



**(ii) Management Accounts :** The Clerk presented the accounts as at 2 December 2013. As previous meeting did not take place until 26 November, there are a considerable number of unrepresented cheques, totalling £672.05. Our opening balance as at 2 December was £18,498.89, less unrepresented cheques, giving a calculated closing balance of £17,826.84. Cllr Rex reminded Cllrs that this high balance was due to the £10,000 put aside for replacement climbing frame. Cllr Williams said that she was looking at possible grants to help towards new equipment and would compile a list of possible donors. Cllr Rex suggested that the £10,000 be transferred into the existing play equipment account.

**(iii) Budget 2014/15 :** Cllr Rex presented the Budget for 2014/15 and explained that Council had to set a Draft budget at this stage in order to calculate the Concurrent and Precept Requests for submission to NCC before by 14 January 2014. He added that analysis of actual and planned spend since 2012-13 suggested that the new budget should contain a substantially lower level of expenditure than in the period examined. Turning to the Income side, Cllr Rex said that Council should assume little or no change in the Concurrent Grant, however, as a result of reducing the expenditure budget, a large reduction in Precept could be made. He then proposed that Council approve the initial Draft Budget. Cllr Williams seconded the motion and it was agreed unanimously.

**(iv) Concurrent/Precept Grant for 2014/15 :** Cllr Rex proposed and Cllr Williams seconded that the Concurrent Grant Request tabled by the RFO be submitted to NCC. This was agreed unanimously but Council noted that the best that could be expected was a similar grant to that received in 2013-14. Cllr Rex said that the Maintenance Budget could be reduced from £2,500 to £1,000 because the Gate Update was a one-off and it was apparent that money need not be set aside for Community Events, as the team were clearly self-sufficient for future events. He added that in the last 2 years £887 had been budgeted but not used. Cllr Williams said that it was bad practice to take money from Residents in taxation if it was not going to be used. Based on such savings and other reductions together with changes in source of funds, Cllr Rex proposed that the Precept be reduced by £10 to £15 per household. Cllr Williams said she had concerns about a large reduction in Precept until we knew for certain what the concurrent grant will be. After further discussion, Cllr Williams seconded the proposal that was then accepted unanimously. The RFO was instructed to append a note to the Return stating that if the Concurrent were to be reduced, Council would wish to reconsider the Precept.

#### **2384 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Cllr Bevan praised the Llanvaches Events Committee for their recent Christmas Tree Festival.

**2385 DATE OF NEXT MEETING** : 21 January 2014

The meeting closed at 8.20 pm.