**Minutes of Finance Committee Meeting - 13th November 2019**

**Present:** Cllr M Woods, Cllr P Morris, Cllr T Sexton, Cllr A Parrington and Clerk

The Clerk had produced the cash book, bank reconciliation and budget forecast up until 31st October 2019. These were reviewed, agreed and signed by Cllr Woods.

It was anticipated that there would be an underspend on the current year’s budget and this could be considered should donation requests exceed the previous budget of £5,150.

The Clerk confirmed that a couple of purchases were on the agenda for the meeting on 20th November namely:

Leaf blower for the Street Warden - £185

Mobile phones for both the Clerk and Community Agent as current ones were no longer working appropriately – cost between £190 - £352 each

Local Councils Administration publication - £104

A discussion ensued regarding the precept application. The Living Wage Foundation had announced its increase on 11th November and the hourly rate would increase from £9 to £9.30 per hour. This would affect the wages for the Park Warden, Street Warden and Community Agent and it was proposed that this be implemented with effect from 1st April 2020. The Clerk was currently on the top point of her salary scale so there would only be a minimal increase for cost of living. In view of this and the likely underspend for the current financial year it was considered that there would likely be no increase in the precept application however, that would be considered at the next Finance Meeting to be proposed to full Council at the December meeting.

A number of donation bids had been received and were considered – these are summarised in the attached document. A bid from Hwb Yr Orsedd was removed as the donation window was not deemed the appropriate way for funding this project. This project would be considered at the next full Council meeting to establish how this should be funded and establish the links required between the Board and Community Council. It was not deemed appropriate for RCC to consider the application from Christ Church as this contravened the Local Authorities (Goods and Services) Act 1970 under Parish & Burial authorities (Misc Provisions act 1970 s.1 (a)– power to contribute towards the expenses of cemeteries.

The application from the Village Festival raised some queries so the Clerk was requested to seek additional information. The Spreadsheet will be distributed to all Councillors including the proposed level of donation. They will be asked to notify the Clerk prior to the meeting should they wish to review any of the proposed donations.

The next meeting of the Finance Committee will be on the 11th December at 7.30pm to consider the precept application, prior to the Council meeting on 18th December.