

Electricity Supply for Street Lighting

Background

Electricity supply for the street lights is currently supplied by SSE.

Due to an error on SSE's part billing stopped on 24/01/18.

Once this error was identified billing restarted on 09/03/19 and FPC has now received a bill from 09/03/19 to 31/12/19 (details below).

FPC should have received notification in July 2019 that FPC needed to move to a new contract. There is no evidence of receiving this notification. As FPC didn't respond, SSE moved FPC automatically to the Variable Business Rate, at a higher cost.

Current bill

FPC is being asked to pay the bill for 09/03/19 to 31/12/19, at a total cost of £1836.38.

This is significantly higher than the last payments made up to 2018 (figure thought to be about £900/annum).

As FPC can find no record of receiving notification of the increase in costs FPC could decide to pursue a case that we should not be charged at the higher Variable Business Rate.

Or FPC could decide to pay this bill at this point. The Clerk has been in liaison with SSE so they are aware of concern over this bill and that it requires consideration at a parish council meeting before any payment can be made.

Contract Renewal

[It seems more difficult than usual to speak to someone at energy companies at the moment, no doubt because of the Coronavirus impact on working practices. As it's generally not possible to get quotes for unmetered supply via standard online quote forms this process is taking considerable time with only limited results to date.]

SSE have sent a contract for electricity supply.

The costs for a year appear to be £4663.20 if the contract is being read correctly (3 billing figures/month). This is clearly a much higher charge than previously.

Other quotes pursued:

EDF have provided a quote, with four different rates, although it's not clear what the rates are for. The cheapest annual rate is 2547.98, the most expensive £2915.61.

The following companies have been contacted but no quotes have been received:

Good Energy - online form submitted

Eon – online form submitted

Ecotricity – they've confirmed they do not operate unmetered accounts.

Pure Planet – they've confirmed they do not operate business accounts.

Utility Aid

The Timsbury PC Clerk had forwarded details of a company - [Utility Aid](#) - that broker energy deals for not-for-profit organisations. Utility Aid have been contacted and will look into possible energy deals and supply details of these. There is no cost and there is no obligation.