



Ashington Parish Council

Finance Committee Meeting

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**THE NEXT MEETING OF  
ASHINGTON PARISH  
COUNCIL FINANCE COMMITTEE  
TO BE HELD IN:  
THE PARISH OFFICE  
ASHINGTON SPORTS PAVILION  
AT 7.30 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY 14<sup>TH</sup>  
NOVEMBER 2012**

**AGENDA**

1. Apologies for absence
2. Public Adjournment – an opportunity for members of the public to raise any matters with the Council
3. To discuss the proposed budget and precept document presented to Councillors  
The Clerk has prepared a provisional budget which can be summarised thus:

Predicted income 2013/14	£12,070
Predicted expenditure 2013/14	£103,164
Deficit	£91,094
Current Precept	£92,793.80

Reserves are running at @67% of expected expenditure (target is @50%)

It is proposed that the precept is set at the January Parish Council meeting to allow for further clarification of costs.

The following proposals are to be discussed:

- a. Play Area Capital Reserves (£4500pa) and Skatepark Maintenance Reserves (£500pa) are 'merged' and the funds used to pay for play

area & skatepark maintenance & replacement, also play area lease cost and RoSPA inspection cost.

- b. The Council establish a Signs, seats, noticeboards & bus shelters earmarked Reserve. Maintenance of these takes place every 3-4 years and costs @£1500. Budgeting £500pa will build up funds for this work.
- c. Diamond Jubilee Sign Earmarked Reserve – the Council budgeted £500 pa in 11/12 towards this project but scrapped this in 2012 as the Diamond Jubilee Survey showed little support for a sign. It is proposed that the £500 in the budget is moved to the new Signs, seats reserve (above) and that no further funds are put into this reserve.
- d. The 'Election Fees' Earmarked reserve be re-named 'Election/Referendum' reserve as referenda may need to be held in the future.
- e. The Clerk look to reduce Parish Office costs – investigate sharing broadband/phone with the Wardens, reduce office rent.
- f. HDC invoice Wardens costs 6months in arrears. It is proposed that the Clerk agree with HDC to 'catch up on payment' and to pay Wardens costs once per year, 6 months into the year (September).
- g. All budgets have been considered very carefully and pared down as much as possible or even removed eg cctv camera repairs. It is proposed to increase the Contingency budget from £2000 to £4000 to cope with any unforeseen items.

**THE PUBLIC AND PRESS ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO BE PRESENT**

Karen Dare, 12<sup>th</sup> November 2012