

DITCHINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

2012 special meeting was held in the village hall at 6p.m. on the 9th January to determine the Precept for the year 1/4/12 –31/3/13 with Cllr.Green in the chair. Also present were Cllrs. M.C.& M.P.Ankrett, Cossey, James, Kirkpatrick, Mulley, Pegg & Weston together with clerk John Smith.

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllr. Chadd, county councillor Tomkinson and district councillor Allen, and sadly it was reported that Cllr.Bent was seriously ill in hospital but happily the clerk was welcomed back.

Cllr. Green(chair) elaborated on his appraisal of council accounts and went into the details which were already in councillors' hands. He explained why, to maintain the level of services and amenities the 12K precepted over the past few years, needed to be substantially increased, say to 15K.

A show of hands confirmed councillors agreed that an increase was necessary but some discussion followed as to the actual amount necessary.

At this point the Play Area reserve use was agreed, in future, to be ring fenced solely for new equipment and kept at a 3K minimum. Cllr. Weston pointed out that this would be an advantage where a possible grant could need matching funds. Furthermore it was agreed that £500 would be separately allocated for general upkeep to exclude any cutting charges.

Cllr. Kirkpatrick stated that the 1K Parishioner annual grant,(made under section 137) could be reduced to £750 in the next financial year

Cllr.Cosset felt the 15K precept figure was too high and additional funds might well be obtained with memorial fees increased as these were higher in Waveney District.

At 6.40 Cllr.Weston proposed that 15K be the figure required and this was 2nd by Cllr. Pegg and carried. by simple majority.

The meeting closed at 6.45 p.m.



16/1/12