

## **Corrections to Minutes of an Extraordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 30th January 2023 at 7.30pm in Hadnall Village Hall**

### **Statement from the Chairman.**

Cllr Clifford raised a number of objections during the statement;

**Statement:** a counter proposal was put forward to 'ignore' the budget requirements and align any increase to the same rise in precept being proposed by the principal authority, Shropshire Council (SC).

**Objection:** Cllr Clifford objected. The proposal was not to 'ignore' the budget but to raise concern and question whether the Parish Council should be raising the precept when there was a cost of living crises.

**Statement:** What is clear however, and not helped by misleading and inaccurate information

**Objection:** Cllr Clifford objected. There had not been and misleading and inaccurate information publish on social media.

**Statement:** The Statement made that an increase of 38% was recommended at its meeting held on 9th February is factually incorrect. In any budget setting scenario, a range of options are explored. At no time was an increase of this kind recommended or proposed by anyone present

**Objection:** Cllr Clifford objected. The Clerks published a recommendations for the precept at 38%. The is evident in emails and the clerk's precept report.

## **Minutes**

The following paragraph needs correcting;

~~Cllr Clifford raised matters relating to the Clerk's contract of employment. He was asked to refrain from discussing such matters in a public forum but to bring them to the Staffing Committee (of which he is a member). Despite this request, Cllr Clifford continued to repeatedly bring up employment matters and went on to suggest that the Clerk be laid off in order to save money.~~

**Correction;**

Cllr Clifford raised matters relating to the Clerk's contract of employment. He was asked to refrain from discussing such matters in a public forum but to bring them to the Staffing Committee (of which he is a member). Cllr Clifford stated he was surprised he was still on the staffing committee as he had been replaced by the Chairman on other committees without consultation.

Cllr Clifford stated the clerk was a public servant and her salary and expenses are clearly stated in the budget. The clerk's salary and expense are the largest single item of expenditure and it is right that they should be discussed openly.

Cllr Clifford wanted to know why a pay rise of 10% was include in the budget plan when the clerks received a 27.5% pay rise last year. Cllr Clifford questioned whether the parish could afford a clerk when the salary and expenses where so high.

~~Cllr Clifford wished to record that he was unhappy with the way the budget had been debated and decided.~~

### **Correction**

Cllr Clifford wished to record that he was unhappy with the way the budget had been debated and decided. Not sufficient time had been given to discuss the budget and he had identified a number of areas for savings which would result in no need for a precept increase.

Cllr Clifford had objected he had not been given the opportunity to present an alternative budget he had prepare showing a -1% precept increase and -12% precept increase with interest gained from investing capital reserves.

Please see attached alternative proposed budget.

**Note from Clerk: The 'alternative proposed budget' cannot be published with the minutes as it was neither circulated in advance of the meeting nor distributed during the meeting.**

Further;

During the meeting Cllr Clifford raised concern that the clerk had breached her brief in expressing opinions on subject matter which was not within her role. He state the clerk is there to take the minutes and provide advice. Not to express opinions on matters being debated.