**Your Parish Council- November 2019 DRAFT**

**October Parish Council Meeting**: Minutes of the Meeting are published on the Council’s website**. Topics discussed included**: Adoption of updated Financial Regulations for the Parish Council. These set out the arrangements for sound financial management, how risks are identified and mitigated and arrangements for receipt of funds and payment of expenditure.

The Parish Council received a presentation from Mrs Cummings a Director from the Verve Festival and heard of the Festival’s plans for next year. These are summarised in the Minutes of the Meeting on the Council’s website. The Council are supportive of a similar event next year but requested that the organisers sought ways to engage more with village business and also encourage residents involvement.

Wiltshire Councillor Jose Green reported on the outcome of the Boundary Commission’s findings on ward boundaries and whilst some amendments locally none that directly affect Broad Chalke. Councillor Green also updated on a number of county wide initiatives and in particular the improvements in recycling rates and reductions to landfill.

Significant time was then given to discussing the draft budget for 2020/2021. Wiltshire Council has set the timetable for their receipt of budget information to enable precept setting and notification for the Council Tax Demand Notices. The Parish Council has until mid-January to finalise its expenditure. There are new costs that have arisen and areas of expenditure that the Council has previously had the benefit of receiving without costs being passed through. These will have to be accounted for in the new budget so will see increases in the Council’s expenditure next year. A final budget review will take place at the November meeting including the strategy of using the Council’s Reserves over the next 3 to 4 years to reduce the uplift in precept required to balance the budget.

**Grants to local organisations:** the first week in November sees the closing date for applications for Section 137 grants that the Council will consider at its November meeting**.** Application forms and guidance notes are on the website and should be submitted to the Clerk by 5 November.

**Your Council:** The Parish Council is here to promote community interests. If you have issues that you would like the Council to consider please contact the Clerk or the Chairman. Details below.

**Parish Council Meetings** The next meeting is Wednesday 13 November at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. The Meeting will be preceded by the AGM of the Broad Chalke Community Land Trust at 7.00p, to which residents are invited.

**Contact Details:** The Chairman of the Council, Tom Hitchings can be contacted at: Tomhitchingsbroadchalke@gmail.com

The Parish Clerk is Chris Rothwell and can be contacted at: **Clerkbroadchalke@gmail.com**