

Earsham Parish Council
Minutes
of a meeting of Earsham Parish Council held at the Queen's Head,
on Monday 14th January 2019 at 7.30pm

Present: Councillors: Keith Reeve (Chair), Stephen Woods (Vice-Chair), Scott Bone, Karl Gunton, and Tony Leech

Also present: Lynda Ling (Clerk)

1. **Welcome** – The chairman welcomed those present at the meeting
2. **To receive and accept apologies from members unable to attend** – Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor Meade
3. **To receive any declarations of interest, in particular matters to be raised at this meeting** – None
4. **Approval of minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 28th November 2018** - Agreement was proposed by Councillor Woods and seconded by Councillor Gunton.

ALL AGREED

5. **Resolution to set the precept for the year ending 31st March 2020** – Members had received a precept report with their supporting paperwork which outlined where the council would stand given differing precept requests. As the grant from South Norfolk Council is no longer available to parishes, this automatically reduces the income to the parish council and results in the need to increase the precept just to remain in the same financial position as the previous year. Another consideration was the recent boundary changes have reduced the tax base on which Band D properties are based, from 281 to 275.

Factors which were under consideration was the need to replace the aging streetlighting stock over the coming years, as the production of Sox lamps is due to cease in 2019, and the parish council has agreed to consider changing the lanterns over to LED lights in a bid to save money on electricity costs. Electricity itself is on the rise for the streetlighting and it is expected to reach £100 per month by the end of January 2019. No major projects are being considered at this time due to the expenditure required for increased costs. After a lengthy discussion it was agreed to increase the precept from £50.71 to £53.22 per year, an increase of 21p per month giving a total precept request of £14,635 for 2019/2020. Agreement was proposed by Cllr. Gunton and seconded by Cllr. Leech

ALL AGREED

6. **Date of the next meeting** – Wednesday 30th January 2019 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, The Street, Earsham

The meeting ended at 19.55pm

Signed

Date