

[708]

## **PAULTLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

**At the meeting of Pauntley Parish Council. Held at Pauntley Village Hall, Brand Green road, Brand Green, Gloucestershire, GL19 3JD. On Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2020 at 7.30 pm.**

In attendance were:

Cllr Paul Gray (Chairman)

Cllr David Melville (Deputy Chairman)

Cllr Lesley Harding

Cllr Anne Rawson

Cllr Paul Chapman

Cllr Christine Philipps

Clerk Jonathan Martin

Before the meeting convenes, the Chairman asked the public for any comments. There were no comments.

### **Item 1. To receive apologies and acceptable reasons for absence.**

- 1.1 Apologies were received and accepted for the absence of Cllr Fowke due to illness.

### **Item 2. To receive any declarations of personal or prejudicial interest in items on the agenda.**

- 2.1 No declarations of interests were received or dispensations made.

### **Item 3. Finance.**

#### **Item 3 a). To consider and resolve a draft budget for 2020-2021.**

3 a). 1 Discussion was held over the draft budget submitted to the Councillors by the Clerk. It was deemed necessary to increase the proposed fees for the LGPS start up, as well as a slight increase in the anticipated salary of the Clerk, due to national pay rises. Cost for the Defibrillator service could also be lowered as these had been covered in the previous financial year.

3 a). 2 The importance of an adequate reserve was stressed to cover a possible expense of a contested election. It was also seen as possible that the predicted costs for local tree maintenance might be higher than previously expected.

3 a). 3 The reserves of the Council would have to be increased incrementally over several years to achieve a completely satisfactory level. This would require a significant increase in the precept.

3 a). 4 Proposed: Cllr Harding, Second: Cllr Phillips. To accept the draft budget for 2020-2021

It was resolved: To accept the draft budget for 2020-2021.

For information only:

1. District Cllr Philip Burford informed the Council that it was probable that council taxes would increase by around 4% and a 2% for the Police authority. With an approximate national average increase at 4%.
2. The purpose of this information was to put the Council's precept into the wider context.

**Item 3 b). To consider and resolve the submission for the new precept for January 2020.**

3 b). 1 The Chairman discussed his calculations for the Parish precept in respect of the requirements of the budget. It was generally agreed that an increase of 20% would be required to fund the Council over the coming year. This being the target figure of £5,332.00

3 b). 2 Proposed: Cllr Harding, Second: Cllr Phillips. To increase the Pauntley Parish Council precept by 20% on the previous year's precept.

It was resolved: To increase the Pauntley Parish Council precept by 20% on the previous year's precept.

**Item 4: Winter plan.**

**Item 4 a). To consider and resolve on the finalised winter plan document.**

4 a). 1 The Clerk received comments on his draft of the above policy document. This being the Council's plans to mitigate extreme weather threats within the Parish. It was held to be sufficiently comprehensive.

4 a). 2 Proposed: Cllr Harding, Second: Cllr Phillips. To accept the Winter plan.

It was resolved: To accept the Winter plan.

**Item 5. Any other business.**

5.1 There was no further business to discuss.

The meeting was ended at approximately 8.25 pm

**Pauntley Parish Council Clerk contact information:**

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**Coleford**

**GL16 8NB**

**Gloucestershire.**

**Signature of the Chairman:**

**Date:**