

Cllr Tindall proposed and Cllr G Wilson seconded that all of the above accounts should be authorised. Motion carried unanimously.

- c. **Web domain price increase:** The Clerk advised that with effect from 1st February 2014 the fee would increase to £3.49 per year. Cllr Tindall proposed and Cllr G Wilson seconded that this should be accepted. Motion carried unanimously.

9. CORRESPONDENCE

PCSO Annie had held a surgery event outside the Spar on 27th November focusing on domestic burglaries. She handed out leaflets and advice to residents regarding the security of their homes. There have been several incidents of burglary and attempted burglary in Church Lane since September 2013 and Annie had asked the Parish Council to look into the possibility of installing one or two additional street lights to improve the security along there. There have been an increased number of calls this winter regarding mud on the roads; one particular problem area was in Lode Way. The Ely Safer Neighbourhood Policing Team and the Highways Department will now work together to address the issue and visit all farms within East Cambs each year before winter sets in to remind farmers of their obligations to keep roads and highways clear of mud. It is hoped that by taking these preventative measures prosecutions can be avoided but both agencies are prepared to take cases to Court where there is a breach in the law and road safety is compromised. An elderly couple in Camping Close are experiencing problems with door knocking (knock and run) and this is being investigated.

Many national and local events and activities are being planned during 2014 to commemorate the Great War and the County Council is working with Local Armed and Cadet Forces to share resources and plans. They are running a project called "The Great War – Between the Lines" to bring local stories to life such as the role of women, the setting up of local hospitals and factories and the impact on local traditions and customs as well as the Local Regiment's history. Material is already featuring on the Cambridgeshire Community Archive Network, which can be found via this link <http://great-war.co.uk>. They would like to encourage and support all communities to hold commemorative events and more information can be obtained from Mark Miller on 01223 699283 or email: mark.miller@cambridgeshire.gov.uk.

The Ely Soham Dial-a-Ride AGM will be held on Tuesday 18th February at Witchford Village Hall from 11.00am – 2.00pm, Cllrs G & P Wilson hope to attend.

Outline proposals for a development of 100 houses on land off Wilburton Road had been received from Gladman Developments Ltd and they will be invited to attend the March Full Council meeting to present their proposals further.

The final West Neighbourhood Panel Meeting will be held on Monday 20th January at 7.00pm at Witchford Village College.

10. INFORMATION FROM DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLORS

District Cllr Allen advised that Gladman Developments had also put out an identical flyer in Witchford for a similar proposal to develop a large number of houses and would appear to be doing the same in several other counties.

Cllr P Wilson had attended a Full Council meeting on 9th January. Mr Herbert from Post Offices Ltd had attended to discuss the Ely Post Office situation of working from a car park. Mr Herbert had advised a Crown Post Office would be too expensive and wanted people to suggest shops that would let the post office share their premises. There was also a motion to review the committee arrangements within the District Council and an instruction to the Chief Executive to look into how the number of councillors could be reduced. In 2002 the Boundary Review Commission had increased the number from 37 to 39 at a cost of £300,000.

Cllr G Wilson reported on the budget figures for 2015/16 and that an expected fall in funding had not materialised because the government had relented on it's intention to cut funding and this would allow for £575,000 to be put back in the budget. However it will most likely still be left out to help make up for an expected shortfall in 2017/18. The Council Tax base for this year will not affect the Parish Council's Precept and additional Parish Funding.