**Brendon and Countisbury Parish Council**

**Minutes of PC Meeting (26)**

**Held at the Brendon Village Hall on 3rd August 2020 at 7.30pm**

**Public Participation:-** None

1. **Councillors Present: -**, A Fletcher, S Adams, W Floyd. L Farthing

**Apologies:** A Percival, P Young, G Woollacott, A Davies, J Patrinos

2. **Declaration of interests: -** None

3. **Minutes: -** Of the last PC meeting were agreed, proposed by W Floyd, seconded by

S Adams. All Agreed. 9th March 2020.

4. **Matters Arising:** The clerk informed the meeting that a charging point for vehicles at the Village Hall was not a viable proposition. The reason being that an internet or mobile phone connection was a necessary requirement.

5. **Finance:-**

1. The RFO presented the accounts for 2019-20 for approval. All agreed.
2. The AGAR was presented and approved . All agreed.
3. The Accounts statement was presented and approved. All agreed.

Proposed S Adams, seconded L Farthing

The RFO informed the Council that the audit had been approved but with the following comments.

1. An explanation was required as to why the precept had been reduced from £2950.00 in December to £2650.00 in January. It was explained that the first precept figure was an estimate and that the actual amount claimed was accurate.
2. The Annual Review Doc. Posted to the website was out of date. Chair and RFO to address.
3. The Council’s Data Protection Regulations posted on the Website is out of date. Clerk to investigate.
4. No explanation was given as to why the Clerk’s Salary and Grass Cutting remuneration had been increased. Council noted that both figures were linked to RPI. In addition, the grass cutting fee in line with the ‘Living Wage’.
5. Greater clarification of Grants to the village Hall and Church is required. In addition, the fact that S Adams is on the Village Hall committee needs to be stated on her register of interests as posted to the Website. Chair to address.

Approval was requested to insert an additional clause in the financial regulations (Para 4.1 of Model Financial Regulations) to authorize the Clerk and the Chair to sanction payments under £500.00 in extremis . Proposed W Floyd, seconded L Farthing. All agreed.

Authority was requested to pay the following invoices.

1. Membership Fee for DALC £56.91
2. Insurance premium £166.60 ( fixed for 3 years)
3. Data Protection Fee £40.00 (DD Payment)
4. Vision ICT Fee £ 45.00 ( to insert the Assessability Statement on the Website)

Proposed L Farthing, seconded S Adams. All agreed.

Council was informed that £117.20 had been reclaimed for VAT, and that the first Precept payment of £1325.00 had been received.

The RFO reported the Council’s Bank Balance stood at £5503.00 before payment of the above .

**6. AOB**  Meeting suspended to hear a report from Mrs P Green.

Meeting recommenced. In response to Mrs Green’s comments regarding the prevention parking on the lane to Kipscombe and the lighthouse; the clerk was instructed to investigate the matter with ENPA and the Nat. Trust.

Council debated the subject of holding remote meeting via Zoom or other virtual provider, and agreed unanimously that it was not prepared to conduct such meetings.

S Adams stated the planning refusal for Keepers Cottage Bridge Ball was unfair. Council concluded that it was not in its remit to intervein.

**Date of next meetings**: September 14th 2020

There being no further business meeting closed at 21.10hrs.