MINUTES OF THE FINANCE COMMITTTEE MEETING ON MONDAY 12TH JANUARY 2015.
AT 7pm IN THE PARISH COUNCIL OFFICE.

Present: Councillors C. Lake (Chairman), Mrs B. Thwaite, Mrs J. Brown, Mrs J. Prescott, B. Packham, S. Haskell and Mrs M. Gibson (Clerk)

1. Apologies for absence- Apologies were received from Councillor M. Gibson

2. Declaration of Interests - No Councillors had interest to declare.

3. a) Report on Expenditure for 2014/15
This was discussed and agreed everything was on track at the present time.

4. Matters for Discussion
i) To Discuss Precept requirements and budget for 2015/16
The letter from YLCA regarding Govt policy on Parish Council "capping" was discussed, it appears at present there are no plans to "cap" Parish Councils but this is probably something which will come in near future. **Agreed we propose to full Council that we write to our MP and the Minister regarding this proposal. How can Parish's take up services which are to be cut by District & County if funds are not to be available to do this.**
Agreed that we propose to full Council that we increase Precept (Option 2 on SDC form) to £150,000 . We still have some street lighting which needs upgrading and also we will have County Grass cutting to do this next season.
Budget decision to be made at next meeting in February when we will have better idea of grass cutting costs, and also what may be happening with Library. Councillor Packham reports that it is likely that NYCC will give the Parish the library but we would be responsible for maintenance on the building.
Parish Council will be responsible for NYCC grass cutting this year. County will only be doing "Safety cuts" areas, thought we should ask NYCC if they would pay us if we do all the cutting including Safety cuts. Parish Council would have to check with NYCC about liability if we did do this.

ii) To Discuss Street Lighting upgrade.
Quotation in for Springfield Road upgrade of lighting £26,000. **Agreed we propose to full Council that this be accepted and if possible work to be done by year end.**

iii) To Discuss cost of Safety Check for Trees.
Clerk reports we have only had 1 response to our requests and this was for £540 to safety check all our 44 trees. Councillors thought we should add trees on Pinfold area as we have at least 2 large trees on that area. Clerk would check with Mr Varley how many we have and then contact the Tree Consultant asking for price to add those to the list to check.
Agreed we propose to full Council that this quote be accepted and work done asap.
Councillor Packham mentioned the bushes on boundary of Eversley Park area are very overgrown and need trimming back. **Agreed Clerk ask Mr Varley to do this as soon as possible.**