

# **Annual Village Meeting 8 May 2018 – Clerk's Report.**

## **1. PLANNING APPLICATIONS.**

17 for Chideock, 1 for adjoining parishes, 5 Tree Work applications.

## **2. MEETINGS.**

1 Annual Village Meeting  
10 Parish Council meetings  
2 Planning Committee meeting  
4 quarterly meetings with Highways England  
DAPTC AGM  
3 A35 Miles Cross meetings  
BLAP meetings about implications of the move to a Unitary Authority on Parish

Total = approx. 55 hours of meetings.

So, all in all that's something more than 300-man hours spent at meetings – all done for free.

And then there is all the reading which must be done!

## **3. CONSULTATIONS.**

7 consultations – 2 DCLG on planning and housing, 2 Highways England / Department for Transport, 1 on the devolution of assets from WDDC to Towns and Parishes.

## **4. CORRESPONDENCE.**

Much of the Parish Council correspondence is now carried out via e-mail. All I can say is that there is an awful lot of correspondence, both in and out! And a lot of junk mail!

## **5. FINANCES.**

### **a) External Audit.**

From April 2018 there is no requirement for External Audit, provided that income and expenditure are both less than £25,000. However, internal audit is still required, the same forms must be completed and there must be a period when the public can inspect the accounts. All information will be put on the website. The accounts, of course, are available for anyone to view at any time, by prior arrangement with the Clerk.

### **b) Precept**

The accounts for 2017-2018 have been finalised and there is an overspend of £238.61. However, this is because the VAT refund was not processed and paid by HMRC in time for year end – once this is taken into consideration there is an underspend of £285.86.

The Internal Audit is taking place on 15 May.

### **c) Foss Orchard.**

CPC continues to benefit from the waiving of Small Business Rates, at the direction of central government.

All income from the car park is reserved for repairs to and maintenance of the car park and is supplemented by provision in the precept.

### **d) Clapps Mead Playing Field.**

The Parish Council now pays Bridport Town Council to mow the playing field.

e) Bus Shelters.

P N W Services continues to clean the bus shelter walls monthly and the roofs quarterly, at a cost of £20 per quarter.

The Parish Council is maintaining a fund of £250 to cover the excess in case an insurance claim must be made. This of course was used when an insurance claim was made for repair of the damage caused by the wheel rolling down from near St Giles church. Luckily no-one was injured.

f) Grants made.

From precept

- £200 to Bridport Citizens Advice Bureau

This is the amount which was set in the budget for 2017/8.

The following customary grants were made from the precept

- £600 to St Giles PCC towards Cemetery Grass Cutting
- The Parish Council continues to put aside £210 a year for 3 years to pay for the next 3-year service contract.

Grants to the Village Hall

- The Parish Council made a grant of £700 from the 2017/8 precept. This money is to be put towards the cost of repairs not general running costs.
- A special one-off grant of £5,000 was made to go towards the cost of the kitchen refurbishment.
- The grants were made in recognition of the vital role played by the Village Hall.

g) Parish Council Website.

The Parish Council website went live on 1 March 2018. This allows much more information to be displayed. The Parish Council thanks the Chideock and Seatown website for hosting information up till then.

The website address is [chideockpc.org.uk](http://chideockpc.org.uk)