

Hemyock Parish Council Precept Meeting
held in the Forbes Lounge at 7.30pm on 16th January 2013

Subject	Action
<p>1. Present Mrs H Stallard (Chair), Mr I McCulloch, Mr S Major, Mr R Brooke, Mr L Povah, Mr R Hart, Mr J Edwards, Mr S Clist, Mr R Calcraft, Mrs D Evans (Parish Clerk) and 5 members of the public. Apologies None.</p>	
<p>2. Consider any dispensation requests PROPOSAL: All councillors seek a dispensation to speak and vote on all matters relating to setting and agreeing precept for the parish until the next election due May 2015. Without this dispensation no precept could be agreed and set as so many councillors have a disclosable pecuniary interest in the matter. PROPOSED: Mr Povah SECONDED: Mr Major DECISION: passed</p>	
<p>3. Public Question Time 3.1 Why did the council agree to support the Blackdown Support Group (BSG) to the sum of £800 when their accounts show that they have assets of approx. £200,000? <i>Clerk will invite the BSG to the council's meeting in March to talk about how they spend the money the council has given and to clarify their financial position.</i> 3.2 The proposed donations figure has increased dramatically on previous years' figures. Why is this? <i>The figure of £2,805.00 is based on 5% of previous year's precept. This will be discussed and agreed under item 4 on the agenda.</i> 3.3 Was the council aware of an accident at Longmead on the Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) caused by the slipperiness of the surface? <i>The council was unaware. Members of the public/users of the MUGA/football club need to keep the Longmead Management Committee informed of any issues/problems so that appropriate action can be taken. Mr McCulloch will feed back to David Major (Longmead Management Committee).</i> 3.4 The flower beds/planted areas around Longmead are ridden over by cyclists. A possible solution would be to erect knee rails around edge of the beds. <i>Mr McCulloch will feed back to David Major (Longmead Management Committee).</i></p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>IM</p> <p>IM</p>
<p>4. Precept for 2013/2014 The council reviewed the current year's income and expenditure and then discussed the proposed figures for the coming year. 4.1 <u>Garages Youth Project</u> PROPOSAL: Subject to receiving a grant from DCC and the planned capital expenditure, the council commit to support and fund the Youth Garages Project on an on-going basis based on the proposed figures of £15,000 per annum. PROPOSED: Mr McCulloch SECONDED: Mr Major</p>	

<p>DECISION: passed. Mr Brooke abstained from voting.</p>	
<p>4.2 <u>Virtual Path</u> Mr Povah has spoken with Mr Redwood and the council's planned traffic calming idea may not be workable for buses and other HGVs. Mr Redwood would allow his hedge to be cut back and a fence erected along his land to the raised floodbridge to allow better visibility for drivers and pedestrians. Mr Povah asked that £1,000 be added into budget for 2012/13 to cover this work. Clerk to add to figures.</p>	Clerk
<p>4.3 <u>Dropped Kerbs</u> Clerk to talk to DCC to request some dropped kerbs in the village.</p>	Clerk
<p>4.4 <u>Longmead</u> The council supports Longmead to the sum of £6,000 per annum. A member of the public recently queried how this money is spent. Mr McCulloch will feed back to David Major (Longmead Management Committee) and provide a summary of Longmead's expenses and how the money is spent.</p>	IM
<p>4.5 <u>Insurance</u> Insurance is due to be reviewed next year. Clerk to diary to action next year.</p>	Clerk
<p>4.6 <u>Donations</u> It was agreed to leave the donations figure at the proposed amount of £2,805, being 5% of previous year's precept. This figure is a ceiling limit and will be reviewed throughout the year.</p>	
<p>4.7 <u>Consultation</u> Mr Major asked that £5,000 be added to the proposed spend under 'parish consultation' to budget for any parish plan consultations. Clerk to update figures.</p>	Clerk
<p>4.8 PROPOSAL: It was proposed that the council increase the precept by 2% to keep pace with inflation.</p> <p>PROPOSED: Mr Clist SECONDED: Mrs Stallard</p> <p>DECISION: Failed. 7 votes to 2 against this proposal.</p>	
<p>4.9 PROPOSAL: It was proposed that the council maintain the precept at £56,350 and continue to deliver capital projects within the parish as planned.</p> <p>PROPOSED: Mr Major SECONDED: Mr Hart</p> <p>DECISION: Passed. Mr Clist commented that failure to increase the precept in line with inflation will result in a real terms reduction in budget which may have a detrimental effect on the parish in the longer term.</p>	
<p>5.0 <u>Date of the Next Meeting.</u> Wednesday 6th February at 7.30pm Forbes Lounge</p>	

Meeting closed at 9.30pm

Signed.....*Date*.....