



Stratfield Mortimer Parish Council

Finance & General Purposes Meeting

Meeting held on Tuesday 5th February 2013 in The Parish Office, Victoria Road, Mortimer at 7:30 pm

Present:

Councillors: G Puddephatt (Chairman) P Wingfield, D Ives, D Morsley, M Dennett,
P Blagden, J Morden

Clerk: Mrs J Kirk

Public/Press: None

01. **To receive any apologies:** None
02. **To receive any Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:** Under The Localism Act 2011 dispensations to discuss any matter relating to the Precept were granted by the Clerk to all members present. No other Declarations of Interest were declared relating to any other business to be conducted at the meeting.
03. **To set the Cemetery Fees for 2013/2014:** The Committee reviewed the scale of Fees for the Cemetery and felt that as the income for the average of 5 burials a year did not cover the expenditure associated with the Cemetery agreed to recommend an increase. It was therefore agreed to recommend to the Full Council to raise all the Cemetery Fees by 50% (to include rounding up to the nearest £25) for 2013/2014. It also proposed that the charges are increased by a similar amount in the following financial year.
04. **To review and set the scale of Fairground Hire Charges for 2013/2014:** The Committee reviewed the scale of Fees for the Hire of the Fairground and the cost to the Council. It agreed to recommend to the Full Council the following:
Daily Hire Charge for Business Use increase to £85 per day
Annual Business Charge increase to £285 per annum
Daily Hire Charge for Non Profit Organisations drop to a nominal fee of £10 per day
Annual Hire Charge for the Cricket Club drop to a nominal fee of £10 per year
Annual Hire Charge for the Tennis Club an annual flat fee of £700 (to include the same hours and times of use as 2012/2013)
Ad hoc Tennis Court Hire rise to £4.00 per hour for adults and £1.50 for juniors.
It also proposed that the charges are increased by a similar amount in the following financial year.
05. **To discuss and agree a draft precept budget for 2013/2014 in order that a recommendation can be made to the full council on 14 February 2013:** A working draft spreadsheet (previously circulated) was carefully discussed, reviewed and updated. It was agreed to recommend to the full Council meeting a precept budget requirement for the f/y 2013/2014 of £92,370. This amount is minus WBC's allocation to SMPC of the Central Government grant to offset the rise in the tax base calculation due to council tax support. The amount of the grant for the year 2013/2014 is £6,639.41.
In reaching its decision the Committee having made savings across the budget agreed not to make provision in this financial year for the following items.
Grants to local organisations this year.
Provision of toilets on the Fairground.
Provision of a path and electricity for PIR Lights to PC shed in the tennis courts.

Meeting Closed at 10:55 pm