

MINUTES OF ERLESTOKE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Held in the Parish Church 6th January 2010 at 7.15pm

Present: Councillors, Mr. S. Jonik (Chairman), Mr. A. Pinnington (Vice-Chairman), Ms. F. Morgan-Frise, Mr. M. Gilbert, Mr. K. Lewcock, Mrs. D. Oram, Mr. R. Loraine-Smith.

Open Forum:

Chairman S Jonik said that the budget group Cllr S Jonik, Cllr F. Morgan-Frise, Cllr A Pinnington and the Clerk Mrs A Whittle had meet at Cllr F. Morgan-Frise house on the 5th Jan to pull together information for tonight's precept meeting.

Mr G Phillips stated that we must not hold secret meetings.

Chairman S Jonik stated that it was not a meeting just the budget group assigned by the council to collect information ready for the full council meeting.

01/10 Apologies – Apologies were received from the Clerk Anita Whittle.

02/10 Declaration of Interest - None

03/10 To set the Erlestoke budget and Precept for Year 2010

Cllr D Oram suggested the church donation could come from the parish sundries budget. A donation for the heating for tonight's meeting was collected.

Should we consider fund raising to help with the budget, the response was the council does not fund raise and the budget should cope with the expenditure.

Apply for grants again this year.

Cllr M Gilbert said we have a duty to keep the recreational area grass cut and look after the secret garden. Cllr A Pinnington said he will asked the prison for help on cutting the grass at the secret garden.

A long debate on the budget and the consensus was as follows:

1. Reduction in grass cutting by 1 on playing field and no cuts to secret garden
2. Clerk will not take a pay rise next year and will only work the stated 4 hours per week.
3. donations from councillors towards church heating etc
4. not renew membership to council for the protection of rural England
5. Ask the prison if they can help with the grass cutting at the secret garden.

Proposal from Cllr A Pinnington:
To have a precept for year 2010 – 2011 of £4540.

Seconded by Cllr Mr. R. Loraine-Smith.

Voted unanimously

The meeting closed at approximately 8:30.