

NORTH LODGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance Committee of North Lodge Parish Council held at Park View School, Lombard Drive, Chester-le-Street on Tuesday 14th January 2025.

PRESENT: Chairman: Councillor Patrick Driscoll.
Councillors: Sue Brown, Margaret Caygill, Jackie Gregory, Maureen May, Dennis Hall, Craig Martin, Chris Veitch.
County Councillor: Craig Martin.
Clerk: David Murrell.

The Chairman commenced the meeting at 6.30pm by wishing everyone a Happy New Year.

Item 1. 25/01 Apologies for Absence

There were no Apologies for Absence.

Item 2. 25/02 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Craig Martin declared interests as a County Councillor and as a Trustee of Park View Academy. Councillor Jackie Gregory declared an interest as a member of the North Lodge Remembrance Group WhatsApp Group. Councillor Chris Veitch declared an interest as a member of the North Lodge Remembrance Group.

Item 3. 25/03 Setting the Precept for the Financial Year 2025/2026

Copies of financial forecasts prepared by the Clerk for the financial year 2025/2026 had been previously circulated. These formed the basis for extensive discussions by Councillors. It was agreed that, in the continuing challenging financial circumstances being experienced throughout the country, it would be desirable to set a Precept of £31.50 Band D equivalent property (no increase since 2018/2019) provided that service levels could be maintained and Councillors were satisfied that this would be the case. A financial review is to be undertaken for the June meeting of the Council.

(Resolved - to set a Precept of £31.50 per Band D equivalent property for 2025/2026).

Item 4. 25/04 Other Matters for Information

No other matters were raised.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 7.15pm.