

**Minutes of a meeting of Letwell Parish Council held at the Village Hall on January 13th 2020 at 8.30pm.**

**Present:** Alan Nettleship, chairman, Duncan Biggins, Jenny Straw, Matthew Bell and Martyn Sharpe.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

**Matters Arising:** 725/20 Members agreed that the attendance of the Police Commissioner Dr Alan Billings at the open meeting held earlier in the evening had been very informative and worthwhile. The clerk would contact the force to improve relationships in future.

726/20 There had been no further development in regard to the planning issues at North Farm at Gildingwells.

727/20 An appeal had been lodged in respect of RMBC's decision to take enforcement action over the building of a gazebo at Woodlands Farm. The council felt the gazebo was inappropriate development in the Green Belt and decided to submit a letter to the Planning Inspectorate supporting RMBC's decision.

728/20 Members discussed the ongoing issue regarding off road bikers, but agreed that the problem had not worsened in recent times.

**Accounts:** 729/20 The council spent a considerable time discussing the need to increase revenue in view of the ever increasing demand on its finances, especially in regard to grass cutting and the admin costs of the parish elections due to take place in May. It was agreed to raise the precept from £2200 to £2400 for the financial year 20/21. Outgoings were approved as follows.

730/20 DS Creative, email and web hosting £45.59p, proposed M Sharpe, seconded A Nettleship;

731/20 Louise Addy £17.20, duck feed, proposed J Straw, seconded D Biggins.

732/20 The clerk reported that the VAT refund of £436 54p had been paid in to the council's current account.

**Any Other Business:** 733/20 Matthew volunteered to make further inquiries to facilitate the installation of the new duckhouse in the village pond.

734/20 The council discussed reported damage to the private road leading to the Gally Knight estate, but didn't reach a decision on the matter.

735/20 The clerk reported that RMBC had been called in to examine a large horse chestnut tree which appeared to be dying. The council felt very strongly that responsibility for the tree sited on the triangle of land at the junction of Church Lane and Gildingwells road rested with RMBC.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.15 pm.

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