

MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT 7.00 PM ON MONDAY
15TH JANUARY 2024 AT THE CIVIC HALL POYNTON

PRESENT

Mayor: P Bailey

Cllrs: M Beanland, D Belcher, M Blackie (arrived 19.05 (item 117), K Booth, L Clarke, P Oakes, L Podmore, Mrs J Saunders, M Sewart, T Swatridge, J Waterhouse, Ms. H Whitaker.

114. To note, if anyone attending, or present, at the committee meeting is making, or intends to make, an audio recording or film of the meeting.

The Mayor confirmed that the meeting is recorded for the purpose of minute taking and the recording is deleted when the draft minutes are agreed. There were no other declarations of a recording of the meeting.

115. Questions from members of the public

There were no questions from members of the public.

116. Apologies for absence

Cllr S Lees

117. Declarations of disclosable pecuniary or other interests

There were no declarations of pecuniary or other interests.

118. To approve as a correct record the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 11th December 2023

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 11th December 2023 are approved as an accurate record (NC)

119. To receive and consider the Town Council's budget for 2024/25 and to approve the precept request for 2024, as recommended by the Finance and General Purpose Committee on 8th January 2024

The Chairman asked Cllr Peter Oakes to introduce this item.

Cllr Oakes gave an overview of the Town Council budget assembled by the Clerk with a suggested increase in the precept of 8.08%.

Members considered the budget. As part of the budgetary considerations it was noted that F&GP had recommended that the Town Council should move away from a physical server to cloud based application.

RESOLVED: That the 2024/25 budget and precept request of £595,504.00 which represents an increase of 6.57% for a Band D property is approved (NC)

RESOLVED: That the recommendations in relation to the Earmarked Reserves at the end of the financial year are approved. (NC)

RESOLVED: That the one-off cost £4,250 to change from the server to a Cloud Based solution for the Town Council's IT system is funded from Rolling Capital. (NC)

Members discussed the most appropriate method of publicising the information about the precept to the public. The Clerk and Cllr Clark usually prepared a press release. Following discussion, it was agreed that a leaflet would be published and distributed to members of the public electronically, leaflets in the Civic Hall and by setting up a stall on Park Lane.

RESOLVED: That a press release and infographic leaflet which will be distributed on Park Lane is prepared (NC)

120. To receive and consider a report from the Finance and General Purposes Committee on investments and to adopt the Investment Policy and Strategy

Members considered the report. Cllr Beanland suggested some minor amendments.

RESOLVED: That the report from the Finance and General Purposes committee is received. That the recommendation to invest circa £104.000 in the CCLA public sector deposit fund is approved (NC)

RESOLVED: That a transfer of funds in accordance with this report is approved and actioned by the Clerk. (NC)

RESOLVED: That the Clerk completes the CCLA application form and the Chair and Vice Chair of the Finance & General Purposes Committee and 2 other signatories from the current approved bank mandate, complete and sign the application form (NC)

RESOLVED: That the Investment Policy and Strategy with the amendment is approved (NC)

121. To consider and agree whether a Member should represent the Town Council at the Cheshire East Highways and Transport Committee

The Clerk advised that the Cheshire East Highways and Transport Committee will meet on 25th January. The introduction of parking charges will be included on the

agenda. The report on the charges has yet to be publicised so the recommendations from the officers are currently unknown.

It was noted that Cllr Sewart was a member of that committee. It was agreed that Cllr Clarke should be appointed to attend the meeting and speak on behalf of the Town Council.

RESOLVED: That Cllr Clarke will represent the Town Council at the Cheshire East Highways and Transport Committee meeting on the 25th January 2024 (NC)

122. To agree amendments to committee and Town Council calendar of meetings.

The proposal was to add an additional Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting on Monday 29th April 2024 at 8pm.

RESOLVED: That the amended calendar of committee and Town Council meetings is agreed (NC)

123. To receive and adopt the minutes of committees:

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on the 4th December 2023 and the resolutions contained therein be adopted by the Full Council (NC)

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee held on the 27th November 2023 and the resolutions contained therein be adopted by the Full Council (NC)

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee held on the 18th December 2023 and the resolutions contained therein be adopted by the Full Council (NC)

124. To consider any communication messages from this meeting

Busses and precept.

RESOLVED: That the above communication messages are agreed (NC)

Meeting end time: 7.30pm

Chair

Dated.....