

Swilland and Witnesham grouped Parish Council

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Finance Committee Meeting Monday 6th January 2025, 7.30pm at Witnesham Baptist Church

Minutes

Councillors present:

Cllr R Nicols, Cllr S Ross, Cllr P Sharples, Cllr J Hindle

1. **Chair welcomed** everyone, no apologies.
2. **Declarations of Interest.** - none
3. **To confirm the minutes of Finance Committee meeting dated 11th November 2024 as a true record** – all agreed, minutes signed by chair – Resolved – Clerk to file.
4. **To Review Parish Council spending for the year 2024/2025 so far.** –
Current position

Income – to date PC has received income of	£22,138.77
<u>Expected</u> income to end of March 2025 –	£1,051.00

Expenditure - to date PC has spent	£21,115.00
<u>Expected</u> Expenditure to end of March 2025 -	£2789.90

Clerk to enquire re current position of land registration at Village Hall, Recreation Ground and Playing Field, costs have been allowed for, unlikely to spend in this financial year, budget of £5,260 moved to 2025/2026 Budget.

All Cllrs agreed to leave CIL money in Suffolk B/Soc account and move the reserves, previous balance, of £8,924.40 to PC's Unity Bank Account when Suffolk B/Soc new signatories are approved.
Budget predicted of £2k donation for Stop The Quarry shown in each year, as not known when donation will be needed – Chair confirmed it would be a donation total of up to £2k, not £2k each year.
5. **To consider any required adjustments to current Parish Council Budget for 2024 – 2025 and reserves.**
No changes at present
6. **To review the Parish Council Draft Budget for 2025 – 2026.**
Income & Expenditure - £9k removed s106 rec budget 2025/2026

Income – B/soc interest changed from £200 to £500 as the account now has the CIL funds lodged there a higher interest is anticipated.

Expenditure – Created separate lines of spending for legal fees for Village Hall, Recreation Ground and Playing field to show clearly what costs are expected for each location.

Add line for Defibrillators maintenance and replacement £1,100

7. To set the Precept recommendation for 2025 – 2026.

After adding the agreed items to the base budget, all Cllrs agreed a 5% increase to £17,406.77 for 2025-2026.

Full budget to be presented at Parish Council meeting 15th January 2025

8. Other matters – discussed possible funding for new bus shelter at Burwash and two near the Witnesham Village Sign, one each side of the road. SCC advise S106 money available to fund two bus shelters, PC to fund the third.

Further discussion at next PC meeting 15th January 2025.

Meeting closed 8.50pm