

**BRANDON & BYSHOTTLES PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS**  
**6 GOATBECK TERRACE, LANGLEY MOOR, DURHAM**  
**ON WEDNESDAY 2ND SEPTEMBER 2015, AT 7.00 PM**

**PRESENT**

Councillor Mrs Wharton (in the Chair)  
and Councillors Bell, Mrs Chaplow, Mrs Gates, Grantham, Jamieson, Mrs Nelson, Nelson,  
Sims, Taylor and Turnbull

**Fin. 15      DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**Fin. 16      APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs Akins, Jones and Mrs Leckenby (substitute Councillor Grantham).

**RESOLVED:** To receive the apologies.

**Fin. 17      ACCOUNT BALANCES AT 31<sup>ST</sup> JULY 2015**

Approval was requested for the account balances as at 31st July 2015.

**RESOLVED:** To recommend approval of the balances at 31<sup>st</sup> July 2015

**Fin. 18      ESTIMATES/ ACTUALS AS AT 31ST JULY 2015**

Approval was requested for estimates/ actuals as at 31st July 2015.

**RESOLVED:** To recommend approval of the estimates/ actuals at 31st July 2015.

**Fin. 19      WARD ESTIMATES/ ACTUALS AS AT 31ST JULY 2015**

Approval was requested for ward estimates/ actuals as at 31st July 2015.

**RESOLVED:** To recommend approval of the ward estimates/ actuals as at 31st July 2015

**Fin. 20**            **REVIEW OF ALLOTMENT RENTS**

The Clerk presented a report to Council on the allotment rent review.

**RESOLVED:** To recommend that the rents remain at £35 for year commencing 1<sup>st</sup> February 2017.

**Fin. 21**            **DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL – MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLANNING & 2016/17 BUDGET SETTING**

Information had been received from Durham County Council informing the Parish Council of the likely impact of the Localisation of Council Tax Support Scheme up to 2018/19. This shows a possible reduction in support grant payments to the Parish Council of a total of £5088 over the next 3 years. Initial forecast for 2016/17 Tax Base shows an increase in Tax Base of 80.4 on 2015/16. The overall net impact on the Parish Council would be an increase in income of £1,583 for 2016/17. Figures are for information purposes only, final details will be forwarded to the Parish Council in December 2015.

**RESOLVED:** To take the information into account during the Council's budget setting process.

**Fin. 22**            **FLORAL DISPLAYS**

Members had received many complaints from local residents about the issue of the poor quality of the flowers in the black tubs.

In comparison, there had been many favourable comments about the quality of the floral beds at the entrances to the villages which had been provided by Durham County Council.

**RESOLVED:** To recommend contacting Durham County Council to discuss the possibility of forming a partnership to provide the floral displays for the next 3 years.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

Pursuant to section 100(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the public be now excluded from the meeting during discussion of the items listed below on the grounds that if Members of the public were present during discussion of these items there would be disclosure to the public of exempt information.

**ANNUAL REVIEW OF SALARIES FOR 2015/16**

The Clerk presented information on current staff salaries and informed Members that the current NJC for Local Government Services Pay Agreement was effective until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016. Negotiations will now be taking place for the pay award which will be effective from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016.

**RESOLVED:** To recommend that information on the pay award from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016 be brought to Council when agreed.

The meeting closed at 7.45 pm

Signed .....

Date .....