

DEBENHAM PARISH COUNCIL – Summary of the Parish Council Meeting held Monday 16 January 2017

Public Notice: It is still time to submit your tenders for Contracts to be awarded for the forthcoming three year period starting April 1st 2017 (deadline extended to 15 February 2017). Further details are available from the Debenham Website and the Clerk.

Contract 1- Bin emptying

Contract 2- Litter picking

Contract 3- Opening, locking and daily cleaning of the public conveniences at Little Back Lane

Contract 4 – Grass cutting and tree and hedge maintenance

Works being considered to improve amenities in Debenham: Members discussed the possibility of spreading some two tones of ballast at the start of the allotments in an attempt to improve the surface. This would be further discussed with the Woodland Steering Group and Woodland Trust; The Debenham Emergency Plan was in the process of being updated. Any parishioners wishing to join the working group please contact the Clerk; A suggestion was made to change the existing trees on the village green for more appropriate replacements; There were also a number of trees missing from Aspall Road which would benefit from being replaced. Recommendations would be forthcoming from the Tree Warden; A new grit bin for Cross Green had been ordered and this ad been part funded by County Cllr MHicks, for which the Parish Council was most thankful. A new waste bin had also been ordered for the junction of Henniker Road/Gracechurch Street.

Street Lighting: Debenham Parish Council is responsible for 63 light column units within the parish. Currently there are a mixture of column types with some very old concrete columns still in operation and some newer steel columns. There are various types of lantern being used, some of which are the old mercury filled lamps that are no longer available if existing ones fail.

Renewing the existing lighting stock with all new LED lanterns and the associated works will cost £55,501.37.

The annual savings that will accrue as a result of the investment is calculated at £2,068.00. This figure will increase over time as energy prices increase.

These savings are based on the current operating costs for the 63 lamps which amounts to £2,356.92 per annum.

This expenditure was approved by Council in 2014 and it is very likely that all works will be completed in the next two months. Parishioners are informed that such a large investment will considerably reduce the Parish Council's financial reserves.

Allotments: Parishioners are advised that there are still a limited number of allotment plots available to let. Tenants are reminded to abide by the Avian Flu restrictions.

Planning: An application for some potential 34 houses at "The Butts" has been resubmitted to MSDC with the new reference number 0030/17, which should be available to view on their website soon.

Mrs Dina Bedwell, Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer, Debenham Parish Council 01473 787861 or debenham.pc@btinternet.com

Date of next Meeting: February 20th 2017