

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL COMMITTEE HELD AT THE WOOLSTON NEIGHBOURHOOD HUB, HALL ROAD, WOOLSTON ON 15 JANUARY 2020

Present: Councillor A McCarthy (Chairman)
Councillors: M Banner, J Greenslade, MH Greenslade, D Nowell, S Rydzkowski
Apologies for absence: Councillors M Creaghan, A Hill, D Hill, M Pearce, B Maher, P Wright

FG53 Code of Conduct – declarations of interest Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012

No declarations were made at the opening of the meeting.

FG54 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors M Creaghan, A Hill, D Hill, M Pearce, B Maher and P Wright:

Resolved,

That the apologies for absence be noted.

FG55 Minutes

Resolved,

That the minutes of the meeting held on 27 November 2019 be taken as read and signed as a correct record.

FG56 Matters of report from previous minutes

No matters to report.

FG57 Management Accounts October to December 2019-20

The Clerk submitted the Management Accounts for the quarterly period ending December 2019. The Clerk reported on changes in procedure by the bank resulting in a delay in having access to monthly statements:

Recommended,

That

1. the Management Accounts for the quarterly period ending December 2019 be accepted;
2. approval be given to application being made for view only online access for the Clerk to the Council's bank accounts.

FG58 Review of the Clerk to the Council's contract of employment

The Clerk reported on the request for advice to the Cheshire Association of Local Councils on matters relating to the model contract and that a report would be submitted to a future meeting:

Recommended,

That the report be noted.

FG59 Development of website

No matters to report.

FG60 General Data Protection Regulations

No matters to report.

FG61 Applications for grant aid

No applications to report.

FG62 Capital projects and improvement schemes 2020-21

Resolved,
That no projects or schemes be recommended for 2020-21.

FG63 Draft Committee budgets and precept for 2020-21

The Committee considered the recommendations of the Environment and Amenities Committee on the draft estimates and those for the Finance and General Committee. The Committee also considered the recommendation from the Environment and Amenities Committee on allotment rents for 2020-21.

A report of the Clerk was considered that gave a summary of the estimated net expenditure for 2020-21 together with other financial provision to be made. The Committee was requested to determine a recommendation for the Council on the budget including the precept to be set. In determining the precept, the Committee had regard to the information provided by the Borough Council on the reduction passed down to parish councils in the tax base relating to the Council Tax Support Allowance (Minute FG45 - 5 December 2018). The Council also had regard to information provided by the Cheshire Association of Local Councils on the effect of exceeding the £25,000 threshold for receipts and payments in a financial year:

Recommended,

That

1. approval be given to the draft budget recommendations, as now amended, and a precept of £25,000 be agreed for 2020-21;
2. the rent for an allotment plot for 2020-21 be set at £20 (£10 for senior citizens and persons in receipt of Job Seekers Allowance) and the required notice be given to tenants.

FG64 Business raised by Council Members

No matters to report.

Chairman.....