

Langley with Hardley Parish Council

Report: To discuss increasing the frequency of meetings of the Parish Council to 11 per year (excluding August). Agree on a course of action.

Date: November 7, 2023

Prepared by: Cllr Moore

I. Introduction

During a PC meeting earlier this year Cllr Adcock raised the question of whether PC meetings should be increased from the current bi-monthly 6 meetings p/a to every month (excluding August) 11 meetings p/a, to speed up the business of the PC. The committee asked for someone to volunteer to investigate the likely costs of this and report.

II. Actions

Requested Clerk to calculate likely extra cost of her salary and expenses. Checked calculations and agreed figures.

III. Findings

CURRENT

5 hours per week to service 6 meetings per year = 260 hours at £12.73 = 3,309.80

Weekly home office fee charge is £6. £312 fixed cost

Expenses say £18 per meeting to include travel, postage, printing 18 x 6 = 108.00

TOTAL £3,729

PROPOSED

8* hours per week to service 11 meetings per year = 416 hours at £12.73 = 5,295.68

Weekly home office fee charge is £6. £312 fixed cost

Expenses say £18 per meeting to include travel, postage, printing. 11x18 = 198.00

TOTAL £5,805.68

* Dependent on Clerk not having to travel to the Parish each month to update the notice boards.

Difference = £2,076.68

The above shows a significant additional cost that the committee needs to consider.

It should also be noted that during the meeting when the question was raised, the Clerk was asked if she would be willing to work the extra hours. She said that she would be unable to do so.

In my opinion the costs are too high and, more importantly, losing Emma as our Clerk would have an extremely negative outcome for the PC.
