



KIRKBYMOORSIDE TOWN COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 3rd November 2015 at 6.30pm in Church House, Kirkbymoorside.

Present: Councillors M Brampton, J Coughlan, C Dowie and J Watson.

Also Present: L Bolland, Town Clerk

In the absence of Cllr Coughlan, who was delayed, to ensure a prompt start to the meeting Cllr Brampton was appointed as Chair and welcomed all present.

F15001 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies had been provided in advance for Cllr Coughlan's late arrival.

F15002 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

F15003 MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

- a. The minutes of the Meeting held on 27 February 2015 were **approved** and **signed**.
- b. There were no matters arising.

F15004 PUBLIC SESSION

No members of the public were present.

F15005 Councillors' Audit – It was noted that a review of the monthly financial reports, business continuity and the risk assessments had been carried out by Cllrs Dowie and Watson for quarters 1 & 2. Cllrs Dowie and Watson requested it be recorded that all accounts were in order and very efficiently filed.

F15006 The value of items on the Council's Asset Register were reviewed and **approved**.

Cllr Coughlan arrived at 6.41pm.

F15007 The running costs of The Moorside Room were assessed by reviewing the income and expenditure to date. The committee are entirely satisfied that the Moorside Room provides a valuable and popular community asset at an acceptable cost and noted that the revenues are rising.

F15008 The proposal that budgets are allocated for the cost of maintenance and repairs of Manor Vale woodland, the play area and the sportsfield and that funds be allocated for development costs which the committees would bid for was **agreed**.

F15009 CAPITAL BUDGET

It was proposed by Cllr Brampton and agreed to revise the order of item 9 to consider the level of general reserves prior to the specific reserves for depreciating assets.

a. On the basis that the general reserve is recommended to be at least half of the precept it was **agreed** that the level of general reserve should be £40,000.

b. It was **agreed** that £20,000 be allocated for specific reserves for depreciating assets, to include:

Staff sickness £5,000,

By-election provision £4,000

Manor Vale provision £6,000

The committee also **agreed** that £55,000 be allocated for streetlights and £40,000 for the cemetery fund. Furthermore, with regards to cemetery funds, it was **agreed** that the surplus of cemetery funds from 2014/15 should be moved into the cemetery account and this would be repeated for any surplus at the end of each financial year.

F15010 REVENUE BUDGET

a. The committee discussed a draft budget for the financial year 2016/17. It was discussed as to whether all grass cutting should be assigned to one cost code, however, as each area is assigned its own contract it was agreed to budget for the grass cutting in each area e.g. Manor Vale, Play Areas etc. It was noted that the draft budget should be amended to include the allocation of funds to a development fund in accordance with minute 15008. It was agreed that the revised draft 2016/17 budget would be recommended to the council.

b. The Committee noted the absence of any grant funding from Ryedale District Council and it was agreed to recommend to Council that the precept remain as £73,500. It was noted that, once again, despite the significant reductions in support from RDC and NYCC, the Town Council have retained a total tax charge of £24,500 per annum less than 5 years ago.

F15011 The future of Kirkbymoorside library, based on negotiations and information to date was discussed. The financial implication are unclear pending further meetings with NYCC Library Services. The committee made the following observations:

- i. In order to proceed under the current proposal by NYCC the Town Council would need to increase the precept.
- ii. The committee is disinclined to recommend the Council spend significant sums of money to subsidise a service that is the statutory obligation of the County Council, especially given the principle of parity for provision and support of library services that should be given across all communities.

F15012 The date of the next meeting will be held in February 2016.

The meeting closed at 7.40pm.

Signed.....Chairman

Date.....