



Sodbury Town Council

Minutes of the meeting of Finance & General Purposes Committee

8th Jan 7th
8th January 2020, Sodbury Council Offices

Committee Members: Councillors B Allen, J Ball (Chairman), C Hays (Vice), D Jeal, M Lewis, P Rumney, A Williams

Present: Cllrs. B Allen, J Ball, L Banister, C Hays, D Jeal, M Lewis, A Williams

Cate Davidson – Town Clerk
Jackie Murley – Assistant Clerk

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19. **Apologies**
Apologies received and accepted from Cllr Rumney. Cllr Banister stood for Cllr Rumney.
20. **Declarations of Interest**
None
21. **Approval of Minutes of 15th October 2019**
Resolved the Minutes of the 15th October 2019 were approved as an accurate record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.
22. **Matters Arising**
None
23. **Quarterly Reporting**
- The Clerk circulated reports in relation to income and expenditure for all Committees and summarised each item and Members were given the opportunity to ask questions. In relation to Youth in Sodbury grant, the Clerk confirmed accounts had been received, albeit late. The Clerk provided a background to Youth in Sodbury and its association with SGC in the past for the benefit of new Members. Discussion was had with regard to future grant applicants being invited to a December Full Council meeting each year. It would be an opportunity to meet the applicants who could provide background to their grant applications to see how monies would be utilised. Clerk to action.
- RESOLVED** that the income and expenditure be approved.
- Members were given sight of Bank Statements to 31st December 2019. The Clerk highlighted the statements were available to view in the office at any time.
- RESOLVED** that the bank reconciliation to 31st December 2019 be approved and signed by the Chairman



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24. Budget 2020/21 (papers circulated via e-mail)

The proposed Budget was discussed and the following points made:-

- **Churchyard Maintenance** – Members noted a briefing circulated by National Association of Local Councils (NALC) that related to providing financial assistance to the church. Following discussion, it was RESOLVED to take the matter to next Full Council meeting
- **Grass Cutting** – the Clerk confirmed she had liaised with SGC with a view to making a reduction in cuts in order to save money. Currently, STC pay for extra cuts, ie 5 or 6 pa and following discussion, it was RESOLVED to reduce the number to 3 or 4. With regard to Smarts Green, the Clerk confirmed she would liaise with Sodbury in Bloom. The Colts Green area, which is the responsibility of the Commons Conservators, was considered and it was RESOLVED to take the matter to the next Full Council meeting for further discussion.
- **The Snuggery** – the Clerk confirmed the tenant was due to leave on the 11th January 2020. Members discussed the future use of the building and it was noted significant works were required, notably a new roof. Discussion was had about whether to get a surveyors report on the building but it was RESOLVED to consider this matter at the next meeting.

RESOLVED the Budget for 2020/2021 approved and taken to Full Council for ratification.

25. Precept 2020/21

The report, as e-mailed, was summarised by the Clerk together with the Precept calculation and Members were given an opportunity to ask questions. It was noted that whilst the precept isn't increasing, due to a reduction in the number of Band D households residents will see a small increase.

RESOLVED a Precept of £259,463.00 approved and taken to Full Council for ratification and submission to SGC.

26. Town Council Property

Discussed at Agenda item 24 (The Snuggery)

27. Items to Report

Cllr Lewis reported with regard to the town flag and sought authority to purchase a new one. The Clerk confirmed this would be in order.

28. Date of next meeting – 18th February 2020, 19:30, STC Offices

The meeting closed at 20:30

Signed 

Dated 18/2/2020