

Notes from Finance meeting 04.11.15

Discussion around considerations for 2016/2017 budget

Footpath waymarkers (posts and finger posts) - we need to replace these not sure of number but likely to be around 50. Discussions around purchasing the raw materials and either paying a local person to make these (would need router for lettering) or creating them ourselves. We would also need to consider installation of these as some are difficult to get to and would need specialist kit to install properly. Conclusion this work will stretch across 2 financial years so allowance has been made for £400.00 this year and £400 2016/2017 – we think that the fitting cost can be covered as part of the lengths man fee for next financial year.

Play area: Phased approach to this work. Agreement that we need to do the first and second phase of work and spend the budget that's been allocated for this. Although noted that we have had no response currently from residents as to what they would like to see here equipment wise. Agreed in first phase to spend around 2k for clearance of site including sorting out the fence around the stream and making the play area safe – build awareness from residents on this and get a working party together to help with site clearance. Phase 1 likely to happen within the financial year 2015/2016. Phase 2 which is to scope and purchase equipment for the play area would happen in 2016/2017 financial year (looking to be around 5k). We need to build awareness around this as it's a large chunk of money to spend for the parish – would be good to push this through to the parish council meeting to see how we can achieve this to get people involved from the community? Further phases to be scoped at a later date – likely to be 2017/2018 budget

Fencing on road above the play area – we have decided to push this back to Balfour and the council to discuss as it should be their responsibility although it's a grey area as to who owns the land that the fence is on – what clear is it needs replacing and represents a hazard on what is a busy piece of road. Replacement costs if we did it materials circa 2k – not sure about labour.

Phone Boxes – allowance in budget of £200 to clean and paint the 3 x phone boxes in the Parish which are in a sad state of repair. We would look to get a working group together to help with this – maybe suggest

that we cover materials and refreshments i.e lunch as part of this? Work would need to commence in spring as its too damp through winter to paint.

Dog/litter bins – review this next year in terms of if we need any more. Once actions that came out of this discussion point was that a bin at the bottom of the footpath by the bridge is not being emptied – this is going to flagged to the Lengthsman to empty.

Contingency budget – expect the unexpected and build a contingency budget into the main budget – we agreed 5% equating to £1500.00 – if not used in the financial year it would be rolled over into the following year – what is clear that there will be increasing pressure on local government budgets and increasingly we will be required to cover more and more things so need to protect what we can to ensure that the cash reserves that the PC have currently are not eroded as this give scope to be able to do things like the play area and add value to the area and local community.

Equipment – action for Emma to speak to Geoff (the Aisle Committee) to borrow projector so we can test it to build a case to see if we need to buy one.

2 x agenda points for the PC meeting next week – christmas and the residents homes and also the new postie.

Finally finally – a small prompt to speak to Adrian Howard re the christmas tree..

Other than that the various points of the budget that had question marks over them or blanks were discussed last night and amounts agreed.