

HAYDON WICK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Finance & Policy Committee of Haydon Wick Parish Council held on Tuesday 14th February 2023 at 7.00pm at Parish Council Offices, Thames Avenue, Swindon, SN25 1QQ.

ATTENDANCE

MEMBERS: Councillors L Rhys-Jones (Chairman), S Heyes, R Hailstone, S Callen, V Manro, B Patrick Okoh and J Fuller

OFFICERS: Georgina Morgan-Denn, Chief Officer/Clerk & RFO
Jodie Smart, Finance Officer/Deputy RFO

The meeting commenced at 19.02.

FP 156 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and noted from Councillors R Venkatesh (Personal Commitments), A Roupelis (Work Commitments). No apologies were received from Councillor S Fateru.

FP 157 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

FP 158 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

One (1) member of the public was presented who commented on the high standard of grounds maintenance work conducted in Mendip Close recently.

FP 159 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The meeting was being recorded by the member of public.

FP 160 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Members approved the minutes of the Finance & Policy Meeting held on Tuesday 17th January 2023 as a true record.

Proposed: Councillor S Callen Seconded: Councillor V Manro

Vote: Agreed with two (2) abstentions.

RESOLVED: Members confirmed as a true record the minutes of meetings held on Tuesday 17th January 2023 and the Chairman signed the minutes.

FP 161 COUNCILLORS REPORTS

Councillor L Rhys-Jones: Cityfibre reinstatement works may need to come to the Parks & Open Spaces Team if they fail to do a good job.

Councillor S Heyes: Nothing to report.

Councillor R Hailstone: Queried if SBC's Community Governance Review will include parishes? *Response from CO and Ward Councillors is we should know more after the elections.*

Councillor S Callen: Nothing to report.

Councillor V Manro: Nothing to report.

Councillor B Patrick-Okoh: Nothing to report.

Councillor J Fuller: Nothing to report.

FP 162 CHIEF OFFICER'S REPORT

Nothing to report.

Initials: _____

FP 163 THREE YEAR BUDGET OPTIONS 2023-2026 AND PRECEPT SETTING FOR 2023-2024

Members received a report in advance of the meeting detailing four options for budget setting. The report detailed the risks and future forecasting of each option. After a lengthy discussion, modelling additional figures to try and further minimise the financial impact on residents, Councillors decided to comprehensively vote on the options to arrive at a sound final decision.

Remove Option 4 – Proposer: Cllr S Callen Seconded: R Hailstone - All agreed.

Remove Option 3 – Proposer: Cllr S Callen Seconded: R Hailstone – Agreed with one (1) abstention.

To recommend Option 2 – see below.

Proposed: Councillor R Hailstone Seconded: Councillor S Callen

Vote: Agreed with two (2) against.

RESOLVED: Members approved Option 2 to recommend to Full Council for the purpose of the budget and precept setting for the next three financial years:

1. To recommend that the precept demand for 2023/24 be £974,815. This an increase in percentage terms of 9.91% or an additional £9.80 per year based on a Band D household. Total per year for a Band D household will be £108.68 or £9.06 per month, £2.09 per week and 30pence per day).

2. To recommend that a subsidy of up to £77,000 from General Reserves be applied to cover the 2023/24 expenditure.

3. To recommend that £39,000 be moved to an EMR for Trent Road Play Area from General Reserves at the current year-end.

FC 164 RESERVES POLICY 2023-24

Members agreed to recommend to Full Council the updated Reserves Policy for the 2023-24 financial year.

Proposed: Councillor V Manro

Seconded: Councillor R Hailstone

Vote: Agreed unanimously.

RESOLVED: To recommend to Full Council the updated Reserves Policy for the 2023-24 financial year.

FP 165 ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

To be sent to the Chief Officer in advance of the next meeting on 21st March 2023.

The meeting closed at 19.57.

Chairman Signed:

Initials: _____