

ASTON CLINTON PARISH COUNCIL

Angela Casey, Clerk to the Council, Parish Meeting Room, Aston Clinton Park, London Road, Aston Clinton,
Buckinghamshire, HP22 5HL

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Finance and Staffing Meeting 23 April 2014

Attendees: Cllrs; R Maskell, M Watson, T Kirtland

Clerk: Angela Casey

14.008 Apologies

D Wallis

14.009 Declaration of interests

For Councillors to declare any personal and/or prejudicial interests.

None

14.010 Approval of minutes: The minutes were approved unanimously for the meeting of the 3rd February 2014.

14.011 Finances

Balance of bank account at the end of the financial year, 31 March 2014 was £3,632.24.

The budget decisions for the forthcoming 2014/2015 year were discussed and it was confirmed that £22,000 is held in reserve under miscellaneous items.

Total budget for the year is £133,450.

14.012 Tribunal update

The solicitor from DAS produced a prospects report for the committee to consider. The solicitor has said that it is likely that a Tribunal would find in favour of the council on all points of the report but queried two points; pension/salary confirmation and holiday pay. Pension and salary have been confirmed, however, the groundsman is stating he is entitled to be paid for 43 days holiday while sick. He has already taken one of the days claimed prior to reporting sick. The holiday entitlement had been worked out but five of the days the groundsman is claiming were accrued in the year prior to him reporting sick. There is no record in the minutes of the Finance and Staff meeting approving the carrying over of those days.

The solicitors report states that although she considers the Council is ultimately likely to be successful at Tribunal there are risk and cost implications. In her opinion settlement is worth consideration.

The solicitor states that the Council should consider offering a sum as final settlement rather than have the 'hassle' and cost of three witnesses attending an Employment Tribunal hearing on the 19th May 2014.

The Council has already paid the groundsman for 20 days holiday for while he was off sick to comply with an Employment Tribunal ruling. The committee recommends a final settlement of £839.54 to the groundsman, this is made up of seven annual leave days accrued while off sick which equals £589.54, plus the other side's costs of issuing the claim of £250.00, total £839.54.

14.013 The Hub

The outstanding rent balance for February and March 2014 totalling £1,668 has not been cleared by Mr Gary Brennan at The Hub. Mr Brennan has asked if he can pay a weekly rent of £215 in cash, plus an extra £200 per week in order to clear the outstanding balance, total £415 per week, until the balance is cleared; this should be by the end of June 2014. To date he has paid two weeks rent in advance, plus £400 off the outstanding debt.

The Committee agreed that it was better to have a tenant in the Hub than not, so the recommendation is that the proposal be accepted.

After investigation there is currently no evidence that Mr Gary Brennan is living at The Hub.

14.014 AOB

Boundary dispute

The council have insurance that covers legal expenses and compensation claims.

14.015 Date of next meeting – July 2014

The meeting closed at 12.30pm