

Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance Committee of Kirby Cane & Ellingham Parish Council on Monday, 13th December 2021 at 7pm in Kirby Cane Memorial Hall

Present:

John Cook James Lally Lesley Lodge Kerry Osborne
Julie Pickering Michael Skipper Iain Wright

Also the clerk to the council, Jane Love.

1. To receive apologies for absence:

There were none.

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, Iain Wright was a trustee of Kirby Cane Charity and John Cook also had a non-pecuniary interest in Ellingham United Charities.

3. To approve the minutes of the meeting on 14th December 2020:

The minutes of the meeting on 14th December 2020 were agreed to be correct and were signed by the chairman.

4. To consider applications for Parish Council funding for 2022/23:

Applications had been received from both Kirby Cane PCC and Ellingham PCC and councillors resolved to give each church £750 for maintenance of the churchyards. The organisation behind Tidings parish magazine had requested £185, which represented a full page advertisement in the magazine, and this was agreed by councillors.

No other requests for funding had been received, but the council maintained 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.

5. To discuss in detail the Parish Council's budget for 2022/23:

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

The clerk was asked to explore the various options available for internet banking, as it was likely in the future that suppliers would not be able to take cheques.

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 £20,800 would be made at the meeting on 10th January 2022 when the budget would be presented for adoption and a final decision on the precept would be made. Due to an increase in the tax base, this small increase actually had no impact on the amount of money each Band D household would pay during the forthcoming financial year.

6. To consider terms of reference for the finance committee:

In the internal audit for 2020/21 the auditor had pointed out that there were no terms of reference for this committee, and the councillors adopted the draft that was presented to them.

7. To receive items for information:

The clerk informed councillors about some cheques requiring interim signature.

Cllr Pickering told the meeting about the very successful Christmas party that had been held on the previous Sunday to raise funds for the car park project, which had made a profit of £382.96, and had made a good start to the fundraising campaign for the car park. Cllr Pickering and Cllr Lodge were thanked for their hard work in organising this community event.

8. To receive items for the next agenda:

Budget and precept confirmation, appointment of internal auditor.

9. Date of next meeting – Monday, 10th January 2022, 7.pm

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.37pm

Signed.....
Chairman

Dated.....