

# NOWTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held 11<sup>th</sup> January 2017  
at 7.30 p.m. in Nowton Village Hall, Nowton

**Present:** Councillor - Mrs Carol Perry (Chairman)  
Councillor - Mrs Renee Farrow  
Councillor - Mr David Flatt  
Councillor - Mr Mike May  
Parish Clerk - Mrs Pauline Stoddart

Prior to the commencement of the meeting: 10 minutes Public Forum with one attending parishioner who raised the issue of the danger of buses stopping opposite Rose Cottage. The parishioner suggested that an authorised Bus Stop sign be sought in a less dangerous position, i.e. adjacent to the gates. The Clerk was instructed to check with the relevant authority as to whether this might be possible.

1. **Apologies for absence** – Councillor Green not present.
2. **Declarations of Interest** – Discussions regarding Nowton Village Hall – the Chairman and Councillor Farrow.
3. **Approval of the draft Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held 7<sup>th</sup> December 2016** – draft copies of the Minutes had been previously circulated and were taken as read. Proposed by Councillor May, seconded by Councillor Farrow, as a true and accurate record, duly signed by the Chairman.

4. **Matters arising from the Minutes of the meeting** –

4.1 (4.3 The Nursery and 4.4 The Barn) The Chairman advised that both planning applications had been approved.

5. **Finance – including balances of Accounts and approval of any invoices for payment -**  
Current Account: £982.44 Deposit Account: £4,827.25. Balance: £5,809.69

Four cheques were approved for payment and signed:

100292	Parochial Church Council, upkeep of church yard	£100.00
100293	St Edmund Way Benefice Newsletter	£125.00
100294	Nowton Village Hall, maintenance	£250.00
100295	Hire of Nowton Village Hall, PC meetings x 8	£64.00

5.1 Budget Review – after examining the figures provided in the Budget Review table, Councillors did not raise any concerns and considered that the budget for the year was on track.

5.2 Setting of the Precept 2017-2018. Councillors discussed and examined expenditure over the previous four years from the ‘working paper’ that had been tabled by the Clerk. The figures for the various headings of expenditure for 2017-2018 were discussed and agreed.

The final figure came to £2,768 which was £475 more than the previous year; the bulk of the increase was due to a possible audit fee for Parish Councils of £200 which SALC recommended should be budgeted for as a precautionary measure, and anticipated maintenance work to the village sign of £200. There were no other significant increases.

As the Parish Council at present had a healthy bank balance, due to previous saving for a project that was eventually grant funded, it was agreed to use £1,000 of savings towards the 2017-2018 Precept. The requested Precept would therefore be £1,768.

In addition, it was agreed that funds of up to £800 would be given towards the cost of new fire doors in the Village Hall. [LGA 1972, s.133]. Proposed by Councillor May, seconded by Councillor Flatt.

6. **Planning** – none to hand.
7. **Review of Complaints Procedure** – Councillors reviewed the Complaints Procedure for Nowton Parish Council and agreed to adopt the format that was recommended by SALC.
8. **Road Safety/Crime/Public Nuisances** – Councillor May reported pot holes and the Chairman advised that an email had been received from the Police concerning a recent burglary in Nowton, of which Councillors were already aware of.
9. **Correspondence – to include any correspondence to hand at the time of the Meeting** – The Chairman reported that the boundary changes will go ahead, from April.
10. **Dates of Next Meeting – Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March 7.30 p.m.**  
Dates for 2017 meetings: 12 April; 24 May (Annual Parish Meeting); 5 July; 20 September; 25 October; 6 December.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was closed at 8.15 p.m.

Chairman: .....

Date: .....