



**Meeting of Yaxham Parish Charity
Held in the Jubilee Hall Meeting Room
at 7.00PM on September 21st 2017**

Present Cllrs. Lowings (Chairman), Crummett (Vice-Chairman), Harvey, Bennett, Dimoglou, Martin & Goldsmith.

In Attendance Mrs P Baldwin (Locum Clerk) and 21 members of the public.

- 1. Chairman's opening remarks.** The Chairman welcomed Ian Martin to the Parish Council and thanked Mrs Pat Baldwin for clerking the meeting. An apology was made to Cllr Crummett as his suggestion that charity income could be used to reduce the precept had not been recorded in the minutes. The reason that this suggestion was not an item of agenda is that concerns had been raised that this was not within the powers of the charity. The Chairman had therefore sought advice from the Charity Commission which had not yet responded. The proposal will be considered at the next meeting, subject to the advice of the Charity Commission.
- 2. To receive apologies for absence.** There were no apologies.
- 3. To receive disclosures of personal & prejudicial interests.** None.
- 4. To agree and sign the minutes of the previous meeting.** Item 8 to be amended to include: "The proposal that the charity income be paid to the Parish Council to reduce the precept". Subject to this amendment, the minutes were then approved unanimously and signed by the chairman.
- 5. Public discussion on charity matters.** No matters were raised
- 6. To discuss the provision of documents and financial reports in good time for the relevant meeting.** Cllr Dimoglou stated that he was embarrassed by the lack of documentation as parishioners have a right to know how money is being handled. A motion was suggested to say that figures should be available one month prior to a meeting. The chairman emphasised that he had not had access to the information in time for the 2017 Annual Meeting. The provision of documents etc is a matter for the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and the new clerk and responsible financial officer, when appointed.



7. **Grant Applications** No new applications had been submitted.

8. **To discuss financial matters, including**

a) **Bank & Investment balances:**

Asset Value £278,223.45

Barclays Community Account £ 27,093.98

Barclays Active Saver Account £ 80.70

b) **Grants to be paid** £ 500.00 **Yaxham Community Car Scheme**
£ 788.00 **Yaxham Woodlands Group**

The meeting was closed to allow a representative of the Community Car Scheme to speak. The delay in making payment of the grant is causing difficulty for the scheme. The Chairman said that there is no cheque book available, as the new cheque book has probably been sent to the wrong address by Barclays who have failed to act on instructions to update the address. It was asked if the payment could be made by BACS, the chairman agreed to pursue this.

The meeting was the re-opened.

It was agreed that the two grants be paid by BACS and that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman as signatories should go to Barclays in Dereham to authorise this.

c) **Future distribution of charity income**

Cllr Dimoglou proposed that perhaps a better way of achieving Cllr Crummett's proposed use of the funds to offset the precept for all residents, could be to provide all households in the village with a Christmas Gift e.g. £25/30. It would need to be confirmed with the Charity Commission that to do this would comply with the rules. If this idea were to be adopted it would absorb approximately £9,000 from funds if £25 per dwelling, assuming 360 dwellings.

It was also suggested that the Charity should be mentioned in the village newsletter as not all are aware of its existence. The possibility of offering a financial contribution to the Parish Magazine was also suggested.

9. **To Note any items for inclusion on the Agenda for the next meeting.** Christmas Gifts to households, increasing the length of the meeting to 45minutes, documentation & update of address held by Barclays Bank.

10. **Dates of Next meetings, meetings to be held prior to Parish Council meetings,** November 2017, February 2018, April 2018.

The meeting then closed at 7.30pm