

Tivetshall Parish Council

Clerks Report

Yet again another busy month with the budget and other items to get done before my leave in early feb to mid-march when I visit my sister in New Zealand for 4 weeks

The Parish council budget has been finalised and after much discussion at the Jan meeting it was agreed that the precept would rise by 10% which the council feel is acceptable considering the many issues we have coming up around the pylons and solar farms and we need funds to ensure we can do the best for our parishioners on these issues. The budget was discussed at length by all the councillors over the last few weeks and as such we feel it is a fair and well-proportioned budget allowing for everything we have to pay out from salaries, Grass cutting, Dog Bins and general maintenance as you can see and I have put the budget on the website for all to see but happy to discuss on my return in mid-march at TTJ if parishioners wish to see how we work this out.

Both myself and Nick have had our yearly appraisals and I am pleased to report the councillors are very happy with us both in our roles and as such both of us have been rewarded with small one SCP point rise to show this as detailed in our contracts that will come into force in early April

Our new Gov.uk email boxes are all now in place and the only email address we use is the clerk@tivetshall-pc.gov.uk so please ensure you email the clerk via this email box as the old ones are now closed and not being used.

This month has been busy as I ensure that everything is in place for all councillors to ensure we function correctly and legally whilst I am away including payments for salaries and budget and precept work submitted.

I recently attended the SLCC Practitioners conference attending many workshops on such items as New vat law, Planning, devolution, Resilience, Martyns law, AI (which many clerks including myself use to save time), Play Areas, the need for accuracy at all times, working with councillors and finally how to deal with the major issue in our sector bullying especially from all areas including parishioners, county officers and councillors but I have to say I have a great group of councillors that provide me with the support when I need it (trust me I do many times) I have to say it was an amazing conference paid for by my other 2 councils and the third by myself for personal reasons but it was great value to my council at Tivetshall as all my other councils who also benefit greatly.

The council still have a space for new councillors and if anyone would like to take up the role, please get in touch asap direct to myself on the clerk's email address. It is not an erroneous role and you can undertake as much work as you want to or even as little as you want too. But I would say it is very rewarding most days.

Finally, due to the extra work falling on my desk I will only be attending TTJ once a month and look forward to seeing everyone at these wonderful events

Handyman's Report

Our handyman Nick has almost completed the upgrade of the pavilion on the [playing field and is undertaking the works needed on the play area at present to ensure it meets the requirements for our insurers who are very strict on any items around play areas and football pitches. The old fence that cuts the car park from the playing field needs some renovation and Nick has kindly donated a new gate that we will get put up with the help of some strong volunteers asap.

