

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance Committee of Kirby Cane & Ellingham Parish Council on Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> December 2023 at 7pm in Kirby Cane Memorial Hall**

**Present:**

Richard Canham      John Cook                      Lesley Lodge                      Julie Pickering  
Andrew Raymant      Michael Skipper              Iain Wright

Also the clerk to the council, Jane Love and two members of the public.

**1. To receive apologies for absence:**

Apologies were received from James Lally and Kerry Mallard.

**2. To receive declarations of interest from members on items on the agenda, and any requests for a dispensation on those interests:**

John Cook and Michael Skipper were trustees of the Kirby Cane Memorial Hall, Richard Canham was a trustee of the Ellingham United Charities, Iain Wright was a trustee of Kirby Cane Charity and John Cook also had a non-pecuniary interest in Ellingham United Charities.

**3. Opportunity for public participation**

Mr Lyndon Pallett, explained his planning application in detail.

**4. To consider planning applications including:**

FUL/2023/0046 Kirby Cane Quarry, Yarmouth Road, Kirby Cane – councillors had no objections to the application and directed the clerk to comment to Norfolk County Council on their behalf.

**5. To approve the minutes of the meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2022:**

The minutes of the meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2022 were agreed to be correct and were signed by the chairman.

**6. To consider applications for Parish Council funding for 2024/25:**

Councillors discussed a contribution towards the Tidings parish magazine. They believed it was important to support the magazine, and asked the clerk to get more information about what the other parishes contributed, and whether it was possible to submit “nature notes” and other information for KCE. They would then consider a contribution for the current year 2023/24 at the next meeting, as well as deciding a figure for 2024/25.

Applications had been received from both Kirby Cane PCC and Ellingham PCC and after some discussion councillors resolved to give each church £900 for maintenance of the churchyards.

The Ellingham Football Club had no immediate plans to resume its activities, and councillors resolved to remove the £300 in reserve for the club, but would always consider applications in the future.

No other requests for funding had been received, but the council agreed to maintain a “contingency” reserve in the budget to allow for emergency requests for funds by any of the village organisations, upon presentation of the most recent accounts available.

**7. To discuss in detail the Parish Council’s budget for 2024/25:**

The councillors and clerk went through the draft budget in detail and some amendments were made.

On the basis of the income and expenditure in the draft budget, a small increase in the precept was anticipated, and a recommendation of a precept request of £22,200 would be made at the meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024 when the budget would be presented for adoption and a final decision on the precept would be made. Due to a small increase in the tax base, this precept increase would remain steady at a daily charge of 17p for each Band D household during the forthcoming financial year.

**8. To receive items for information:**

There would be a neighbourhood planning meeting in Gillingham on Tuesday, 19<sup>th</sup> December, and Cllr Raymant offered to attend on behalf of the parish council.

**9. To receive items for the next agenda:**

Budget and precept confirmation, emergency plan, car park lease.

**10. Date of next meeting – Monday, 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024, 7pm**

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.29pm

Signed.....  
Chairman

Dated.....