Meeting of the Extra-Ordinary meeting of the Edlesborough Parish Council held on Tuesday 10th January 2006 at 7.30pm at the The Pavilion, Edlesborough

Present

Chairman, Mrs Thompson, Cllr. Cubbage, Cllr Wilkinson, Cllr Brown, Cllr Mrs. Ratheram, Cllr Conacher, Cllr Mrs Coppen, Cllr Mrs. Pry-Jones, Lin Sargeant Clerk and J. Parker (co-opted member of General Purposes Committee)

Apologies – No apologies – absent Cllr. Munday

Declarations of Interest from Councillors

The Chairman declared an interest in Grass cutting quotations received

The meeting was held to discuss the budget and set the Precept for 2006/07

Cllr Cubbage and the Clerk presented accounts to 31st December 2005 together with their forecast of the budget required for 2006/07. The meeting then went through the proposed budget and agreed various changes.

The Clerk reported that the Tax Band D Equivalent Property Tax Base would be £1,270.12 which was slightly lower than the previous year.

The following budgets were agreed.

Inflation and scale increases were allowed for all employees.

It was queried whether the proposed new floor would have a reflection on the cost of insurance and it was agreed that the existing insurance being for buildings would not be relevant and a 3% increase on the overall cost of insurance was assumed.

External decoration of Edlesborough Memorial Hall to be part of the maintenance cost of the Hall.

Discussion to take place at the next General Purpose Committee meeting to agree on quotations for grass and hedge cutting throughout the Parish and in the meantime Clerk to investigate further the charges made for this current year.

Following the retirement of the Litter Pickers considerable amount of litter was appearing on The Green. AVDC have reached agreement with Thames Valley Probation Service to utilise offenders for works on public rights of way which would be at no cost to the Authority and would have minimal supervision by Rights of Way Officers, as a Probation Supervisor would lead each group. It is anticipated that this will commence in the Spring. Parish Council approval to this scheme will be ratified at the Parish Council meeting on 19th January.

Clerk would be sending Invoice to AVDC for half reimbursement of the cost of hedge cutting and undergrowth removal around the perimeter of The Pastures.

Quotation to be requested for structural integrity repairs to streetlights.

Donations to both Dagnall and Northall to remain at £1,000.00 each

The Chairman reported on a recent meeting attended by Pitstone, Cheddington, Ivinghoe and Edlesborough Parish Councils where further information and discussions had taken place regarding the benefit and financial cost of obtaining the services of a Police Community Support Officer (PCSO). The half share cost to the Parishes wishing to take part in this scheme would be £15,000.00 divided between the Parishes concerned. There are only 13 households dividing the Parishes of Pitstone and Edlesborough and it was agreed that both these Parishes should bear the major share of the cost with Ivinghoe paying a proportion relevant to the size of the village. Pitstone Parish Council are very much in favour of the scheme and all Edlesborough Parish Councillors attending this meeting agreed that it should take part as the benefit of having a PCSO in the Parish villages would be an enormous advantage. It was proposed by Cllr. Wilkinson and seconded by Cllr Brown and agreed by all Councillors that a sum of £7,500.00 be set aside for this project which would be reduced if Ivinghoe agreed to take part. Ivinghoe Parish Council do not meet until next week when a final decision will be made.
The meeting had examined the proposed budget for 2006/7 and agreed various changes and after careful consideration it was unanimously agreed to request a Precept payment from Aylesbury Vale District Council of £56,500.00 for the year 2006/7 – this being a year on year increase of £9,000.00 made up as follows:

A year on year increase of £1,500.00 (3.1%) to part-cover inflation etc.

An increase of £7,500.00 to cover Edlesborough Parish Council’s share of the new Police Community Service Officer (PCSO), planned to be appointed on 1.4.06 and who would also be part-funded by, and cover, the parishes of Pitstone and Ivinghoe. This PCSO would be full-time and would be wholly employed on looking after the 3 Parishes.

The chairman thanked both Cllr. Cubbage and the Clerk for the work involved in preparing the budget figures and the way they had been presented.

The meeting closed at 9.35pm

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