

Minutes of the Parish Meeting held on 3rd March 2015 at Sutton St Edmund Village Hall commencing at 7.00pm Chaired By: Cllr S Morris – Chairman of Parish Council

Also present: The Parish Clerk, County Cllr Webb, District Cllr Seymour and 17 members of the public.

1. The Chairman welcomed all present.
2. The Clerks notes of the meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2014 were read and proposed to be a true record of the meeting, it was resolved to sign the notes as minutes.
3. The Chairman gave a short address on the councils work over the past year covering the following points:
  - Routine maintenance on the Bus Shelter, Car park and Play equipment
  - Major funding from outside bodies to keep precept low
  - Highway maintenance to Lutlongate, Broadgate and part of GuanockgateHe thanked the Litter picker for a stoic job well done, the Councillors and the Clerk for their work over the previous year
4. The Clerk gave a financial statement: (Report attached)
5. Items for discussion:
  - Lincolnshire Police Restorative Justice: this was explained to all present.
  - Ragwort problem in the Parish : this was discussed
  - Future use of Phone Kiosk – It was proposed to put shelves in to be used for swapping books in the parish. (This will be put on agenda for Parish Council to action) unless any further ideas are submitted.
6. There followed an open forum:

Items raised and discussed were as follows:

Little Eau Solar Ltd – Proposed 11.81 hectares of panels, New Fendyke

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 7.20pm

Confirmed and approved

Signed:

Date

## **Sutton St Edmund Parish Council – Financial Report for the year 2014/15**

I thought I would start this year with a short explanation of how the Parish Councils portion of your council tax bill is arrived at.

It starts with the council working out a budget to cover costs in the following year, once this is decided expected income and reserves are taken into account. The deficit becomes the figure the council call their precept. This is the amount we apply to SHDC for.

Once SHDC have received the councils figure they divide it by the Tax base, this is made up of the number of households with in the parish after properties that are exempt or have adjustments ( ie single occupancy discount) have been subtracted from the total.

The next step is to divide this figure into bands, each property falls into a band depending on its size ie band A,B,C,D and so on. The model band used is D so its factor will be 1.0 from here the other bands are worked out so band A –C will be lower than band D and band E upwards will be higher.

These figures vary each year depending on how many properties fall into each band. The reason they can change is that there may be more or less exempt properties in a band than last year or when properties are sold that have changed size through extending they change band as well. So last year there may have been 340 band D properties and this year it has gone down to 320.

This has an effect on the increase shown for the Parish Council precept. For example a council may increase their precept request by 5% but if the tax base has dropped then this will show as a larger % increase or if the Tax base has increased it will show as a lower % increase.

This financial year Sutton St Edmund Parish Councils total income is expected to be approximately £8530.00 with expenditure in the region of £6500.00. The Precept this year was £5355. 00.

Income other than the precept has been generated by Allotment rents at £1638.00,a Litter collection grant from SHDC of £190.00, two grants from our District Councillors budget for maintenance of the teenage shelter, a replacement dog bin at the Playing field and a new one for the centre of the village ( both these projects will be in the next financial year) and finally around £5.00 bank interest.

The Accounts for 2014/15 were signed off by the internal and external Auditors and the notice displayed for the required period on the Parish notice board.

I would like to thank the Chairman and all the councillors for their continued support and work over the last year.