

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE WANTAGE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD IN THE BEACON, PORTWAY, ON
MONDAY, 4 DECEMBER 2017 AT 7.30 P.M.**

- Present: Councillor S Trinder (Town Mayor)
Councillors A Crawford, Mrs C E C Dickson, C S Dickson,
E C Goldsmith, J Goodman, Mrs M Gradwell,
Mrs J T Hannaby, K A Harris, B Mabbett,
Mrs J E Nunn-Price, C McCarthy, P O'Leary,
Mrs J Reynolds and Major J Sibbald.
- Others present: One member of the public.
- Clerk: Mr W P Falkenau.
Deputy Clerk: Mrs K Buckingham.

Apologies for Absence

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Miss K Gill.

Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

None.

Minutes of Council Meeting held on 20 November 2017

The minutes were approved and signed.

45. Statements and Questions from the Public

None.

46. Consideration of Budgets and Setting of Precept for 2018/19

A memorandum and financial statements prepared by the Clerk, dated 29 November 2017, were considered. The Council had started the current financial year with reserves that were £35,000 higher than projected in December 2016. Net expenditure for the current year was forecast to be £35,000 higher than budgeted. This meant that the reserves balances at end of March 2018 were in line with the figures projected in December 2016. The Clerk reported that the council tax base for 2018/19 would increase by 1.7%. This meant that the Council's precept could be increased by £5000 without affecting the amount of council tax paid by each individual dwelling.

It was noted that no provision had been made for receipt of any bank interest. The Clerk was sceptical about whether any interest of significance could be secured, but agreed to investigate. **Action: Clerk**

The statements of each committee were considered and the following adjustments made.

Leisure and Amenities Committee

Estimate for weed killing increased to £3,000.

Policy, Management and Finance Committee

Estimate for Be Free Young Carers grant increased to £5,000.

It was agreed that where annual grants were being given, the organisations involved should be invited to attend the Policy, Management and Finance Committee meeting

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on an annual basis to report on the activities of their organisation. The Clerk was to invite one organisation per meeting. This was additional to the report given at the Annual Town Electorate meeting. **Action: Clerk**

It was noted that the salt bin in Rolls Court required attention. The Clerk was to refer this to the County Council. **Action: Clerk**

The Clerk was to update the statements (updated statements attached).

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Major Sibbald
SECONDED by Councillor Goodman
IT WAS MOVED that a precept for 2018/19 of £326,000 be set. This was approved fourteen in favour, one against.

47. Town Mayor's Communications

The Dickensian Evening had been held on the previous Friday and had been a success. The Town Mayor thanked everyone who was involved for achieving this.

Confidential Item

ON THE PROPOSITION of the Chairman
IT WAS RESOLVED that in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it was advisable in the public interest that the public and press be temporarily excluded, and they were instructed to withdraw.

Confidential minutes of the Council meeting held on 20 November 2017

The minutes were approved and signed.

ON THE PROPOSITION of the Chairman
IT WAS RESOLVED that the resolutions made in confidential session be adopted.

The meeting closed at 8.17 p.m.

WPF/ME

PRECEPT AND RESERVES WORKING SHEET 2018/2019

2017/18

1. GENERAL RESERVES MOVEMENT

£

Budget
£**Balance of General Reserves 31 March 2017****165,298**

130,161

Precept 2017/19

321,000

321,000

CTR Grant

2,379

2,379

Neighbourhood Plan grants

0

0

Bank Interest forecast/budget

0

0

Total funds available

488,677453,540**Forecast Committee Expenditure 2017/18**

Leisure and Amenities

(50,734)

(42,640)

Planning

(5,550)

(500)

Promotion, Communication and Events

(11,408)

(13,100)

Policy, Management and Finance

(192,066)

(169,750)

Total Forecast Committee Expenditure

(259,758)(225,990)**Transfers to/from Capital and Project Reserves 2017/18**

Community support

0

0

Balance of General Reserves 31 March 2018**228,919****227,550****Balance of Capital and Project Reserves 31 March 2018****170,000****170,000****Estimate Committee Expenditure 2018/19**

Leisure and Amenities

(50,315)

Planning

(9,000)

Promotion, Communication and Events

(19,000)

Policy, Management and Finance

(230,050)

Total Estimate Committee Expenditure

(308,365)

Transfers to/from Capital and Project Reserves 2018/19

0

Bank Interest

0

CTR Grant

0

Precept 2018/19

As 2017/18 plus £5.000

325,000

325,000**Balance of General Reserves 31 March 2019****245,554**

2. CAPITAL AND PROJECT RESERVE

	Balance b/f 1.4.2017 £	Additions/ (Reductions) 2017-18 £	Additions/ (Reductions) 2018-19 £	Balance at 31.3.2019 £
Cemetery: Purchase of Land	20,000			20,000
Community support/infrastructure projects	150,000			150,000
Total	170,000	0	0	170,000

LEISURE AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE - FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND ESTIMATES WORKSHEET

	2017/2018 Actual YTD £	2017/2018 Budget £	2017/2018 Forecast £	2018/2019 Estimate £
INCOME				
Allotments	3,630	4,055	3,630	3,630
Cemetery	3,895	6,000	6,000	6,000
Fair Tolls	2,205	2,220	2,205	2,280
Market Tolls	8,206	14,500	12,500	12,500
Misc	-	-	-	-
Parking Fines	1,845	-	3,400	7,000
Grants and provisions	-	-	-	-
VC Forecourt	13	50	30	30
TOTAL INCOME	19,794	26,825	27,765	31,440
EXPENSES				
Allotment:				
Maintenance	493	1,500	1,000	1,500
Clearance	835	1,000	1,200	1,000
Water	716	500	600	500
Rent	661	661	661	661
Allotment-Other	-	394	-	139
TOTAL Allotment	2,705	4,055	3,461	3,800
Car Park MP:				
Attendant	845	-	5,000	7,000
Rates	3,160	3,250	3,160	3,250
Car Park MP-Other	-	-	-	-
TOTAL Car Park MP	4,005	3,250	8,160	10,250
Cemetery:				
Cemetery hedge	-	-	1,200	300
Cleaning/clearance	1,590	1,800	5,000	2,500
Grasscutting	5,225	6,825	7,125	7,340
Maintenance	599	1,800	1,800	1,800
Rates	416	650	720	740
Tree maintenance	-	1,000	-	1,000
Cemetery-Other	-	300	-	300
TOTAL Cemetery	7,830	12,375	15,845	13,980
Fairs:				
Attendant	490	-	490	600
Closure	-	500	-	200
Clean up	-	-	-	-
TOTAL Fairs	490	500	490	800
Market Sq:				
Attendant	4,210	9,250	9,250	9,250
Floral displays	2,990	4,250	2,990	3,500
Christmas displays	-	13,000	13,000	13,400
Statue clean	230	-	230	2,250
Rates	2,462	4,000	3,570	3,700
Shed rent	700	1,200	1,200	1,200
Market Sq-Other	25	500	100	500
TOTAL Market Sq	10,617	32,200	30,340	33,800

	2017/2018 Actual YTD £	2017/2018 Budget £	2017/2018 Forecast £	2018/2019 Estimate £
Street Furniture (includes bus shelters)	2,576	5,000	5,000	5,000
Salt bins	-	1,000	-	1,000
VC Forecourt wages	2,735	6,300	6,300	6,300
VC Forecourt mtce	575	1,000	6,000	1,000
Weedkilling	1,153	1,000	1,153	3,000
Other		500	-	500
	7,039	14,800	18,453	16,800
Play Areas:				
Grasscutting	600	735	750	775
Maintenance	-	50	-	50
Play Areas-Other	-	500	-	500
TOTAL Play Areas	600	1,285	750	1,325
Projects:				
Alfred's Bath	-	1,000	1,000	1,000
Other				
	-	1,000	1,000	1,000
TOTAL Expenditure	33,286	69,465	78,499	81,755
TOTAL INCOME - EXPENSES	(13,492)	(42,640)	(50,734)	(50,315)

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PLANNING COMMITTEE - FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND ESTIMATES WORKSHEET

	2017/2018 Actual YTD £	2017/2018 Budget £	2017/2018 Forecast £	2018/2019 Estimate £
EXPENSES				
Neighbourhood Plan				
Town centre strategy	-	-	-	-
Draft consultation	-	-	-	-
Pre sub consultation	-	-	-	-
Consultations	-	-	1,500	-
RCOH	-	-	3,500	-
Deputy Clerk support	-	-	-	-
Contingency	-	-	-	-
	-	-	5,000	-
Traffic Calming Measures				
Speed checks	-	500	500	500
VAS	-	-	50	8,500
TOTAL Expenditure	-	500	5,550	9,000

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PROMOTION, COMMUNICATION AND EVENTS COMMITTEE - FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND ESTIMATES

	2017/2018 Actual YTD £	2017/2018 Budget £	2017/2018 Forecast £	2018/2019 Estimate £
INCOME				
Armed Forces Day	3,000	-	3,000	2,000
EXPENSES				
PC&E:				
Alfred's Day	-	-	-	-
Armed Forces Day	8,122	10,000	9,136	10,000
Town Flags	372	500	372	2,000
Mobiloo	300	-	600	1,200
Volunteers' Reception	140	1,500	1,500	1,500
Website	420	600	800	800
Promotion expenses	-	-	1,500	5,000
Other	175	500	500	500
TOTAL PC&E	9,529	13,100	14,408	21,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURE PC&E	6,529	13,100	11,408	19,000

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POLICY, MANAGEMENT & FINANCE COMMITTEE - FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND ESTIMATE WORKSHEET

	2017/18 Actual YTD £	2017/18 Budget £	2017/18 Forecast £	2018/19 Estimate £
PM&F EXPENSES				
Grants:				
Community Group support re CH	-	500	-	-
Children's Centre	10,000	-	10,000	10,000
Donations	6,500	10,000	10,000	10,000
Dickensian Evening	-	500	500	500
IAC	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
IAC community bus	-	-	6,000	6,000
JEF/Town Team	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Sweatbox	-	10,500	10,500	10,500
Letcombe Brook project	7,050	7,000	7,050	8,000
Museum	14,250	19,000	19,000	19,000
VIP/TIC	4,762	6,350	6,350	6,350
October Club	1,500	1,500	1,500	3,000
Twinning	-	-	-	2,000
Be Free Young Carers	-	2,000	5,000	5,000
Summer Festival	-	1,500	-	1,500
Wantage Silver Band	735	-	735	-
Wantage Counselling	1,500	1,500	1,500	3,000
TOTAL Grants	57,297	71,350	89,135	95,850
STAFF COSTS				
Salaries:				
Salary Admin	391	1,000	1,000	1,000
Salaries-Other	45,196	69,000	79,000	100,000
TOTAL Salaries	45,587	70,000	80,000	101,000
Staff Training	264	500	750	750
Total Staff Costs	45,851	70,500	80,750	101,750
OFFICE COSTS				
Office Mtce:				
Rates and utilities				
Office Mtce-Other	3	2,250	2,500	2,500
TOTAL Office Mtce	3	2,250	2,500	2,500
Office Admin:				
Photocopier	448	800	800	800
Postage	693	500	800	800
Stationery	417	1,000	1,000	1,000
Telephone	390	1,000	1,000	1,000
Office Admin-Other		100	100	100
	1,948	3,400	3,700	3,700
External Audit	800	850	800	850
Internal Audit	1,083	1,200	1,083	1,200
Bank Chrg	162	400	400	400
Clerk's Exps	-	100	100	100
Computers	-	500	500	500
Total Office Costs	3,996	8,700	9,083	9,250
Health & Safety				
Insurance	3,068	3,250	3,068	3,250
Mayor's Chain/badges		-	-	500
Mayor's Exps	2,700	2,700	2,700	2,700
Civic Visits	25	1,500	25	3,000
Mably anniversary	-	-	-	-
Election	-	3,000	-	5,000
Freedom of Town	-	1,500	-	1,500
Subscriptions	1,705	1,750	1,705	1,750
Sundry	512	500	600	500
	8,010	14,200	8,098	18,200
HEALTH SUB-COMMITTEE	-	-	-	-
YOUTH TOWN COUNCIL	700	5,000	5,000	5,000
TOTAL PM&F	115,854	169,750	192,066	230,050