

DURSLEY TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES and REPORT of the MEETING of the POLICY & FINANCE COMMITTEE of the Council held at Dursley Methodist Church, Castle Street, Dursley on Tuesday 18th October 2022 for presentation to the Council on Tuesday 1st November 2022.

PRESENT

Councillors: S Creswick (Chair), S Ackroyd, P Hayes, J Rubin, D Savvidou, M Stennett, A Stennett, M Woodward, T Kinnison and T Stride.

Officers: J Kay, Town Clerk.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs M Nicholson (personal) and L Patrick (business).

2. MEMBERS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3. REPRESENTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no representations from the public.

4. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meetings of the Policy and Finance Committee held on Tuesday 27th September 2022 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

5. TO CONSIDER THE DRAFT BUDGET FOR THE PERIOD 2023 TO 2026

The Committee considered the draft budget presented by the Town Clerk, it was acknowledged that the Council's energy deals end in March 2023 and that the Staffing Committee would consider the staff salaries at the meeting scheduled for the 25th October 2022.

It was noted that the Council's predicted reserves was healthy and the Committee supported the request of the Green Spaces Committee to allocate a sum of between £100-150K towards an improvement project to the War Memorial Recreation Ground Pavilion including the provision of the toilet block from the General Reserve.

The Town Clerk confirmed that a CIL payment of Approximately £9.5k was expected from Stroud District Council.

IT WAS AGREED for the draft budget to be put forward to Council on the meeting to be held on Tuesday 15th November 2022:

6. YOUTH SERVICE CONTRACT

The Town Clerk reported that the current contract with The Door Youth Project was due to expire at the end of August 2023 and the procurement process was required to be started for a new contract.

IT WAS AGREED to invite Cam Parish Council to join us in joint procurement of a three-year term youth service contract, with a further two-year extension subject to performance. The Committee expressed a desire to retain four sessions per week at Vibe but to increase the Youth Service budget to allow for an expected increase in costs as a result of the new contract tender process.

7. UPDATE ON INVESTMENTS

The investments and charges on 11th October 2022 were noted. The second instalment of the precept had been received.

IT WAS AGREED to add £2k to the income expected in 2023/24 due to the current higher interest rates and the funds located within the Public Sector Deposit Fund.

The meeting closed at 19:40.

.....Chair

.....Date