

MINUTES

Present: Cllrs Beckett, Billington, Foley, Vaughan, Whitehead  
In attendance: Locum R.F.O. Mrs. Susan Coldwell Public attendance: 1

Cllr A Beckett explained that this meeting was called to finalise the budget for 2022/23 and the precept amount, in order to give time to inform Bolsover District Council.

0122/2608 To receive apologies for absence.

Apologies had been received from:

|                           |   |                      |
|---------------------------|---|----------------------|
| Cllr I Brentnall Not well | Cllr M Coupe Covid restrictions related | Cllr R Heffer Work   |
| Cllr K Salt Work          | Cllr D Watson Isolating                 | Cllr S Wood Not well |

Apologies accepted by Members Proposed by Cllr Whitehead. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Cllr Beckett. All in favour

0122/2609 Declaration of Members Interests.

No Member had anything to declare of interest in relation to items on the agenda

0122/2610 Public Speaking.

No questions or comments from the member of the public

present 0122/2611

4A) To approve the minutes of the Extra Ordinary meeting held 7 December 2021 Cllr

Beckett proposed to accept them as a true record. Cllr Billington 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favour

4B) To approve the draft budget for FY2022/23, excepting staff costs (see 5C and 5D below)

The draft budget had been circulated to members. The following points were discussed:

Cllr Beckett queried the 2 x £10,000 amounts shown to be received from the Village Hall. The RFO explained that one amount was for contributions for staff costs for cleaners and caretakers, and other was to reimburse expenditure which would be paid out by TPC on behalf of TVH. Members stated that no TVH amounts should be paid out of the Council's funds, as per agreement in previous minutes, but the RFO explained that the problem is that the Village Hall bank accounts do not have an online facility, thus payment instead by TPC was needed at times, to pay payees swiftly. A lot of the services are shared and hence, from April 2022, there will not be a charge from TVH to TPC for use of the office space.

Cllr Beckett commented that the figure of £100,000 on staff costs can give the impression, as this was not separated between gross pay and oncosts such as Employer's NI and Pension, that staff are being paid higher than they are. The RFO explained that she was willing to break down these costs in the future if necessary.

It was queried that there was no amount shown for Cemetery Maintenance. Given that a new footpath for the cemetery is still needed, it was resolved to show £12,000.

It was noted that £500 was shown for Playground Maintenance, as the RFO was recommending that a professional inspection by (e.g.) RoSPA be undertaken 4 times a year. It was agreed to discuss this matter further at the next meeting of the Resources committee.

The figure of £12,000 in 20/21 for 3<sup>rd</sup> party funding was explained to be for CCTV equipment and 'matched funding' which was no longer needed.

It was resolved to add £2,500 under Community Activities to ensure adequate funding for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations.

As the above changes would cause proposed expenditure to exceed proposed income by £14,395, it was resolved to instead fund the £12,000 Cemetery Maintenance item from general reserves and the extra £2,500 for Community Activities out of the Covid-grant fund. This, after also adding £105 to the Christmas events budget line, brought the budget back into balance.

4C) To approve the Precept amount required for 2022/23

It was proposed by Cllr Beckett that £160,318 be the Precept amount. This was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Cllr Vaughan. All in favour

4D) Subsequent budget changes

It was noted that, if a need were to emerge for any further changes to the amounts in items 4B) and 4C), then a revised budget and precept proposal would be tabled for approval at the Parish Council meeting on 18 January.

4E) To agree how the Covid-19 grant is to be spent and what amount is to be ring-fenced.

It was agreed that a future date for this discussion needs to be set.

0122/2612 Exclusion of public and press

It was resolved to exclude the public and press, by reason of the confidential nature of the following business, in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, s1.

0122/2613

5A) (Item not required)

5B) Approval of Terms & Conditions for Locum R.F.O. from January 2022

It was reported that Cllr Beckett and the Locum RFO had been discussing the final details of an amended contract. Members agreed for the Chair to finalise this.

5C) and 5D) To approve the staff-costs budget for FY2022/23

The RFO had circulated a paper, giving a best estimate of staff costs which, taking into account potential increases in the NJC pay review of 1.75% from April 2021 and maybe more from April 2022, increase of Employer's NI, appointment of new Clerk/RFO being expected on scale point 29 (plus pension) and no changes to current staffing structure, showed staff costs for 22/23 to be £117,000.

The council noted this but resolved not to make any change to the £100,000 staffing costs already agreed for the 22/23 budget (see 4B above).

5E) Timetable for recruitment of permanent Clerk/R.F.O.

Cllr Beckett reported that the Job Description and Person Specification were being finalised by the 5 members of the recruitment panel, then a timetable would be prepared and progress reported to each Council meeting.

The next meeting of the full Parish Council was noted to be on Tuesday 18 January 2022 at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 8pm.