**Minutes, Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council 18th December 2023 at the Civic Hall.**

**Present:** Cllrs K Dawson (Chairman), B Beeley (Vice Chairman)

E Adamson S Al-Hamdani

K Barton M Birchall

H Bishop R Blackmore

L Dawson J Garner

P Gaul K. Phillips

L Thompson G Sheldon

P Walsh D Wall

Chairman Cllr K Dawson welcomed Councillors and members of the public and prayers were led by the Rev Dr Paul Monk.

**3518. To receive apologies for Absence:** CllrsM Bingley, A Marland, M Powell, A Wrigley.

**3519. To receive Public Questions**

None received

**3520. Chairman’s Urgent Business**

None to discuss

**3521. Correspondence**

None received

**3522. To receive Declarations of Interest**

None declared

**3523. To approve and confirm as a correct record the Draft Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 27th November 2023**

The minutes were proposed, seconded and approved.

**3524. To note the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held 23rd November 2023**

The minutes were proposed, seconded and approved.

**3525. To note the minutes of the Strategic Planning meeting held 30th November 2023**

The minutes were proposed, seconded and approved.

**3526. To note the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held 4th December 2023**

The minutes were proposed, seconded and approved.

**3527. To note the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held 14th December 2023**

The minutes were proposed, seconded and approved.

**3528. To note the minutes of the Extraordinary Assets Management Committee meeting held 14th December 2023**

With one amendment on point 10, the minutes were proposed, seconded and approved.

Cllr Sheldon advised the meeting of some urgent works identified in the recent Fire Risk Assessment Review. Three quotes had been received for each area of work and the Committee were recommending to Council to agree to the following:

To replace the window in the lower hall underneath the fire escape with a fire proof aluminium frame and fire proof glass - Randersons £3,100 plus vat (£3,720).

To replace the double doors into the lower hall with fire doors and glazed panels - Randersons £2,300 plus vat (£2,760).

For remedial works across the Civic Hall to ensure we were compliant with fire regulations - Randersons £1,800 plus vat (£2,160).

These Asset Management Committee recommendations were proposed by Cllr Sheldon, seconded by Cllr Thompson, all in favour.

**3529. To note the minutes of the Extraordinary Environment Committee meeting held 14th December 2023**

The minutes were proposed, seconded and approved.

**3530. Approval of the 2024-5 Budget Proposal and Precept Recommendation by the Finance Committee held 14th December 2023**

The budget overview had already been shared with Councillors prior to the meeting. Cllr Al-Hamdani advised that the Finance Committee had already been through it at their previous meeting and were recommending full Council approval of the budget.

The proposed budget was as follows:

Gross expenditure £ 364,980

Income £-97,631

**Net expenditure £267,349**

This is to be funded as follows:

Precept £247,112

OMBC grant £13,490

Transfer from reserve £6,747

**Total £ 267, 349**

The new Precept will therefore be £27.01 per household, which represents an increase of £1.51 (5.9%). Number of households 9,150. (up 197 from 8953 last year).

Approval of the budget and Precept was proposed by Cllr Al-Hamdani, and seconded by Cllr Bishop.

With 15 in favour and one abstention it was resolved that the Budget and Precept were agreed.

The Chairman thanked the RFO and Clerk on behalf of the Council for all the work put in to ensure a balanced budget provided in a timely manner.

Cllr Sheldon also thanked the Assets Management Committee and the Clerk for all their hard work and commitment.

**3531. Accounts for Payment Income £ 5,299.35 Expenditure £23,512.52**

Cllr Sheldon explained the cost of the temporary footpath closure which is adjacent to the car park wall and that the Assets Management Committee and the Clerk were working hard for a resolution to the issue.

Cllr Thompson queried why there were some payments to Amazon, can these not be sourced via local businesses? The Clerk explained that we do source locally wherever possible, but sometimes for expediency and time saving the Amazon account is used.

The accounts were then proposed, seconded and approved.

**3532. Date of the next meeting:- Monday 22nd January 2024 at 19.30hrs**