

# Belmont Rural Parish Council

## Minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2014 At Belmont Community Centre, Eastholme Avenue, Belmont

**Present:** Mr. A. Myatt In the Chair  
Mr. K. Baynham  
Mr. D. Cook  
Mr. P. Edwards  
Mr. B. Hubbard  
Mr. R. Loft  
Ms. D. Parish  
Mr. M. Schoffer

In attendance: Mrs. E. Kelso Clerk

### 01/014 **Apologies, Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensation**

Apologies were noted from Councillor Adrian Bridges.

There were no declarations of interest.

It was noted that on 6<sup>th</sup> December 2012, a dispensation had been granted each member of Belmont Rural Parish Council to remove the restrictions under section 31 of the Localism Act 2011 in connection with discussions on setting the budget and precept request for this Parish on the grounds that without this dispensation, the number of members or co-opted members prohibited from participating in this business would be so great a proportion of the body transacting the business as to impede the transaction of this business. This dispensation to continue for each individual member until that member resigns as a Member of Belmont Rural Parish Council or until the next election of the whole parish council, whichever comes first. The Clerk confirmed that this dispensation was still valid for this meeting.

### 02/014 **Public Participation**

There were no members of the public in attendance at this meeting and therefore no matters raised under this agenda item.

03/014

### **To consider the Annual Budget for the Parish Council for the year commencing 1.04.2014**

The Clerk presented the draft budget for 2014-2015, noting that the operating/revenue budget had been approved by members on 31<sup>st</sup> October, leaving other expenditure to be agreed at this meeting. Members noted that under each budget heading, suggested projects or beneficiary groups could only be considered as examples of potential expenditure as each project/group would need to be considered as a separate item at the time it is brought for formal consideration by the parish council.

Members considered potential expenditure under budget headings Capital and other Expenditure, Newsletter and Annual Report, Grants and Donations and Neighbourhood Development Plan. After some discussion, it was unanimously agreed that the following sums be allocated to those budget headings:

Capital and other projects:	£35,000
Newsletters and Annual Report:	£2,500
Grants and Donations:	£17,000
Neighbourhood Development Plan:	£12,000

As a result, total budget for 2014-2015 was agreed as £88,500.00.

04/014

### **To issue the request for the Annual Precept for the year 2014-2015**

Members noted that as several projects envisaged for the current financial year had been delayed partly as a result of the public works contract with Herefordshire Council moving from Amey to Balfour Beatty Living Places and in some cases as expected projects had not materialised as quickly as anticipated. As a result it is expected that reserves and the projected surplus would amount to a sum in the region of £54,000 at the end of the financial year. It was also noted that grant funding might be available towards the cost of producing a Neighbourhood Development Plan. Accordingly, it was unanimously agreed that a precept of £50,000 be requested from Herefordshire Council with remaining expenditure planned for 2014-2015 to be funded from reserves and/or grant funding as appropriate.

The Clerk was authorised to issue the formal claim accordingly.

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed.