

ITCHEN VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL
(Serving the villages of Avington, Easton, Itchen Abbas & Martyr Worthy)
Minutes of the Meeting
Finance & General Purposes Committee
September 20 2012.

Attending: - Cllr Flemons Cllr Kennedy- Chairman Cllr Robinson

Clerk Vivienne A Brooks

9.1 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Loader.

9.2 Minutes of the Meeting held on August 16th 2012.

The minutes were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman Cllr Kennedy.

9.3 That the Accounts be paid as listed.

We are having problems moving funds between accounts so our balances dictate that we need to move £4,000 to meet these accounts, the letter was signed by two signatories. We have also applied to WCC Open Spaces account for release of the funds to meet the Fawns account.

022058	Cannon – Hold whilst we check the contract		
022059	Audit Commission	£162.00	
022060	Fawns (nest swing)	£3239.99	Hold
022061	SSE Street Lights	£150.58	
022062	IA&A Village Hall	£650.00	

The Accounts were agreed to be released when funds transfer.

9.4 Applications for Grant Assistance.

The above cheque was issued for the Itchen Abbas & Avington Village Hall for the purchase of a bike rack.

We have an application for £300 per church for the upkeep of the church burial grounds in our Parish - this can be paid from Parish Council funds and not via Section 137.

9.5 Banking Arrangements – Signatories, deletion of old signatories.

As above the bank is not assisting with our requests therefore we would recommend that after we have managed to balance all accounts and received all back bank statements we open a Nationwide Flexi Account and move all the funds to one account. There is little purpose in retaining a separate Reserve Account when we only appear to get 1p a month in interest.

£500 received for the Parish Plan – this is to be transferred to the Parish Plan Steering Group as soon as possible as this is not an asset of the Parish Council, and therefore should not appear in our accounts.

Recommendation: - That Full Council authorise the change of bank from Santander to Nationwide.

9.6 Problems with the Street Lighting Contract

Despite our best endeavours we appear to be locked into two contracts that appear to have some duplication. As both companies (PFI HCC and SSE) are holding us to the contracts the Clerk has informed SSE that we will not seek to renew the contract when it expires.

9.7 Play Equipment – Maintenance Reports and Funding for Repairs.

The Clerk asked if all the equipment belonged to the Parish Council. It would appear not. Therefore the report will be passed to IA & AVH to maintain their equipment and we will maintain our owned equipment at Easton.

Regarding the fencing on Couch Green the Clerk will obtain a quotation for its installation.

9.8 Budget requirements and excess funds to be vired from the existing budget headings.

We cannot really address this without having some idea of future expenditure however the majority of the Council Chairman's expenses budget will be moved to fund the improvements to the website leaving about £20 that can be used for administration (refreshments for the annual meeting).

Parish Lengthsman Scheme – need to understand what we get for the £1000 offered free for year one and what happens in future years - there is a meeting on October 4th to discuss this further.

We also need to understand the likely costs attached to moving the SLR traffic sign and any additional ancillary costs.

F&GP Chairman to ask portfolio holders to comment on likely expenditure in each portfolio for the remainder of the year?

9.9 Correspondence – Relating to financial issues.

Audit Commission have appointed BDO LLP as external auditors for 5 years from 2012/13 accounting year.

Church application for churchyard maintenance – to move £1200 from Section 137 expenditure budget to meet this application.

9.10 Date and Location for the Next Meeting

18th October IA&AVH following Planning Committee.

November meeting to be held on 8th November at IA&AVH, due to the Police Commissioner election on the due date.