



Wivenhoe Town Council

MINUTES of the Extraordinary Full Town Council meeting held on Tuesday 11 January 2022 at 7:30pm **Chair Approved**

Present: Cllr Luxford-Vaughan (Chair), Cllr Kane, Cllr Henley, Cllr Burke, Cllr Read, Cllr Aldis, Cllr Multon, Jo Beighton-Emms (TC), Maurice Howard (Accountant via Zoom) and Emma Buckley (RFO)

PART A

EFC/01.22/01 Apologies for absence: Cllr Megan Maltby, Cllr Wenaden and Cllr Widgery.

EFC/01.22/02 Declarations of interest: None.

EFC/01.22/03 To approve the Councils 2022/23 annual budget presented by the Finance Committee and set the precept for 2022/23:

The council considered a Budget Review and Budget which were previously circulated and are attached as Appendix A and B.

Cllr Kane reported that CBC had notified the Council late in December of the new tax base figures and it had increased slightly this year, which would be a benefit to the precept. Cllr Kane reported that the finance committee would like to keep the increase to Wivenhoe residents restricted as much possible whilst also considering the unpredictable high inflation increases. The majority of the budget increase is due to the manpower budget, with wage inflation and increase in NI. There has also been staff regrading. A community fund has been added to the budget and late requests for a Museum budget of £2,000 and a youth hub for £2,500.00 are to be added in the 2022/23 figures presented. Cllr Luxford-Vaughan informed the council that a plan outlining the youth hub will be progressed and presented to the Council.

MH reported that it was extremely difficult budget to set as there are many factors which are still uncertain. These include a pay award for the current year and next year, office and yard project, skate park project and the cemetery wall repairs.

Cllr Aldis arrived at the meeting @ 19:37

The surveyor has been approached again to see what other options are available for the cemetery wall and discussions were made about keeping the existing wall and possible repairs in sections.

Cllr Kane proposed that Wivenhoe Town Council approve a precept of £ 363,688 for 2022/23. This would be an increase of £20,586, or 6% from 2021/22. This would increase the Band D Council Tax for Parish Purposes to £125.60 in 2022/23 from £122.06 in 2021/22 an increase of 2.9% to the taxpayer. As requested, £2,500 for the youth hub and £2,000 for the museum will be included in the 2022/23 budget.

This was seconded by Cllr Read, with all in favour.

Cllr Read thanked the Accountant, RFO and Cllr Kane for their hard work on the budget.

EFC/01.22/04 Office and Yard Update: Cllr Luxford-Vaughan reported that the architect will be putting forward 3 contractors for the council to meet informally for initial discussions about the project. The council need to be aware of the legal duties and compliance they need to adhere to. The council discussed preparing suitable questions for the discussions. A contingency plan was discussed for the build and any unexpected costs that arise due to the current unstable economic situation.

The chair closed the meeting at 19:44

EFC/01.22/05 Exclusion of press and public: In accordance with Paragraph 1 (2) of The Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the Council is invited to consider if the press and public should be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following item(s) owing to the confidential nature of the business.

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| PART B |
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None