

DRAFT**Minutes of the Finance Committee of Halling Parish Council held on 21st January 2015 at the Community Centre**

Present: Chair Sally Brady (SB), Chris Herbert (Vice-Chair (CH); Les Hitchcock (LH), Alan Herbert (AH), Jim Sutherland (JS), Matt Fearn(MF) and Bill Swan – Clerk (WS)

No members of the public

1. **Apologies for absence –**

Mark Joy, George Wenham and Bob Morton – reasons accepted.

2. **Receive and discuss the year to date expenditure analysis for 2014/15 as at 31/12/2014 and agree the forecast of expenditure to the close of the Financial Year.**

CH said that HPC must keep any increase in the precept within reasonable bounds.

The cash at the bank as at 31st December 2014 was 131,000 and felt that £120,000 be put on 2 months deposit to gain more interest.

The forecast expenditure up to the end of this current financial year shows that the Estates budget will be slightly overspent and Halling View will be overspent. The Halling View has fewer advertisers and now concentrates on information and village events. All other budget heads are within budget.

It is estimated that the bank balance at 31st March 2015 will be £152,000 as £15,000 is due from Medway Council for an additional rural liaison grant.

CH recommended the following budget

Estates –no change from £7,000

General Admin – no change from £10,000

Events – increase from £3,500 to £4,000

Halling Association contribution – no change from £2,000

Wages – reduce from £8,000 to £7,000

Halling View – increase from £2,500 to £4,000

Capital Account – increase from £3,000 to £4,000

Marsh Road – no change from £2,500

This totals £41,500 an increase of £3,500 over the previous year.

As regards the Fire Station the long stop situation is the protection of HPC. KFRS require completion by 31st March 2015. The options are for HPC to buy it outright and apply for planning permission at its leisure. There is interest from a body who would like to take it on for community purposes. HPC will ensure that the access to the Lower rec. is retained Another option is for HPC to negotiate a long term lease with a tenant with HPC retaining access to the Lower Rec.

3. **Set precept for the financial year 2015/2016**

It was proposed by CH., seconded by AH, that HPC set the precept for 2015/2016 at £41,500 an increase of 9.2% over the previous year. All agreed.

The meeting closed at 8.15 pm.