

SPECIAL FINANCE COMMITTEE

30 January 2018

Present: Councillors Westmorland (Chairman), Briggs, Campbell, Draper, Jones, Mellows, Morris, Nicholson, Swift, Upson & Womersley.

Apologies: Councillors Riley & Wootton.

8 members of the public were in attendance.

The Chairman welcomed Councillor Womersley to his first meeting.

212 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors should disclose pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest/s in any item/s on this agenda.

The Chairman read out the following statement. Members are referred to, and shall observe, the provisions of the Hemsworth Town Council's Code of Conduct. If a Councillor has a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest he/she must, unless a dispensation has been granted, withdraw from the meeting room and take no part in the discussion or vote. If any interest (Pecuniary or Non-Pecuniary) has not been entered in the Town Council's register then you must disclose it at the meeting and inform the Monitoring Officer within 28 days of the date of initial disclosure. Failure to abide by the provisions of the Code in regard to Disclosable Pecuniary Interests now amounts to a criminal offence.

No disclosures were made.

213 BUDGETS 2018/2019

Members discussed the Town Clerk's report which had been circulated with the agenda (pages 255 – 264 of these minutes).

Councillor Swift moved the report, which was seconded by Councillor Mellows and the Chairman opened the matter up for questions.

The Clerk provided additional detail in relation to paragraph 11 which related to the pending pay award and provided members with the quotations received for the Insurance, HR & Health & Safety contract renewals.

It was agreed that the details be noted and that members agreed to accept the quotations from the current Insurers and Health & Safety provider and that the quotations for HR support from CG Professional be approved.

Councillor Womersley raised questions on paragraph 12 of the report, relating to the proposed projects and requested confirmation on matters relating to the External works at Fitzwilliam Centre, the Fitzwilliam Centre as a charity, Christmas lights and the fees allocated to Bank Street and the Clerk responded accordingly.

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213 BUDGETS 2018/2019 - continued

Councillor Womersley requested an explanation of the Service Provision budget and questioned where in the budget report was the £50,000 that the Town Council had received in relation to the Section 106 agreement. The Clerk gave details of the Service Provision budget and how this had been allocated and explained that the £50,000 had been received in this year's accounts and therefore would not show in the budgets for 2018/19.

Councillor Womersley raised concern over the increase in the Legal & Professional fee budget and the Clerk provided additional details on this matter.

The Chairman asked if there were any amendments to the report. As no one indicated any a vote was taken on the recommendation in the report;

That the budgets, proposals and information contained in the report be approved – an increase of 1.98% on Council Tax Bands (7% on the precept) - and this Town Council agree the precept be set at £730,000 for 2018/19.

RESOLVED: That by a vote of 10 for and 1 abstention the proposal was carried for a recommendation to be made to the Town Council that authority is given to the Town Clerk to levy the precept of £730,000 on the District Council for the financial year commencing 1 April 2018.

Meeting closed at 7.25 p.m.

Tina Pattison
Town Clerk
30 January 2018

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