

**ST CUTHBERT (OUT) PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE & SCRUTINY
COMMITTEE HELD IN COXLEY MEMORIAL HALL ON
WEDNESDAY 17th JANUARY 2018, 7.00PM**

PRESENT: Cllrs E Danson; M Hayden; T Mallinson; J Reeves.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr Simon Davies (RFO) and 2 Members of the Public.

01. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND TO CONSIDER THE REASONS GIVEN

Cllrs Carey and Zorab.

02. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

02.01. There were no declarations of interest.

02.02. There were no requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests.

02.03. There were no requests for dispensation.

03. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

No items for exclusion.

04. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

- Cllr Gaunt updated the Committee with recent events and activities regarding the Replacement 67 Bus Service (Item 8). Cllr Gaunt also highlighted some of the issues arising from funding concerns and administration of the service.

- Cllr Ball gave an overview of how the Community Speedwatch (CSW) and Police use the information gathered from SIDs (Item 9). Cllr Ball also highlighted the benefit of a focused effort in maintaining this service.

05. MINUTES OF ST CUTHBERT (OUT) PARISH COUNCIL FINANCE & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 15TH NOVEMBER 2017

RESOLVED: To confirm and sign as correct record the minutes of the Council held on Wednesday 15th November 2017.

06. GRANT APPLICATIONS

The Committee considered further information re a grant application from Coxley Playing Field Committee, first considered in November 2017.

RESOLVED: The Committee recommends to Full Council that £1000 grant be allocated to Coxley Playing Field to cover their insurance and towards tree maintenance costs.

RESOLVED: That the Grant Policy be reviewed to reflect the need, in some circumstances, for the Committee to request three quotes on Applications over £500.

07. REVIEW OF THE RENTS FOR ALLOTMENTS

The Committee discussed the matter at some length, giving consideration to the need for infrastructure investment on the site.

RESOLVED: That no increase is made to Allotment Rents in Wookey Hole.

08. REPLACEMENT 67 BUS SERVICE

The Committee discussed this matter in some depth, including many possible outcomes regarding funding. The Committee did agree that the Service was a valuable asset to the Community.

RESOLVED: That the Parish Council will increase its funding to £3300 (10% increase) during the Financial Year 2018/2019.

09. COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH (CSW) MATTERS

The Committee reviewed the quotes gained for costs of replacement SIDs.

After some discussion over the value of data (outside of Somerset County Council and the Police), the Committee believed that the Parish should contribute to a continued service.

RESOLVED: That the Parish Clerk contact other Parish Councils to seek possibilities in joining St Cuthbert (Out) in a 'CSW Partnership Project'.

10. BUDGET 2018/2019

The Committee reviewed the latest version of the budget, which included the increased amount for the 'Replacement 67 Bus Service'.

RESOLVED: The Committee recommends that the budget should be £77373, £300 taken from Reserves and that the Precept should be £75548 (with a corresponding Band D Council Tax of £46.24).

11. CREDIT CARD APPLICATION

The RFO updated the Committee on progress regarding applying for a Credit Card.

12. ON ONLINE BANKING DELEGATED ACCESS AND PERMISSIONS

The RFO checked with Cllrs who have recently applied for access to the Parish accounts. Cllrs and RFO to chase Lloyds Bank re two applications for online access.

13. DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 11th April 2018, Coxley Memorial Hall.