

HUTTON ROOF PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Hutton Roof Parish Council Precept Meeting held on 20th January 2016 at 7.00 pm
in Hutton Roof Village Hall

Present: Cllr R D Read - Chairman
Cllr D J Travis - Vice Chairman
Cllr P Huntington

Also Present: Mrs A Huntington - Hutton Roof Press Officer
Mr P & Mrs H Bull

Prior to the commencement of the Meeting, Cllr Read announced the sad news of the passing of Christen Morch who served as Parish Council Clerk from 2010 - 2013. Christen was a well-liked, important member of the Council and will be sadly missed. It was resolved Cllr Travis would attend the Service of Reflection on Friday, 23rd January 2016 in Sedbergh, and a donation be made on behalf of the Parish Council.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs S Travis, Matthews and Mrs E Simpson

2. 2016/2017 Council Year Precept

As of today's meeting, the balance at the bank stood at £1,813.93.

The auditor's comments on the Financial Annual Return regarding the amount of money, and why, was in the bank account were taken into consideration when trying to determine how much precept to request. Despite Mrs Simpson's supportive, and much appreciated, email which has been circulated around the Village, the Council believed it was still its priority to keep the precept to a minimum in order to keep the residents council tax contribution as low as possible but, at the same time, be able to cover all costs. However, it was agreed to request a small increase and it was resolved the Council should request £1,000.00, a £250.00 increase on the 2015/2016 precept.

Cllr Read went on to discuss the clerk's wages and at this point, without the view of an agenda, Cllr D Travis declared an interest. Cllr Read believed the clerk was entitled to be paid considerably more than at present, £500.00 per annum which equates to £41.66 per month. The Clerk went on to say that she was quite happy to continue to be paid £500.00 because she was aware that she should be undertaking more work such as attending training sessions and possibly working towards gaining qualifications both of which she did not want to participate in. Eventually, the Council agreed to increase the Clerk's wages from £41.66 to £50 per month which would be incorporated into the small increase in the precept.

3. Any Other Business

Cllr Read informed those present that construction of the solar farm in Whittington had been delayed due to the inclement weather. It was felt by those present that the farm probably would not be constructed either because of the issue with the financial payments to the local parishes, including Whittington, or a more financially viable site had been located.

4. Date and Time of Next Meeting

It was resolved to hold the next Hutton Roof Parish Council Meeting on Wednesday, 10th February 2016 at 7.30 pm.

Cllr Read thanked all those present for attending and the meeting closed at 7.40 pm.