

DEAN PRIOR PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting Held on

Tuesday 20th December 2022 at 7.00pm. in the Village Hall in Dean Prior

Present – Cllrs Bailey (Chair) Chew and Rutley. And Dist Cllr Smerdon

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - NONE

Full reports available from the Clerk - all reports circulated to Councillors in advance

SOUTH HAMS DISTRICT COUNCIL - CLLR PETER SMERDON

Support for households

Slow cookers, cookbooks, electric blankets: - just some of the ways SHDC will distribute some of the £187,000 Of government funding allocated to them by Devon County Council. This latest fund must be used to support households in the most need and particularly those who may not be eligible for other support the government has recently made available. South Hams will focus on supporting those who may be just above income thresholds, meaning they do not qualify for other support. This funding has to be spent by March 2023, and we wanted to

devise a range of different ways to help families. We didn't just want to provide the funds, but by providing things like slow cookers and electric blankets we can help the residents save money and reduce their costs for a longer period of time. The Executive has proposed to use the funds in the following ways:

- Making payments of £650 to working age households receiving council tax reduction and not receiving passported benefits on 1 December 2022.
- Making payments of £300 to households receiving council tax disabled band reduction on 1 December 2022. It is estimated that we will be able to support 234 households who are likely to have additional energy costs due to disabilities.
- Providing funding of £10,000 to help partners provide slow cookers and cookbooks, electric blankets, warm clothing and sleeping bags to individuals and households identified as being in need.
- Using the remainder of the funding to offer an open application process to provide support to low-income households and others in financial need.

South Hams District Council says that the key to distributing this money is to get it out to those most in need as quickly as possible and the Council has a proven track record in this area.

Raising awareness around the cost of living

Our Cost of Living Action Plan includes a significant focus on signposting and promoting support available to residents. We have sent out a number of cost of living e-bulletins to our subscribers, covering a wide range of topics, including foodbanks, warm spaces, energy efficiency and more. Many of these have been jointly developed with partners such as Citizens Advice. If you know of any residents who would like to sign up, or could benefit from signing up, send them [this link to our subscription page](#). Our website is regularly being updated with new information on the cost of living crisis, signposting residents to support services and funding that could help them through a difficult winter.

On the homepage, residents will see a link to our [Cost of Living Help page](#), with lots of helpful links and information. Our [online support directory](#), which has been live on the website for more than a year, is a trove of information on a wide variety of subjects, including issues around cost of living.

IT was **NOTED** that there had been no applications for co-option to fill the vacant seat on Dean Prior Parish Council

22/12/01 Apologies for absence -

Cllr Thorn - apologies accepted

Dist Cllr Pannell , Cathie Pannell DNPA and C Cllr Thomas

22/12/02 Approval of Minutes

To consider , amend as agreed by the Council (if required) & approve the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 7th November 2022 - **APPROVED**

22/12/03- Declarations of Interest None from Cllrs Dispensation requests -
None

22/12/04 Clerks Report

It was **NOTED** that the defibrillator required a new battery - **CLLR BAILEY TO SOURCE**

It was **NOTED** that the graffiti under the A38 bridge had been removed

22/12/05 Planning - Nothing to consider

22/12/06 - Finance

a) **Approval of cheques** APPROVED

KAREN GILBERT expenses / backpay / stationery 09/22 - 12/22 incl	£436.07
RBL Poppy wreath	£25.00

b) To agree the Dean Prior Parish Council budget for 2023/2024

c) To agree and set the precept for 2023/2024

The Clerk presented the spend to date for 22/23 and the estimated spend to the end of the year - 31/3/23 . It was **AGREED** that the previous precept had been correctly set and that there was a potential overspend of approx £1600.00 - this figure represented the purchase of the noticeboard and dog bin

The Clerk presented a draft budget to the Council - it having been circulated to all in advance .

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the budget . (Bailey and Chew for - Rutley against)

It was **NOTED** that there would be an increase in precept from £5250 to £6100.00

This represented an increase to a band D property of approx 20p per week.

It was **RESOLVED** that the precept for 2023/24 be set at £6100.00 (Bailey / Chew for - Rutley against)

22/12/07 Highway matters

It was **AGREED** that Cllr Chew chase the contractor who had quoted for the Bus Shelter repair

22/12/08- PC admin NOTHING

22/12/09 - Correspondence - correspondence had been emailed during the month.

22/12/10 Councillors business for next agenda

22/12/11. Date/time of next meeting TBC

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.00pm

