

LOUND PARISH COUNCIL

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 8 January 2024 at 7pm at The Village Hall. **(Subject to amendment until signed by the Chairman at the next meeting)**

Present: Miles Thomas, Connor Moore, Jill Day, Paul Strowlger, Gayle Welsh, Carly Jones-Perks, Paul Ashdown (District Councillor), Keith Robinson (County Councillor), Jill Brown (clerk). Ed Back sent apologies. There ~~were no~~ members of the public present
was one

1. Welcome and Apologies – Apologies were received from Jenny Ozinel. These were voted on and accepted unanimously by the Parish Council.

2. Declaration of Interest and Requests for Dispensation – Miles declared an interest in any discussion around the rental income from the garages, which could be included in the budget discussion.

3. Minutes of the Previous Parish Council Meeting – The minutes of the meetings held on Monday 8th November 2024 were reviewed and agreed. Proposed by Jill D, seconded by Gayle.

4. Updates –

- **Councillor Training** – Councillor training has been booked through SALC for 18th March 2024 for 4 delegates on. This will take place online in the VH.
- **Warm Rooms Project** – There is £420 left for this project. There was £490 left at the start of this season left over from last year. A grant was made of £390 of which £292.50 was transferred on 25 Oct with 97.50 held back until the project is deemed to be running successfully. Data is being collected of the numbers using this service. There are some gaps in the volunteer rota for February. The BACT bus is available to provide service to transport people to warm rooms.
- **Phone Kiosk Back Lane** – Photos were shown of progress to date. Books have been placed in the booth. Lighting and signage is still to be installed. Copies of photos will be sent to Melissa Williams. Thanks were expressed to the MOP, Wendy, who has led this project and done a large portion of the work. Flyers will go out to advertise the phone booth library and it is planned that there will be an official opening around Easter.
- **Village Hall Solar Panel Bid** – The initial lottery bid was turned down. Miles has attended training on how to put in a bid. Paul A will speak with Danny Steele. It was suggested that the cost will be about £20k.
- **Mardle** – The tree has kindly been removed by Terra Trees at no cost. The area around the Mardle still needs clearing. There has been no further progress with rodent control as all the companies contacted have been too busy to take on the job. Miles will contact the ~~company~~ pay back scheme. **community*
- **Speed Signs** – The funding has now been received to order the speed signs.
- **Internet Banking** – The mandate has been updated to include Jill D and Connor. They are just awaiting card readers and passcodes for internet banking.

Signed Chairman,  Clerk,  Date *4/3/24*

5. Reports from District and County Councillors -

Paul Ashdown – (District Councillor) Paul said that budgets are being discussed and it seems likely that Council Tax will be increased. There will be two designated police officers to cover the Lothingland district. The Community Partnership meetings are going well. There is a new project where boxes containing play equipment will be placed at various places. There is a possibility that one could be placed on Lound Village Hall. Some beach huts are being removed from the seafront and are available for Parishes to put to use. There is still money in the Locality Budget which must be used by end of March. Miles and Jill D will put in a bid for funding to use on the archive project.

Keith Robinson (County Councillor) Keith spoke about budgets and said that Council Tax charges will increase due to increased costs.

6. Correspondence – There was no correspondence that hadn't already been forwarded or dealt with.

7. Budget discussion and setting – The budget for 2024/25 was discussed and set. Proposed by Paul S and seconded by Connor. Appendix A.

8. Precept discussion and setting – The precept for 2024/25 was discussed and set at £4015 to meet the budget. Proposed by Jill D and seconded by Gayle.

9. Accounts

a). Review of Income, Expenditure, and Balances to end of December 2023 – These were reviewed and agreed. Proposed by Paul S and seconded by Connor

Review of Bank Reconciliation to end of December 2023 – These were reviewed and agreed. Proposed by Paul S and seconded by Connor

Review of Actual and Forecast Income to end of December 2023. These were reviewed and agreed. Proposed by Paul S and seconded by Connor.

b). Payments to authorise

Clerk's Salary to end of January and February 2024. Proposed by Gayle, seconded by Carly.

Speed Sign £3938 + VAT. Proposed by Jill D, seconded by Connor


Reimbursement to Wendy for phone box expenditure £38. Proposed by Carly, seconded by Connor.

10. Dates of Future Meetings – 4th March 2024.

11. Councillors Forum – Men's Shed.

12. Non-Public Discussion – Clerk's Pay Scale Adjustment for 2023/24 – This was discussed and the increase as per NALC pay scale was agreed, This is to be backdated to April 2023. Proposed by Miles, seconded by Carly.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm

Signed Chairman, Clerk,  Date 4/3/24

Appendix A

Budget for 2024/25

Lound Parish Council

Proposed Budget 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025

Income:

Precept	4015.00
Garage Rents	858.00
Allotment Rents	120.00
Bank Interest	5.00
Total Planned Income	<u>4998.00</u>

Expenditure:

Clerk's Salary	2661.00
'Working From Home' allowance	120.00
Insurance	702.00
Hall Hire	90.00
Website Hosting	90.00
SLCC subscription	90.00
SALC subscription	225.00
Internal Audit	225.00
ICO (GDPR) registration	45.00
Contingency and Other	750.00
Total Planned Expenditure	<u>4998.00</u>