**Present**: Councillors Bob Turgoose, Keith Dean, L Wheeler, Louise Fuller and Diane Hayes. Also present: Cllr J Johnson, S Willoughby-clerk, and three members of the public.

1. **Apologies for absence:** None
2. **Disclosure of interests under the Council’s Code of Conduct.** None
3. **Minutes of the meeting** held on 16th November 2016 were unanimously agreed and signed as a correct record of the meeting.
4. **St Mary’s Church.** A radar survey need to be carried out on the graveyard to establish whether there is any space. English Heritage and the Planning department will be contacted by the Rector regarding the graveyard.
5. **Street lighting.** The street light at Lower Cross Cottages is due for repair before the end of January.

1. **Defibrillator:** Funding is available for a defibrillator in Udimore, although there are concerns about its usefulness in Udimore due to the elongated nature of the village. It was agreed that Cllr Turgoose will apply for funding.
2. **Budget:** It was agreed to set the precept for the financial year 2017-18 at £4,100 in order to gradually reduce the amount of reserves the council holds.
3. **Correspondence.** Correspondence received since the last meeting was noted.
4. **Reports from District and County Councillors.** The new public convenience contract has increased but the charge for hiring fairgrounds has remained the same.
5. **Planning matters:** RR/2016/2916/P Old Church Hall. Erection of new dwelling. Council supports approval of the application but also supports the objection and would like to see the windows on the west rather than the east. \* Cllr Maynard arrived during this item.

RR/2016/3212/P Rose Cottage, Udimore Road. Council have no objection to this application. Council permit the owners to remove the bus shelter (at the owners’ cost) to aid visibility if need be.

\*Cllr Maynard gave his report at this stage of the meeting. The budget process is ongoing with the adult social care levy at 2%. East Sussex have started their Better Together campaign to improve health and social care services. Parking in Rye continues to pose a problem. The long term maintenance of the Landgate will be financially burdensome, but is being considered.

1. **Financial matters:**

 11.1 The bi-monthly statement of accounts (budget against receipts & payments)

 and bank reconciliation was approved.

11.2 The following payments were approved:

11.2.1 Clerk’s December and January pay and expenses: £563.21

 11.3 The following schedule of receipts were noted:

 Bank interest December 2016 and January 2017 £0.22.

1. **Date of Next Meeting:**  Wednesday 15th March 2017 Parish Council meeting at the community hall at 6:30pm

The meeting closed at 7.05pm

Signed: Dated: