<sup>th</sup> January, 2015 at 6.30pm

**Present:** Cllrs. Bastin, Hamilton and Swait.

**In attendance:** The clerk.

- 2015/1 To receive apologies for absence.**  
There were no apologies for absence.
- 2015/2 To receive declarations of interest in items on the agenda.**  
There were no declarations of interest.
- 2015/3 To approve the minutes of 23<sup>rd</sup> April, 2014.**  
These were approved. The clerk confirmed that the Woodchester Word accounts are now dealt with separately. Memory sticks to enable a back-up of files to be kept at a location other than the clerk's home had not been purchased, but this will be done in time for the next council meeting.
- 2015/4 To review budget versus expenditure for 2014/15.**  
The predicted total expenditure for this period is approximately £1,000 less than was budgeted. There are considerable reserves and councillors felt it important to budget with that in mind. However, there needs to be a balance where enough reserves remain for costs such as a possible election, assistance with the mountain bike trails etc.
- 2015/5 To note the 2014-2016 national pay award for clerks.**  
The National Joint Council for Local Government Services has announced new pay scales for 2014-16 to be implemented from 1st January, 2015 and a non-consolidated payment. This was noted.
- 2015/6 To discuss and agree a budget for financial year 2015/16.**  
It was resolved to set a budget of £13,110, £540 higher than that of last year. This increase was necessary to cover additional insurance required for the mountain bike trails, an increase in the cost of subscriptions and the provision of benches in bus shelters and a notice board for Rooksmoor.
- 2015/7 To discuss and agree the precept required for financial year 2015/16.**  
Despite an increase in the budget, councillors resolved to keep the precept at £10,557 and to draw any shortfall from reserves. It was agreed that this recommendation be put to the full council meeting which followed.
- 2015/8 To discuss and agree whether the financial side of the Woodchester Word should continue to be carried out as part of the Parish Council finances.**

This was discussed and the Finance Committee recommended that while the Woodchester Word accounts should be dealt with more independently in future, they should not be seen as being totally separate from the Parish Council accounts.

**2015/9 To receive comments from members of the public on items discussed at this meeting.**

There were no members of public present.

*The meeting closed at 6.57pm.*

Signed .....

Date.....