



RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Minutes of a Committee meeting held on
Friday 19th November 2021 at 10.30hrs in the Town Hall, 1 High Street,
Cullompton, EX15 1AB

Present

Chair: Councillor M Beckwith

Committee Members: Councillors: J Buczkowski and M Rowe

In Attendance:

Note: Councillors attending by remote access are not able to participate nor vote in the meeting

Councillors:

Officers J Norris (Town Clerk)

1 Member of the public attended the meeting.

R74 Chair's Announcements

The Chair orally reported the people present in the Town Hall. There were no other announcements.

R75 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Andrews, Connolly and Dale.

R76 Declarations of Interests

No declarations of interest were made regarding any items on the Agenda at this stage of the meeting.

R77 Public Participation

This agenda item allows members of the public present at the meeting to raise matters which are relevant to the work of the Committee.

Speaker 1

The speaker said he had sent an email to a number of people asking, as a matter of urgency, that a meeting date be set to hold a public meeting to discuss the precept in view of the pandemic. This urgent matter should have been put on the agenda for the meeting.

The Chair responded that he acknowledged the matter raised by the member of the public.

R78 Minutes:

Consideration was given to the Draft Minutes of the meeting held on 9th September 2021 (Supporting Paper A to the Agenda), the Draft Minutes of the meeting held on 17th September 2021. (Supporting Paper B to the Agenda) and the Draft Minutes of the meeting held on 14th October 2021. (Supporting Paper C to the Agenda)

RESOLVED

- (i) That the draft minutes of the meeting held on 9th September 2021 be confirmed as a correct record
- (ii) That the draft minutes of the meeting held on 17 September 2021 be confirmed as a correct record
- (iii) That the draft minutes of the meeting held on 14 October be confirmed as a correct record.

R79 Resources Committee Budgets For 2022/2023 and Successive Years

Consideration was given to potential projects and possible budget requirements for 2022/2023 for budgets which are the responsibility of the Committee. (Supporting Paper D to the Agenda)

The following suggestions regarding the 2022/23 budget and successive years were made for inclusion in the draft budget:

- That all insurance costs should be increased by 10%
- That the contingency budget lines be treated as Earmarked Reserves so that they are not an annual call on the precept
- That there be an annual uniform allowance of £200.00 per employee (new account code)
- The telephone and broadband budgets should reflect recent Council / Committee decisions
- There is budget for card processing charges of £500 (this was a new code (4038) set up after the 2021/22 budgets were agreed)
- That the room hire account code (4045) is increased to £2,500 to reflect that rooms may be hired for Town Council / Committee meetings
- The Office Equipment account (4070) is set at the 2020/2021 level
- That the grants budget (4075) remains at £3,000
- That the payroll budget (4090) remains at £280,000
- That the staff and Councillor Training budget (4115) is increased to £7,000
- That there needs to be a budget for Community Engagement – this could possibly be combined with the current advertising budget (code 4000 £400.00)
- The Tech fund (EMR334) contribution from the precept should be increased to £15,000

RESOLVED

- (i) That it is recommended to Council that Councillor Allowances (code 4030) are discontinued
- (ii) That it is recommended to Council that the Mayoralty fund (code 4085) is discontinued

R79 Public Participation

The Chair said there was an item for public participation that had not been dealt with during the Public Participation section earlier in the meeting; with the meeting's consent the Chair read out an email received from a member of the public regarding the Head Weir Road Play Area and in particular expenditure to mitigate complaints.

It was agreed that this would be put on the agenda for a future meeting when the Play area was discussed more fully.

It was also stated that there had been no secret of when matters to the play area were being discussed as they were listed as agenda items and similarly any decisions had been recorded in the minutes which were published and publically available.

R80 Members Questions

No matters were raised.

The meeting closed at 11:40hrs

Agreed