

Hetton Town Council



DRAFT Minutes of Finance & Resources Committee of Hetton Town Council held remotely on Thursday 21 January 2021

Note: The meeting was audio and video recorded throughout.

Present: Cllrs J Blackburn, R Coulson, R Elvin, R Heron and M Hopper.

In attendance:

G Keedy, Town Clerk (TC)

Cllr T Dodds, Cllr K Rowham and Cllr S Waterston

Member of public (MoP) x 1

1) Apologies for absence

TC reported that he had received an apology for absence from Cllr K Pearson (personal matter). Town Council resolved to approve the apology received.

No apologies for absence had been received from Cllr J Green or Cllr A Liversidge. Town Council resolved that these absences be recorded as unapproved.

In the absence of Cllr K Pearson, TC advised that a Chairman would need to be appointed to preside over the meeting.

Cllr M Hopper proposed Cllr R Elvin, seconded by Cllr R Coulson.

There were no other nominations. Cllr R Elvin was appointed Chairman.

2) Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3) Public Participation

Committee resolved that a period of up to 15 minutes be allowed.

MoP thanked all who had supported the objection to the Cragdale Gardens planning application.

4) Town Council computer replacement

TC introduced this item and explained that he was seeking agreement to a financial commitment to replace the obsolete desktop computer.

After discussion, Committee resolved to recommend that a sum of £1000.00 be allocated for a Dell laptop computer;

and,

That as suggested by TC, he bring a report to Full Council which outlined the rationale behind the requirement.

1 of 2

Signed:

Date:

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5) Additional hours payment to Town Clerk

TC introduced the previously circulated report and responded to questions from Members.

Following discussion, Committee resolved to recommend the payment of £983.98 and on-costs.

6) Precept and Budget 2021-2022

TC introduced and explained the previously circulated report. He highlighted to Members that a 0% or 1% increase would lead to a decrease in the level of precept income for 21-22.

Cllr R Elvin provided a detailed explanation of the budget document and the approach to forecasting for 21-22. Discussion identified the need to allocate an additional sum of up to £500.00 for new computer software.

Committee resolved to recommend:

That the budget position for 2020-2021 be noted;

A 0% increase in precept for 2021-2022 based upon Band D charge of £14.46;

That Town Clerk notify Sunderland City Council (the billing authority) accordingly; and,

That the budget for 2021-2022 be approved.