

AUDLEM PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of Finance Committee Meeting held on Monday 8th December 2014
at 7pm in the Methodist Meeting Rooms, Shropshire Street, Audlem.**

PRESENT: Cllr Johnson, Cllr Jones, Cllr Down, Cllr Christie, Cllr G Seddon,
Cllr Hill, Cllr P Seddon.

In Attendance: K Dixon (Clerk)

1. Apologies

Cllr Siddorns and Cllr Furber due to ill health, accepted.

2. Declarations of interests

None

3. Introduction of New Financial Regulations

The new financial regulations were examined and discussed and some small adjustments made. It was unanimously agreed to accept these as the new regulations, this will be ratified by the full council at the next meeting.

It was unanimously agreed that there should be a smaller finance committee with a suggested number of 3 and that the composition of this committee should be decided by the full Parish Council.

4. Precept 2015/16

The information received from Cheshire East indicated that the amount per household would increase if the precept was frozen at the current level, due to the adjustments that are made to allow for single occupancy households, households in receipt of benefits and households which fail to pay. The increase however would be smaller than increases in previous years at 28p per Band D household. The Precept will be set at the next Council Meeting in January.

5. Review of staffing – including role of RFO and role with Community Projects Committee

The Clerk agreed to take on the RFO role until at least the financial year end and then review the situation. It was therefore resolved that the Clerk would take over the RFO responsibilities for the time being and therefore be paid for this role with effect from the start of December 2014. It was also agreed that as RFO the Clerk should also look to taking over the Treasurer role for the Community Projects Committee in line with its constitution.

6. Projects

The main project will potentially be the Playing Field Complex.

The Annexe for the Public Hall Project is continuing and if successful in obtaining its main funding will be looking to the Parish Council for financial support. This could be £20,000 over 3 years but not until 2016 at the earliest. The APHAX committee would like to be



able to demonstrate that it has support from the Parish Council in its next phase of grant application. It was unanimously resolved that the Parish Council makes a commitment in principle to support the Public Hall Annexe. A letter to this effect will be sent to Roland Hall, Chair of APHax.

7. Small grants/donations recent application

The application by Audlem Scout & Guide Hall for a grant towards new tables was considered. It was agreed that the Parish Council would purchase 8 new tables which would be available for use by community groups and residents who hire the Scout & Guide Hall.

8. Review of Policies – Use of Buttermarket and Small Grant Application

This was deferred until the New Year.

9. Budget 2015/16

The draft budget was discussed and some minor alterations were agreed to the projects element.

CHAIRMAN _____ DATE _____

