SEATON ROSS PARISH COUNCIL

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| Date | Tuesday 5th December 2023 7:30pm |
| **Location** | Seaton Ross Village Hall |
| **Attendees** | Cllrs Henley (Chair), Hunt, Johnson, Chapman, Gascoyne, Underwood and Gemma Storer (Clerk) |

|  | | **To Action** |
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| 64/23 | **Declarations of Interest** | n/a |
| None |
| 65/23 | **Apologies** | n/a |
| Cllrs Gardham and Hamilton |
| 66/23 | **To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 24th October and any matters arising.** | n/a |
| Clerk to draft letter to Black Horse and the Village Shop regarding Community Asset status. Cllr Hunt confirmed salt bins were full and we have a spare bag that can be used to top up when necessary. It has been approved that we can keep the number of councillors at 9 and not reduce to 7 which means that there is a vacancy. |
| 67/23 | **Finances** | R Chapman to send invoices |
| R Chapman to supply BT bill. Bank balance is £3150.76. NS&I balance = 2552.71. |
| 68/23 | **Devolution Deal** | n/a |
| Mayoral deal to be approved by full Council- consultation period open to the public in January. |
| 69/23 | **Highways Response to Walkabout** | n/a |
| Highways have responded to say that works have been issued for several points raised during the village walkabout. A request for drainage near Seaton Farm and Omega was responded to as follows: Minor ponding of this area does not prevent access to the residents house. Previous investigation to provide drainage from the area to the drains on North End were considered but due to implications with the main drain and utility locations the low priority issue was therefore shelved.  May consider some thin surfacing works to level out the area in the new financial year. |
| 70/23 | **Precept- to agree the Value for the 2024/2025 precept** | n/a |
| Motion- to increase the village precept to £4832.30- an increase of 4.09% (based on current rates provided by ERYC; percentage figure and Band D payment figure may change following adjustment, but precept amount will remain the same)  Each parish and town in the area is funded by a precept raised as part of the annual Council Tax payment. The precept for the village has not been increased for several years, despite the rising costs caused largely by inflation. We have previously balanced the budget by using reserves, however, to maintain these reserves at an adequate level we need to increase the annual budget by 4.09%. These means that a household in a band D property will pay £19.10 per year towards the precept, as opposed to £18.35 which they have paid for the last 3 years, Households in higher banded houses will pay more and houses in lower banded properties will pay less.  Motion AGREED by all councillors |
| 71/23 | **Personnel Committee** | n/a |
| Personnel committee to meet immediately after next meeting (16th January) to carry out pay and performance review for the Clerk, |
| 72/23 | **Planning Consultation/Notices** | n/a |
| 23/02217/PLF St Helens Farm, 23/02643/PLF Linden Garth -note as agreed. |
| 73/23 | **Correspondence/Training Opportunities** | n/a |
| Sent to Councillors in advance. |
| 74/23 | **Councillor Forum/Watching Briefs** | Clerk to report |
| Clerk to ask ERYC about pruning the Village Hall tree. Streetlight out on North End- clerk to report |

The meeting closed at 8:00pm. The next meeting will be Tuesday January 16th at 7:30pm.