Minutes of the meeting of the Finance Committee
held at the Civic Hall, Uppermill on Monday 20th January 2020

There were present: Cllrs. J. Hudson (Chairman)
S. Al-Hamdani
N. Allsopp
M. Bingley
R. Darlington

409 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. B. Lord, K. Phillips, G. Sheldon

410 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

441 Minutes of the meeting held on 14th October 2019

The minutes of the meeting held on 14th October 2019 were **APPROVED and SIGNED**.

412. Any other Business

Budget Briefing

In the absence of the Clerk (due to a bereavement in the family) the breakdown of the budgets for the various committees was not available, therefore the Committee would have to make judgement on the information submitted by the Clerk in a Budget briefing circulated to the Committee. This Budget Briefing contained financial information relevant for the financial year 2020/2021.

The briefing contained the following information on the precept increase.

For 2020/2021, there would be no government action taken against the Parish Council if there is an increase in the precept. On the current Council Tax base an increase of £1 would generate £8,627. The precept would be £22.76. Oldham Council has indicated that the Council Tax Base for 2020/21 will be £8,707, an increase of £0.80 which would generate an additional £1821 (80 x £22.76). This would give a total of £10,448 which would offset the loss of RSG .

Given the knowledge that Oldham Council will withdraw the remaining £3,490 of RSG in 2020/21, and bearing in mind the improvements needed to the Civic Hall and the pressures on the general reserve, it may be prudent to raise the precept for 2020/21 by £1.36 to cover this as well. This would increase the precept to £23.12 but would give more flexibility and possibly allow the Parish Council to have a zero increase in 2021/2022.

After discussion the Committee agreed that the precept should increase by £1.00, to cover the loss of the rate support grant, with a full comprehensive budget review of all expenditure to be carried out within the next five months.

413. Date of next meeting
20th April 2020 at 7.00pm