

## ALCONBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 3rd November 2008 in the Memorial Hall

Present:

Mrs. Aylott, (Chair), Mrs Adams, Mrs Dyer, Mrs Elphick, Mr Hardy, Mrs Hathaway, Mr Pickering, Mr Sale, Mr Watson and Mrs Williams. Mrs Lancey (Clerk). No members of the public.

In the absence of Mr Senior, Mrs Aylott chaired the meeting.

### 1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies received from Mr Senior.

### 2. Councillors' Declaration of Interest for items on the Agenda

None recorded.

### 3. 2009/2010 Precept Planning

The Clerk had prepared a draft precept containing all requested or anticipated items of expenditure for the financial year 2009/2010, and for comparison purposes, the actual spend to the end of October 2008 together with last year's Precept. It was unanimously agreed that the overall Precept should not increase above the 2008/2009 figure of £31,000. This equated to £55.06 Council Tax per annum for a Band D property. The items were discussed individually. Items of note were as follows:

It was agreed that the amount allocated for Section 137 expenditure should not significantly increase over last year and was fixed at £3090.

It was anticipated that the number of residents needing to use the Citizens Advice Bureau might increase and the donation could be raised to £250.

£1500 was allocated for fees incurred in connection with the proposed community orchard and possible acquisition of allotments.

The amount allocated for grass cutting was based on 15 cuts – total £6750.

The bi-monthly newsletter/annual report should continue - £800 allocated.

It was agreed that no extra money should be allocated for an electronic diary facility – total estimate for computer/website - £750

£1175 was allocated to the Jointly Funded Minor Improvement Scheme (Rusts Lane Traffic Calming). 2009/2010 bid already submitted.

£1500 allocated for further work in the Churchyard.

£4000 was set aside for the planned improvements to Bramble End Playground.

Clerk to prepare a final draft budget which would be circulated to all, and agreed at the next Parish Council meeting on 25th November 2008. This would subsequently be submitted to HDC in December 2008.