

Item 9. (b) 1. Last year the figure was £142.19 and both figures include VAT. The amount budgeted in December 2017 for the April 2018 to March 2019 street lighting and maintenance invoice was £220.00.

Item 9. (g) Elections and Annual Meetings, 2019 – Revised information from NALC (an extract addressing the timing of annual meetings following the 2019 elections).

In the October update, we confirmed our view that the impact of the first May bank holiday is that councillors will take office on Tuesday 7 May. Further to this, our view is that where there are elections, the annual council meeting must take place between Wednesday 8 and Thursday 23 May. This is in line with paragraph 7 (2) of Schedule 12 to the Local Government Act 1972, which provides that in a year which is a year of ordinary elections the annual council meeting shall be held on or within 14 days after the day on which the councillors elected take office. Our view is that the earliest the summons can be sent is on election day, Thursday 2 May, and the Sunday and Bank Holiday Monday are not counted in the computation of days for the service of the summons. Sundays are also not counted in the 14 day calculation.

Where there is no contested election the summons can be served in sufficient time with three clear days' notice so that the annual council meeting can be held on Tuesday 7 May.

This suggests the practice of sending a summons to all candidates on an 'if elected' basis should be avoided and may require those councils currently planning to hold the annual meeting on the 7th to re-schedule it to the 8th (or within 14 days).

Item 9. (j) Parish Councillors considered the service and costs from Heelis & Lodge and Suffolk Association of Local Councils. Heelis & Lodge were approved in view of the service provided for the audit last year and the competitive quote.