



Heybridge Parish Council

Minutes of the **BUDGET COMMITTEE OF THE PARISH COUNCIL** held on **FRIDAY 13th JANUARY 2017** in The Claydon Room, Plantation Hall, Colchester Road, Heybridge.

PRESENT

- Chairman:** Prof Lew Schnurr
- Councillors:** Michael Edwards
- Officers:** Laurie Wiebe – Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer to the Parish Council
John Williams – Internal Auditor
- Members of Public:** None

In the Chair: Cllr. Prof. Lew Schnurr

The meeting started at 2.04pm.

It was noted the meeting would not be filmed or recorded.

- 16/375** **Apologies for absence**
Apologies were received from Cllr Gary Young (bank reconciliation verifier.) Late apologies were received from Cllr Perry.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the apology.

- 16/376** **Chairman's Announcements**
No announcements.

- 16/377** **Minutes**
The minutes of the meeting of the Budget Committee of the Parish Council held on 6th December 2016 were received.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meeting of the Budget Committee held on 6th December 2016 be approved and confirmed.

- 16/378** **Declarations of Discloseable Pecuniary Interests, Other Registerable Pecuniary Interests, Registerable Non-Pecuniary Interests**
None.

16/379 Public Participation session

None present.

16/380 2017-2018 Budget

Members considered the draft budget for 2017-2018 financial year to be recommended to full Council.

It was noted that the reforecast for 2016/2017 for code 3901 should be £25,000 (an increase of £5,000) as there potentially was a further by-election in the current financial year.

It was noted that:-

- Code 3001 Grass cutting and ground maintenance – to be reduced from £40,000 to £25,000;
- Code 3702 Neighbourhood Plan – the budget originally was £20,000. Current expenditure was £2,500 which leaves £17,500 remaining for 2017/2018;
- Other items have marginal increases or remained the same as current reforecast financial year.
- The proposed budget was balanced and would not draw from the reserves.

The Committee **RECOMMENDS** that full Council agree the draft 2017/18 budget as appended.

16/381 2017-2018 Precept

Members considered the precept for 2017-2018 financial year based on the draft budget.

Total Expenses = £256,700

Minus Income = £38,500

Draw from Reserves = £0

Total Precept = £218,200.00

Percent Increase in Precept 2017/18 = 29.9%

Band D equivalent = £76.35

It was noted that the current (2016/2017) Band D equivalent is £59.48 therefore it would be increased by £16.87. The Band D equivalent would therefore be £1.47 per week which was less than a cup of coffee.

It was noted that Mr. Williams would be attending the full Parish Council meeting to be held on 19th January 2017.

The Committee **RECOMMENDS** that full Council agree the precept 2017/18 be £218,200.

16/382 Press Release

Members considered drafting a press release explaining the budget expenditure for 2017/2018 for recommendation to full Council.

It was **RESOLVED** that Cllr Prof Schnurr, Clerk and Mr. Williams to draft the press release to include explanation of services being maintained, new play equipment at Plantation Hall and the Neighbourhood Plan.

16/383 Future Meeting Dates

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on 19th January 2017 at 7:00pm.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 3.10pm.

Chairman

DRAFT