



THE CLERK
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22nd October 2014

Dear Parish Clerk,

Re: Parish Lengthsman Scheme 2015/2016

I am writing to enquire as to whether your Council are intending to continue with the scheme for the next financial year.

I appreciate that it may appear somewhat early, however Parishes will be looking at their budgets and next year's precept in the not too distant future and depending on how successful the scheme this year has been perceived to be, Parish Councils will already have an idea as to whether, cost permitting, they intend to remain in the scheme.

Please find enclosed:

- Financial Statement as at 26th September 2014
- 2015/2016 Funding Arrangements

I would appreciate your Parish Council's decision stating either that it intends to stay in the scheme, purchase more or less days or wish to withdraw from the scheme, by 31st December 2014.

Please note that the hourly rate may change if Parishes deviate from the existing arrangements. Furthermore once your Parish has made a commitment it cannot be changed until the following year.

Unfortunately virtually no feedback has been received from Parishes to date, this year. It would be helpful therefore if each parish would submit a report concerning the success of the scheme with regards the impact it has had on their environment and within their own communities.

Neither has anyone volunteered to sit on the Key Committee. I would be grateful therefore if you could ask you members again. The Committee only meets, at the most, quarterly.

I look forward to hearing from you before 31st December 2014.

Thank you in anticipation.

Yours faithfully,

Mandy Rose
Clerk to Dulverton Town Council

PARISH LENGTHSMAN SCHEME

FINANCIAL STATEMENT as at 26th September 2014

Balance B/fwd			6,406.71
Anticipated expenditure up until 31/03/15:			
P/L Wages & Expenses	4,360.92		
Chapter 8 Training Day	80.50		
		4,441.42	
Available Funds @ 31/03/15			1,965.29
Anticipated Income 2015/16:			
Parish Contributions	4,571.84		
W.S.C.	3,000.00		
		7,571.84	
			9,537.13
Anticipated Expenditure 2015/16:			
P/L Wages& Expenses	8,721.84		
Misc.	500.00		
		9,221.84	
Surplus Funds @ 31/03/16			315.29

Parish Lengthsman Scheme – 2015/2016

Funding:

Parishes	@	4,571.84
W.S.C.	@	3,000.00

		£7,571.84

(N.B. Funding from S.C.C. amounting to £3,000, covering 3 years was received in April 2013.
No further funding is anticipated.)

To maintain the current hourly rate, available funds of £8,372 will be used:

Labour Costs – Days Available:

Assuming an hourly rate @ 11.50 and a 7 hour day:

Available funds of £8,372 ÷ £11.50 = 728 hours

$$728 \text{ hours} \div 7 = 104 \text{ days (26 weeks @ 4 days per week)}$$

Funding Allocation: Will therefore remain as last year:

Parishes contribute 54.6% ($\frac{£4,571 \times 100}{£8,372}$) of the hourly rate (£11.50) = £6.279

The scheme will continue to use £6.28 as the hourly rate Parish contribution. If parishes wish to hire the Parish Lengthsman for more days than contracted, they are advised to negotiate directly with the Parish Lengthsman, and will be expected to pay the full hourly rate of £11.50.

N.B.

- Fuel expenses amounting to £350 per annum will be met by surplus funds.
- No administration costs have been paid this financial year and none budgeted for the next.

Furthermore, this arrangement is not sustainable unless further funding is received for the year commencing April 2016. In the event that further funding is not obtained, if the scheme is to continue it will necessitate a rise in the parish contribution.

Confirmation will be required from the Parish Lengthsman as to whether he is prepared to accept a new contract given that:

- The hourly rate will remain at £11.50
- The available days as from 1st April 2015 until 31st March 2016 will remain at 26 weeks @ 4 days per week.

<u>Parish Council</u>	<u>Days Per Year 2015/16</u>	<u>Actual Cost</u>	<u>Payment Received</u>
Brompton Regis	9	395.64	
Cutcombe	7	307.72	
Dulverton	34	1,494.64	
Exford	12.5	549.50	
Exmoor	4.5	197.82	
Exton	7	307.72	
Luccombe	3.5	153.86	
Selworthy & Minehead Without	13	571.48	
Timberscombe	4.5	197.82	
Withypool & Hawkridge	4.5	197.82	
Wootton Courtenay	4.5	197.82	
TOTALS	104	4,571.84	