

MEARS ASHBY PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Mrs L Ross, 2 Wilby Lane, Gt Doddington, Northants, NN29 7TP
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MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL BUDGET MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 5TH JANUARY 2009 AT 7.30PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL

**Present: Mrs M Barker, Mr A Payne, Mrs K Payne, Mrs C Napier, Mrs J Reid, Mr E Potter,
2 members of the public**

1. Apologies: Mr A Watts

2. Approval of absence: Accepted

3. Budget planning

The Chairman Mrs Barker wished everyone a Happy New Year and welcomed the two members of the public to the meeting.

The Clerk presented the figures on the income and expenditure for the year to date together with the current bank balance of £16617.97.

Income to date	£6637.39
Expenditure to date	£3341.20

Outstanding accounts before the end of the financial year are approximately £1909.63

Therefore estimated expenditure to year end 31st March 09 £5208.30

Estimated balance at the year end is approximately £14755.00

Unused funds from this current year 2009/2009 were carried forward as follows:

Maintenance of Street Furniture	£250.00
Grass Cutting	£400.00
Election Costs	£1000.00
Sundry Improvements and unforeseen costs	£1550.00
Total	£3200.00

Projects for 2009/2010

Web site set up costs	£300.00-£500.00
Running costs per annum	£ 70.00-£130.00
Increase in Electricity costs + ? 20%	£150.00
Verge Planting (no costs available)	

The Chairman proposed that the Clerk's salary be increased to spinal point 22 which is an increase of £100.00 per annum. This was seconded by Mr Payne and all were in favour.

It was also proposed that the hall hire charges should be increased to £220.00 per annum.

Church Floodlighting and Church Walk Light – it was proposed that instead of making a donation towards this cost the Parish Council should undertake to pay this account in full as it was of benefit to the community in general and would come under an S137 payment. The electricity for this is metered separately so the invoices can be changed to be sent to Mears Ashby Parish Council direct c/o the Clerk. Mrs Barker proposed that the Church should be contacted regarding this, Mrs Reid seconded and all were in favour. Mr Payne and Mrs Payne to arrange this with the PCC.

Mrs Reid suggested some planting of the verges and green areas in the village with conservation in mind, this would also reduce the need for grass cutting.

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Mrs Reid is to contact the Wildlife Trust for guidance. It was also suggested that the Clerk contact Cllr Bailey regarding a discretionary grant for this project.

The planned website is still under discussion as there are a few problems to iron out but information should be ready for the next meeting.

Anticipated expenses for 2009/2010 will be approximately £7000.00.

In view of the above Mr Payne proposed that the precept be set for £1000.00. This would enable the Parish Council to meet the auditors recommendation of reducing the bank balance at the end of the financial year to twice the precept.

This was seconded by Mrs Barker and all were in favour.

There being no further business the meeting closed

Signature.....

Date.....