

COLD ASHBY PARISH COUNCIL
AGENDA
Wednesday 4th November 2020

A meeting will be held on Wednesday 4th November at 7.30 p.m.
By ZOOM

Councillors are summoned to attend this meeting of the Parish Council.
Members of the public and press are invited to attend

Agenda

Present: to record the presence of Cold Ashby Parish Councillors, Officers, members of external authorities and others in official attendance at the meeting.

Interests: Members' attention is drawn to the need to disclose pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests not already registered before any relevant agenda item.

1. **Apologies:** to receive and consider apologies for absence
2. **Minutes:** to **approve** minutes of the meeting on the 7th October 2020
3. **Matters arising:** to consider *for information only* any matter arising from the approved minutes
4. **Open forum:** to receive and discuss matters raised by members of the public present at the meeting.
5. **Accounts:** Details of payments and receipts for November 2020 and the new balance are reported in **Annex 1**, a copy of which will be e-mailed to members in advance of the meeting. Members are asked to **approve** them and **authorise** the payments shown in them.
6. **Streetlighting:** discussions continue with Eon over the calculation of consumption and other bills for the new streetlights. Several disputed bills are outstanding and the clerk has entered a £650 placeholder in the December accounts to ensure the final figures do not mislead members.
7. **Planning:** DA/2020/0843: St Denys Church: rebuild section of retaining dry stone wall alongside footpath to entrance etc. Members are asked to view the full application on the DDC website. Members should note that this application forms the basis of an application for a grant to the PC by the 'Friends of St Denys', to be considered later on the agenda. Members are **asked for their observations**.

8. Application for a grant under the council's awards scheme.

(NB: the PC chairman has sponsored the application referred to below and has a non-pecuniary interest in the scheme, which does not exclude him from participating in the debate and vote on the matter.)

The meeting papers include a completed application form from the 'Friends of St Denys Church' (FoSDC) alongside an explanatory note requesting a sum of £750 - £1000 to help with the rebuilding of a stone retaining wall, which was the subject of the earlier planning item on this agenda (**see Annex 2**). The Council makes regular allocations of grant to Capfa for equipment maintenance and to the churchyard for general landscaping.

FoSDC is a fundraising arm of the church, separate from the Parochial Church Council, and focused on maintaining the church and its environs for the benefit of the local community, whilst respecting its primary function as a place of worship. The organisation is applying for funds to a range of organisations to find the required total of over £16,000. The PC's grant awarding policy (see website Library under 'policies' has this to say on the subject of grants to religious bodies and the PC will need to decide whether, on the basis of documents submitted, this definition includes the FoSDC.

Applications from religious groups will be considered where a clear benefit to the wider community can be demonstrated irrespective of their religious beliefs. Compliance with this requirement will need to be demonstrated throughout the project.

CAPC will only grant aid to churches for parish clocks and possibly for environmental purposes. Church Halls can also be grant aided if they are used by the community.

Members are asked to consider the following resolution: **It is resolved to award £1000 from the 2020-21 budget to the FoSD solely as a contribution to the building of the retaining wall and on the understanding that the funds will be returned if the project does not go ahead for any reason. The Parish Council understands that the project is scheduled for May 2021 and depends on funds from other sources.**

9. **Batteries for VAS unit:** Councillor Peel has a request for funding in respect of new lithium-based batteries for the existing parish council-owned VAS unit.

Resolved: it is resolved to purchase new batteries up to a maximum of £300 from the current year's budget to make the existing VAS unit easier to use.

10. **Budget: to agree budget proposals** for 2021-22 as a basis for the precept. **Annex 3** is a version of the actual v budget format with which members are familiar. The clerk will explain the headline figures and their implications. The chairman will then ask members to consider completing the proposals column as a first stage in determining the budget for 2021-22 and the associated precept.

11. To receive any verbal updates from members representing the council on other bodies.

12. Post: to note and/or discuss items of correspondence with the Council not considered elsewhere on the agenda or previously circulated

Graham Jones 29th October 2020

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Graham Jones', written in a cursive style.