

ITCHEN VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL
(Serving the villages of Avington, Easton, Itchen Abbas & Martyr Worthy)
Minutes of the Meeting
Finance & General Purposes Committee
September 17th 2014

Attending: Cllr Kennedy - Chairman Cllr Flemons Cllr Riley

4.1 Apologies – Cllr Moffatt, Cllr Robinson.

4.2 Accounts be Paid as Listed.

300156	Vision ICT Ltd (Website)	£285.60
300157	McPherson Trust (s.137)	£85.02
300158	Diguru (Parish Plan Printing)	£88.00

The accounts were agreed and the cheques signed.

4.3 Play Equipment Updates.

There is a possibility that Sutcliffe Play may be able to repair the cradle swings at Couch Green. The Clerk had ordered replacement swings but will cancel /put on hold the order pending an update on the possibility of repair from Cllr Riley.

Cllr Kennedy had prepared an update of the forecast for expenditure this year showing funds remained available for equipment. Cllr Riley reported that the McPherson Trustees have decided not to contribute towards a gravity bowl for that site but to try and build up a fund to assist Council with replacing the play tower. Whilst the play tower is dated it is not in a poor state and the recent safety report supports this. Council would wish to see matching funding from the Trust where at all possible as a way forward. The issue of a slide was discussed but no manufacturer would fit one to the existing structure and give a guarantee.

Discussion took place on viring funds from budgets not likely to be spent in 2014/15 to be used for new equipment this year and using the 2015/16 budget to effectively put the money back, but the Clerk spoke against this. No decision was necessary but new plans may be bought forward when we know if the Couch Green swings can be repaired or will need replacing using the majority of the remaining funds for equipment in the forecast.

4.4 Any other financial matters agreed by the Chairman.

It was noted that there have been no applications from community groups for Section 137 funding other than the reimbursement of insurance costs of the McPherson Easton Old School Field Trustees. The Clerk did not think we should be approaching specific groups to offer funds, but it was agreed Cllr Flemons should include details of the agreed s.137 criteria in her next report for the Itchen Valley News for the attention generally of groups that may need assistance.

No group had asked for 1914 WW1 commemoration assistance at all, nor have we had a request for the burial grounds assistance.

Councillors are requested to make the availability of – and the criteria for - section 137 funding more generally known in the community without targeting specific groups.

We can afford another visit from Craig Morris for footpath works if required. Councillors are invited to nominate footpaths requiring attention

FIL0 use of Couch Green - no more money has been forthcoming. If it does not arrive soon we should consider changing the locks.

The committee also discussed having a parish council only side of the parish notice boards to avoid notices required to be displayed by law being obscured by adverts and posters. This could be put in place as notice boards are renewed, which should be done where necessary with funds available this year.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7:38pm