WIGGENHALL ST GERMANS PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 24th JANUARY 2022 at 7.30PM, CONVENED IN THE MEMORIAL VILLAGE HALL.

Present:

Parish Councillors: David Rust (Chairman), Margaret Blackburn, Scilla Ash, Robert Rawlings and Robert Ward. Parish Clerk – Mike Inder.

Borough Councillor - None

County Councillor – None

Apologies - Cllrs Margaret Bunkall and Rob Keal.

Absences – Nil.

Public – 6.

1/22 Opening and Apologies:

Cllr Rust opened the meeting at 7.30pm, welcomed everyone and stated that the meeting was being recorded. Apologies were received and accepted as above.

- 2/22 **Declarations of interest for items on the agenda:** None.
- To hear from the public: 2 members of the public, who were at the last meeting, returned to seek an update. The clerk reported that he had contacted neighbouring Parish Councils on the bus routes to ascertain their perspective and seek support. Those Councils were found to be slightly better served and as such it wasn't a topic they have been addressing but they were supportive of any action the Council would take that brought improvements to the service. The clerk also reported that he was formulating a Google Survey and Cllr Rust suggested that it could also be published in the next magazine. A bank of questions will be compiled to ascertain how the public currently travel for things like shopping, medical appointments at surgeries and hospitals etc and whether the pandemic has deterred people from using the current services that are not well utilised and to ascertain if they would use the bus service if it were more frequent or served locations like Downham Market/Watlington with a more practical timetable. It was also pointed out by the public that 2 of the service providers were competing with similar timetables.

Action: Clerk to instigate a survey on public transport via the PC website, social media and magazine.

The Secretary of the Ouse Amateur Sailing Club was in attendance and spoke to back up correspondence earlier in the day to request support from the PC for their Community Infrastructure Levy Fund application to the Borough Council scheme. Cllrs unanimously agreed to support the bid and the clerk was asked to write a letter of support. (*Letter sent on 25th Jan 22*).

A member of the public brought the state of the road markings in the village to the attention of the Council, stating that the vast majority were faded and, in many cases, totally eroded.

	/	Action: (Clerk to	report f	aded road	d markings	to NCC
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4/22 **Approval of Minutes of the meeting held on 22nd Nov 2021:** Having been previously circulated, the minutes were proposed by Cllr Blackburn, seconded by Cllr Rawlings, and agreed as a true reflection of the meeting and the minutes. The minutes were signed by the chairman.

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- Visiting officer reports: The clerk provided an update from discussions with County Cllr Long and other County Cllrs regarding the Norfolk Road Safety Community Fund; it has been a fragmented introduction and the scheme will be more developed for the next round but expectations on what can be achieved shouldn't be over ambitious with dozens of projects being submitted alongside the existing projects on the Area West Highways list awaiting funding.
- 6/22 **Councillor vacancy** The clerk presented Cllr Fredisdottir's letter of resignation as a Parish Councillor due to increased work commitments. The BC Electoral officer has been informed and the casual vacancy may be filled by co-option in due course.

7/22 Finance:

- a. Authorisation of payments: A query was raised on the electricity supplier, the clerk explained that Eon had migrated all business accounts to Npower. All agreed to authorise and ratify the payments at Annex A.
- b. Accounts Reconciliation: Account's reconciliation prepared by the clerk was presented and a sample audit carried out by Cllr Rust.
- c. The Draft Budget 2022/23 presented in Nov 21 had been refined by the RFO and circulated to Cllrs with the Agenda and is at Annex B (also available on PC website in a more accessible format), the RFO invited questions and comments. Cllr Blackburn queried the Bowls club recharge income line, the 'Electric/Water Recharge' referred to was clarified by the RFO as potentially needing to recharge Electricity consumption in the pavilion in future rather than including it in the rent, making consumption awareness more focused as energy prices continue to rise significantly and that the figure projected was a rounded figure of the last recharge of water for a 12-month period. The budget requires a precept of £20,000 to balance and provide ear-marked reserves on target to meet project delivery timescales. Cllr Ash proposed the draft budget and precept, seconded by Cllr Blackburn and agreed unanimously.

8/22 Updates on actions from previous meetings:

- a. Pavilion CCTV monthly EE data sim contract set up on direct debit in Dec 21.
- b. Village Sign Cllr Ash reported that the sign has been washed but not by her, it is unknown who has cleaned it, but it is appreciated. Cllr Ash will now assess the condition of the sign.
- c. Fitton Road trod PPS application submitted; announcement of successful bids will be in March 22.
- d. The amended Allotment Tenancy agreement has been signed by the plot holder and a copy has been supplied to him to update and clarify conditions of use.
- e. The ordering of the AED and cabinet for the pavilion was placed in Dec with BHF after a delay awaiting invoicing and payment details. (AED and training aid arrived in the post on 25th Jan although invoice has yet to be paid and a delay of 8 weeks had been quoted). The application for CIL funding from the Borough Council Local and Communities fund was considered and it was agreed to apply for £750 toward the cost. The clerk is currently obtaining quotes for installation.
- f. The Platinum Jubilee tree guard has been purchased and is in storage with the clerk awaiting the tree planting which is expected to be in the next couple of weeks with the contractor due to confirm date by the end of the week. Donations to ward the project have been made by the Memorial Hall Trust (£125) and the Ladies Group (£50), it was agreed to name contributing organisations on the plaque when it is ordered and installed. Cllr Rust proposed a vote of thanks to both parties for their contribution.

9/22 Traffic and Highways Issues:

- a. Cllr Keal sent a report on the SAM2, the new battery has been received but the battery charger is now thought to be defective, preventing deployment of the sign, investigations with Westcotec are in progress to resolve the issue.
- b. Cllr Keal has been in touch with the School Head and offered support for road safety awareness by running a Star Learning Task and competition, which Cllr Keal will supply a prize for the winning

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- entry. The other road safety matters are on-going with the road markings reported for re-marking in Oct 21 by the clerk, that will be hastened with the Eaubrink Rd closure due to end soon.
- c. Obstruction of the highway at Wiggenhall St Mary the Virgin bridge by anglers attending events. This was raised as a concern by Cllr Ash for this agenda at the last meeting and the clerk has emailed the Kings Lynn Angling Assn (KLAA) in Nov but no response to date. Cllr Ash reported that the issue was still evident at an event last weekend. Clerk to contact KLAA again.
- 10/22 **Correspondence:** The following correspondence has been received and was circulated by email for consideration:
 - a. Contact from Cllr Sue Ling of Stowbardolf PC regarding the establishment of an Action Group to address concerns about siltation management of the River Great Ouse. Volunteers from the community with knowledge and/or interest in the issue and a Council Cllr Representative were sought. Cllr Bunkall had expressed an interest, along with a member of the public present representing the Ouse Amateur Sailing Club. The clerk will post details and updates on the PC website.
 - b. Email from Community First Aid Responders Coordinator regarding registration of AED. Cllrs consider the proposal and agreed to take up the offer of AED Guardian cover and registration of the MH AED and future Pavilion AED, whilst acknowledging the responsibility for costs still remain with the PC. Clerk to reply.
 - c. Request from local Slimming World group to place an advertising banner on the LT PF/Bowls Club car park fence. Cllr discussed the request and the clerk reported that the Football Club were content. There was concern that the banner might look untidy after a period and that an annual review for it to remain in place should be agreed. It was suggested that as Slimming World is commercial venture then in line with advertising charges for the Parish Newsletter that an annual £40 charge should be levied. Clerk to inform the correspondent of the Council's advertising conditions.

11/22 Criminal Damage & Anti-Social Behaviour:

- a. **Pavilion;** The clerk was asked to raise a complaint with Norfolk Constabulary and copy the Police and Crime Commissioner regarding the Police decision that the CCTV images could not be shown to the FC chairman who had offered to see if he knew them as he has contact with many young people through the club. No response to the complaint has been received but it is know that the FC chairman was subsequently invited to identify the images provided. The PCC is also known to be responding to the notification of the complaint to clarify the reservations regarding GDPR; the Norfolk ALC Officer is also aware of the issue and actively supporting the call for clarification.
- b. **Community Engagement Initiatives;** Cllr Keal has found a net to attach to the refurbished MH playing field goal posts.
- 12/22 **Trod to Wiggenhall St Marys proposal** Cllr Ash reported that having made contact that the person had left the post, she has established a new contact but she had not received a handover of this matter and Cllr Ash has had to restart the request and provide the information again.

Action: Cllr Ash to progress the options further with the Middle Level and report to council.

13/22 Leonard Towler Playing Field tree maintenance: The clerk presented 3 quotes from local contractors to the scope supplied by Cllr Rust and the clerk following their survey. The range of quotes was surprisingly wide but it was clarified that site visits had been carried out and that the scope was referenced in all quotes as like for like. It was decided to award the contract to Medina Services. Clerk to respond to all quote providers accordingly. The recently observed low hanging cable (telephone) in the Silver Birch branches will be mentioned to Medina for inclusion consideration.

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- 14/22 **Maintenance of verges**: public consultation advertised within the Parish Magazine distributed in Nov 21, nil response from the public. Situation to be monitored.
- 15/22 **Planning**: the following applications were circulated by email for review online, there were no further comments:
 - a. Applications to consider:
 - i. <u>21/02433/F</u> | Extension and Conversion of Garage to form Annexe. | 6 Lewis Drive. Council reviewed the application and decided that a neutral response was appropriate with no planning concerns of material matters.
 - ii. <u>21/02088/F</u> | Proposed Extension. | 7 Clover Walk Wiggenhall St Germans King's Lynn Norfolk PE34 3FH PC Supported between meetings.
 - iii. <u>21/02279/F | Side & Rear Extensions | Willow Farm Cottage High Road Saddlebow</u> Norfolk PE34 3AR – PC Supported between meetings with conditions in support of the neighbour's concerns.
 - b. Decisions notified by Borough since last meeting:
 - i. 21/02015/F | Erection of modular for use as changing rooms by Sailing Club | Ouse Amateur Sailing Club High Road Saddlebow – Permitted
 - ii. <u>21/02088/F</u> | Proposed Extension. | 7 Clover Walk Wiggenhall St Germans. Permitted. Supported by PC.
- 16/22 Items for the agenda of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council to be held on 28th March 2022: Cllr Ash suggested a village information noticeboard with details such as footpaths, she agreed to put a proposal together. Cllr Rust raised 3 matters for consideration: Dog Fouling on the LT PF, Littering at the LT PF (outside of the car park), Fly tipping a recent occurrence on Hastings Lane, including commercial Nitrous Oxide containers, this was reported to the Police as well as the BC and the Police have asked for future findings of Nitrous Oxide containers to be notified directly to them as it is a matter of priority concern.

The Chairman thanks those present for their contributions and closed the meeting at 8.55pm

Signature:

Chairman

Date

Prepared by Mike Inder, Clerk to Wiggenhall St Germans Parish Council.

Annex A

Payments for Authorisation since last meeting.

DATE	PAYEE NAME	DETAILS	REF NO	CHEQUE NO / BACS	GROSS AMOUNT
05/11/2021	WAVE	PF Water bill 9687136	88	BACS	154.61
24/11/2021	Eon	Pavilion	89	BACS	104.15
25/11/2021	Minuteman Press	Newsletter printing	90	BACS	282.00
26/11/2021	Westcotec	SAM2 signs battery	91	BACS	96.00
08/12/2021	Eon	Electricity - Street lighting H1A7D60EC4	92	BACS	208.38
18/12/2021	HMRC	PAYE Mth 9	93	BACS	103.60
31/12/2021	Clerk	Salary & Expenses Dec	94	BACS	455.72
10/12/2021	Tamar Telecom	Telephone inv 1317900	95	DD	5.99
14/12/2021	Designer Metal Suffolk Ltd	Tree Guard inv 3573	96	BACS	288.00
06/01/2022	Npower	Street lighting Electricity IN02384040	97	BACS	163.75
18/01/2022	HMRC	PAYE Mth 10	98	BACS	103.60
31/01/2022	Clerk	Salary & Expenses Jan	99	BACS	424.67
10/01/2022	Tamar Telecom	Telephone inv 1332644	100	DD	5.99
23/12/2021	EE	CCTV Sim	101	DD	10.00
11/01/2022	Westcotec	Street Lighting Maintenance 13133	102	BACS	652.76

Income Since the last meeting

	Three Counties		00		
25/11/2021	Reflexology	Newsletter Adverts	29	BACS	40.00
06/12/2021	Barclays Bank	Interest	30	Bank	0.73
	K.White (Ladies		24		
12/01/2022	Group)	Plat Jubilee Tree Donation	31	BACS	50.00

Wiggenhall St Germans Parish Council

Wiggenhall St Germans Parish Cou	ncil										
item		Budget 2021/22		R&P at 11/1/22		timated to 31/3/22		Position Mar 2021	Draft Budget 22/23	Variance %+/-	Comments/Queries
INCOME											
Carried over balance	£	5,125.44	£	6,753.19			£	6,753.19	£1,537		
Precept		18483	£	18,483.00	£	-	£	18,483.00	£20,000	8%	Precept Demand
BCKLWN Precept Grant		134	£	134.00	£	-	£	134.00	£0	-100%	Not being granted for 2022/23
Bank Interest		20		2.32	£	0.70	£	3.02	€2		
Pavilion Rent		0		800.00	£	-	£	800.00	£750		
BCKLWN CIL Grant		0			£		£		£0		
Newsletter Advertising		200		370.00			£	370.00	£260		Re-invigoration of advertisers
Allotment Rent		840	_	890.00	_		£	890.00	£890		£840 Caley plot, £50 Flowerdew plot
Electric/Water Recharge	-	0	_	142.11	£	-	£	142.11	£150	#DIV/0!	Bowls Club Shared Mains & Sewage - Recharge agreement set up in 21/22
Grants/Donations	\vdash	0	£	800.00	£	-	3	800.00	60	#DIV/0!	CCTV contribution fromn AFC Lynn in Sep 21
misc (inc VAT Reclaim)	-	2445.16		2,670.49	_		£	2,670.49	£1,352		VAT reclaim
TOTAL	£	27,247.60	£	31,045.11	£	0.70	£	31,045.81	£24,941	-8%	Projected Income for current FY
	£	22,122.16	_				£	24,292.62	£23,404		Actual Income for AGAR
EXPENDITURE											
Administration	₩				_						
Staff Salaries & PAYE	_	6,345.00	£	5,162.70	_	1,036.54	_	6,199.24	£6,500		2021 NJC payrise not resolved, 2%? 2022 NJC pay award + Increment 4%
Stationery/post	_	80.00	£	7.92	£	20.00	£	27.92	£80	0%	
Clerks Allowances & Expenses (Home Working)	_	250.00	_	224.25	£	30.00	£	254.25	£200		electronic banking reduces journeys and trg/conferences likely to remain online
Virtual Phone / CCTV SIM	_	60.00	£	59.90	£	40.00	£	99.90	£160		Phone New in 2020 £60 net. EE CCTV Sim £10pm for 10GB
Newsletter		600.00	£	282.00	£	282.00	£	564.00	£550		to produce 2 hardcopy editions per year.
Audit		25.00	£	235.00			£	235.00	£35	40%	Internal Auditor agreed in principle for 2021 - Ext PKF fee required
Meeting hall hire / Zoom		150.00	£		£	150.00	£	150.00	£150	0%	
Insurance		900.00	£	753.39	£	-	£	753.39	£900	0%	
Subs (NALC/SLCC/ICO)		310.00	£	347.82			£	347.82	£360	16%	NALC, SLCC to be added in 2021
Travel & Subsistance Expenses			£	-	£	20.00	£	20.00	£100	#DIV/0!	
Training/Conf		200.00	£	-	£	60.00	£	60.00	£200	0%	i
Admin Sundries (Software Licences)		300.00	£	-	£	-	£	-	£100	-67%	Cease Scribe £214 net in Jan (MS 365 Licence share if required TBC)
Elections	EMF	3	£		£		£	-	£0	#VALUE!	
Parish Clock (Servicing Contract 3yrs)	EMF	3	£	595.00	£	-	£	595.00	£0	#VALUE!	2021-24
Play Equip Inspection		80.00	£	67.50	£	-	£	67.50	£80	0%	
Open Spaces/Facilities/Assets											
Grounds maintenance - Grass Cutting		2,303.00	£	1,993.05			£	1,993.05	£2,250	-2%	extra cuts being done by AFC Lynn
Waste collection		600.00	£		£	550.00	£	550.00	£600	0%	
Pavilion Maintenance		350.00	£				£	-	£350	0%	
Street Furniture	EMF	3	£	160.00			£	160.00		#VALUE!	
Clock (Repairs)	EMF		£				£			#VALUE!	Green Matterness & Z.
Village & Tree Maintenance	EMF	3	£	210.00	£	600.00	£	810.00		#VALUE!	Phone box library refurb/PF Tree work
Play equipment maintenance		300.00	£	56.50	£	20.00	£	76.50	£300		
Provisions		555.55	_	55.55	-	20.00	£		2,000	- 0,1	
Street Lighting Maintenance (Westcotec)	_	1,100.00	£	1,087.94	£		£	1.087.94	£1,200	9%	
Electricity Street Lighting (NPower)	_	1,100.00	£	1,147.66	£	470.00	£	1,617.66	£1,875		
Electricity Pavilion (Eon)		350.00	Ē	172.99	£	150.00	£	322.99	£590	69%	
Water Rates (WAVE)		555.00	£	302.38	£	150.00	£	452.38	£300	#DIV/0!	House given or inscease from 20,40p to 33.0p per unit plus ins/ease usage.
Drainage IDB	1	80.00	£	75.24	£	.00.00	£	75.24	£300		
	_	00.00	-	70.24	-		£		FIO	#DIV/0!	
Section 137 Payments Charitable donations (inc RBL Poppy Wreath)	+	25.00	£	25.00			£	25.00	£25	WDIV/U:	
Community Spend	+	300.00	£	18.00	£		£	18.00	£25	0%	
	-	300.00	_	2.292.30	£	275.00	£	2.567.30	£300 £0		
Misc / Unplanned	\vdash		£	2,292.30	£	2/5.00	E		EO	#DIV/0!	CCTV (£1536), Goals (£516), Jubilee Tree (£275), Tree Guard (£240)
TOTAL	£	15,808.00		45 076 54		3,853.54	_	19,130.08	£17,281		See Narrative below
TOTAL	E	15,808.00	£	15,276.54	£		E	19,130.08	£17,281	9%	
	+		\vdash		£	19,130.08					Projected Expenditure for current FY
OII.	\vdash		\vdash				₩		_	halana cat	COCCO attached to Mindow seconds & LED assessments in EMD
CIL					£	-			0	balance only	£3626 attributed to Window guards & LED conversion in EMR

			EMR						EMR Projected
	Balance at 31	Transferred to	Expenditure	Balance at 31	Budget 2022/23				Balance 31
Earmarked Reserves & Set-aside funds	Mar 21	EMR 2021/22	2021/22	Mar 22	Allocation			Target	Mar 2023
Operating Contingency	00.000,83	£0.00		£8,000.00	£ -	0%	Recommended target reached	£8,000	£8,000.00
Elections	£500.00	£500.00	£ -	£1,000.00	£ 500	0%	Target reached for May 2023	£2,000	£1,500.00
Clock Servicing 3 yr plan	£400.00	£250.00	£ 595.00	£55.00	£ 250	0%	Increase for inflation at renewal	£650	£305.00
Clock repairs	£800.00	£200.00	£ -	£1,000.00	£ -	-25%	eg. Pulley Repair 2019 £440, other larger items would cost more	£1,000	£1,000.00
Street Furniture New/repair/replacement	£1,472.09	£600.00	£ 160.00	£1,912.09	£ 600	0%	Bus Shelter/Litter Bins/Bench/AED	£5,000	£2,512.09
Street Light Replacement/Repair	-£1,941.00	£2,450.00		£509.00	£ 1,000	75%	based on single uninsured loss of a post or replacement for wear/tear	£2,500	£1,509.00
General Village & Tree Maintenance	£0.00	£500.00	£ 810.00	-£310.00	£ 500	#DIV/0!	Significant LTPF Tree work required	£2,000	£190.00
Play Park repair/replacement	£2,490.10	£1,500.00	£ -	£3,990.10	£ 2,010	20%	Assuming £100k project to replace in future then CF requires 11% contrib	£10,000	£6,000.00
Pavilion AED project	£0.00	£0.00	£ -	£0.00	£ 1,800	#DIV/0!	New project to be delivered in year	£1,800	£1,800.00
Trod/Footpath	£0.00	£5,000.00	£ -	£5,000.00	£ 1,000	#DIV/0!	Inc EMR based on 50% conrtribution to PPS for Fitton Rd project plus Sluice Rd	£6,000	
TOTAL	£11,721.19	£11,000.00	£ 1,565.00	£21,156.19	£ 7,660	-28%		£38,950	£28,816.09
					£0		Precept required to balance		
Cash in hand 30 Nov 21	£ 26,546.23			2021/22	2022/23				
EMR projection at 31 Mar 22	£21,156,19		Tax Base	459	464.7				
Available funds 11/1/22	£ 5,390.04		Band D	£40.27	£43.04				
Projected Income to 31 Mar 22	£ 0.70		Electors		1,099				
Projected Expenditure to 31 Mar 22	£ 3,853.54		S.137	£ 8.41	TBN				

£ 9.242.59 TBC

Narrative

anticipated C/O at 31 Mar 2022 £ 1.537.20

The carry over realised on 31 Mar 21 was £6753, £1627 greater than anticipated in Oct 20. This year's budget, despite the benefit of another year of experience in the post, has been affected by a few unforeseen factors and is forecast to result in a carryover £1537, consisting of that greater carry over plus the net effect of the following: The arrival of AFC Lynn Napier with 3 teams and taking up a lease of the Playing Field and Pavilion for £750 per season was not budgeted for. The vandalism of the goal posts beyond repair necessitated purchase of new goals, which a Football Foundation Grant was obtained, net cost £155. The arrival of the football club saw them invest in carrying out modifications to meet ground standards included installation of a shower in the home team/accessible toilet, which has been turned into the Referee's changing room and a separate portaloo toilet has been installed and plumbed in outside the building. To protect the pavilion and new assets including the considerable investment and effort by AFC Lynn, the CCTV installation project was revived, and the total cost of £1536 ex VAT was subsidised by the FC with a donation of £750.

Apart from the unbudgeted income and expenditure relating to the FC there was the revelation that the pavilion water supply is shared by the Bowls club. On checking metering it is evident that c.90% of water use is for irrigation of the bowling green. Negotiation with the Bowls club, referring back to correspondence and minutes at the time the pavilion was built, came to the agreement for the Bowls Club to be re-charged for water supply used. That has seen an income of c£150 to offset the overall water bill. The Electricity for the pavilion and water for both pavilion and bowls club are separated for budget monitoring hence forth. Grounds Maintenance - an additional area to cut the verge at the Pavilion/Bowls Club car park of c£140 was agreed in year. External Limited Assurance Audit Income criteria was breached by the Insurance claim and a £200 cost incurred, it is close again for this year and further grants achieved or insurance claims could exceed the threshold, but the operational EMR can cover that £200 charge if incurred for 2021/22.

The CCTV system requires a data sim card, initially that is on PAYG with the clerk topping up as required and reclaiming expense, once usage is stabilised a suitable contract will need to be set up, the EE data plans run at c.£10pm.

The addition of an AED project with cost of £1500 has been budgeted, grants are currently being sourced to offset that cost. A Trod path on the corner of Fitton Rd adj number 28 is being proposed, this has a quote of £6900, PPS grant would contribute 50% (£3450) and that has been factored in to the Trod EMR with an increase of £1000 on to the existing £5k which was built toward the Sluice Road trod which at the moment is being planned as a grass footpath and NCC costs planned would not be required in the c£15k region initially planned. The use of the Scribe Accounts software has proven unreliable at external audit, with unseen dependencies creating errors. Comprehensive Excel based accounts have been set up and run parallel to the Scribe accounts to the end of the current subscription, after which it is recommended to cease the subscription and that would also save c.£180pa.

The play park is starting to deteriorate and a plan to replace large elements of it should be considered, a £10k EMR target should be set to add to grant funding or to secure larger scale grants such as the FCC £100k which requires a 11% third party contribution. As part of the Youth Engagement strategy new elements for the play park may be a good investment and you may wish to consider plans and seek grants to that effect.

Other EMR targets are starting to be reached and a reduced contribution to the reserves with smoothing effect on the precept demand should start to take effect.

A with a forecast balance of accounts at 31 Mar 22 expected to see a carry-over of c.£1537 then a precept of £20,000, a 8% increase, is required to balance the budget if approved.