



Wadebridge Town Council

Minutes of Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting held on Monday 13 January 2020 at 7.00pm in the Victoria Room, Wadebridge Town Hall

Present: Cllrs; J Fletcher, E Gill, R Harris, M Hollamby, J Leach, L Mitchell, P Mitchell (Chair) and A Pennington
In Attendance: Anne Minnis (Town Clerk) Julie Raynes (Finance Officer)
Public Present: None

Housekeeping – Chairman advised of evacuation routes in case of an emergency (there were no hazards to note) and reminded all those present of the following:

- That the meeting may be filmed or recorded.
- Members and members of the public to turn mobile phones to silent.
- Should a Member or member of the public wish to film or photograph the meeting please sit in the 'Film/Photograph Area'.
- Members of the public, children or vulnerable persons who do not wish to be filmed or photographed please sit in the 'No Film/Photograph Area'.

Fin 201/20 **To receive and approve apologies for absence** – Apologies were received from Cllrs H Cooper-Waite & I Welch

- *It was **RESOLVED** to accept apologies from Cllr H Cooper-Waite due to conflicting family commitments*
- *It was **RESOLVED** to accept apologies from Cllr I Welch due to conflicting work commitments*

Fin 202/20 **To receive Declarations of Interest**

- a) **Pecuniary Interests** - None
- b) **Non-Registerable Interests** – None
- c) **Dispensations** – None.

Fin 203/20 **Minutes of last meeting**– *The Minutes of the meeting held on 11 November 2019 were **RESOLVED** to be a true record.*

Fin 204/20 **Public Participation** – None

Fin 205/20 **Finance**

- a) **Budget monitoring figures to 30 November 2019**
The figures were reviewed, and members **RESOLVED** to accept the budget figures as presented.
- b) **Bank Reconciliation to 30 November 2019**
The figures were reviewed, and members **RESOLVED** to accept the reconciliation figures as presented.

Precept 2020/21

The Clerk presented the Draft Budget & Precept report to members outlining the key issues for 2020/21

- Estimated overall revenue budget (excluding reserves) has increased by approx. £46.5K for 2019/20. This budget increase is due to an even increase in spend across all departments.
- Business Rates (Toilets) – Legislation has not yet been passed to provide 100% Business Rates relief on public toilets therefore a budget has been assigned for 2020/21. Had this been implemented this would have released £3.7K to be utilised elsewhere.
- The Town Council has not been subjected to Council Tax referendum principles for this year.
- Council Tax Base – 2019/20 Band D equivalent figure was 2,377.42. For 2020/21 this figure has increased by 55.07 (2.32%) to 2,432.5.
- CTSG – Advised figure of £16,207 for 2020/21 this is a reduction of 43.35% since 2016/17
- The clerk advised that it is recommended within the Local Government Finance Act1992, Section’s 32,43 & 50 that a contingency of 3-12 months of general reserves be held. A **minimum** level of reserves for 2020/21 is recommended at £352K which equates to 4.5 months expenditure and is within the guidelines.
- It was **RESOLVED** to **RECOMMEND to FULL COUNCIL** to accept a precept figure of £524,401 for 2020/21 (an increase of 9.5% on the 2019/20 precept figure of 478,905).
- Members noted that this Precept increase will have a corresponding 7.02% increase on a Band D property of £14.14 per year or 27p per week.
- Members noted that the full cost of operating the Library as a devolved service from Cornwall Council is being met entirely by Wadebridge Town Council Parishioners.

Dates of next meetings

- **Full Council – Wednesday 15 January 2020, 7pm**
- **Finance & General Purposes Committee – Monday 3 February 2020, 7pm**
- **Full Council – Wednesday 12 February 2020, 7pm**

Meeting closed at 7.36pm

Signed as a True and Accurate Account:

Chair: Date: