

NEW MILTON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF NEW MILTON TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON FRIDAY 17 NOVEMBER 2023 AT 15.00 HRS AT THE TOWN HALL.

Councillors: p D E Hawkins – Chairman p K E Craze – Vice Chairman
 p G R Blunden p D N Tungate
 p S J Clarke

In attendance:

Councillor: S P Davies

Officer: G Flexman - Town Clerk

The Chairman welcomed members to this second budget meeting for 2024-2025.

11. APOLOGIES - None

12. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members have a general dispensation to discuss budgets and set a precept for 2024-2025.

13. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - None

14. MINUTES

The Chairman referred to the minutes of the last meeting held on 27 October 2023.

It was,

RESOLVED: That minutes of 27 October 2023 meeting be signed as a correct record.

The minutes were duly signed.

15. MATTERS ARISING - None

16. CORRESPONDENCE

The Town Clerk referred to an email dated 14 November 2023 from Ben Stockley, NFDC Safety Advisory Group Chair, referring to the postponed Round Table Bonfire & Fireworks event at Moore Close now scheduled to take place this evening, 17 November 2023.

Ben Stockley, Safety Advisory Group Chair had spoken to his colleague who considered that health and safety arrangements were now in place with regard to the event, subject to some clarification from the event organiser. He was happy, along with other SAG members for the event to be confirmed by letter on 27 October 2023. The event organiser recently emailed SAG to confirm their intention to hold the re-arranged event on 17 November 2023.

Both our Internal Auditor and Estates Manager voiced concerns about the incomplete Risk Assessments provided by the event organiser for this event. Ben Stockley said the role of the health and safety team at NFDC is to consider the H&S arrangements of the event, undertaking to speak to the event organiser and share any additional information. Ben sees NMTC as having a different role, which is to either approve or not approve the use of our land for an event. As landowner, members felt we should be informed of SAG involvement.

17. FEES & CHARGES 2024-25

The Town Clerk referred to Annex A (Version 2), being Fees & Charges for 2024-25 based on an inflation rate of 6%, rather than 5% previously.

It was then,

RECOMMENDED:

That Schedule of Fees & Charges for 2024-25 be endorsed by Amenities Committee.

18. COMMITTEE BUDGETS 2024-25

The Town Clerk referred to Annex B (Version 2) including those items previously discussed.

Members went through the Amenities Committee items mentioned at Minute 8 and agreed to increase the Tree Work budget (4104) from £28k to £40k to cover storm contingencies.

Subject to the above it was,

RECOMMENDED:

That the Amenities Budget (v.2) for 2024-25 be endorsed by the Amenities Committee

Regarding Finance & General Purposes Committee Budget for 2024-25, presentations from the Town Development Manager (TDM) and Youth Services Co-ordinator (YSC) were requested to enable members to better understand what the postholder's need by way of budget. It was agreed to delete Cookery Classes from the TDM budget, as they need to be funded by grant, and in regard to YSC budget, Ashley HUB development needs budgeting.

RESOLVED: *That F&GP Committee Budget for 2024-2025 be revised, as noted above.*

19. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Freedom of the Town was mentioned and will be an agenda item at the next Execs meeting

20. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – FRIDAY 1 DECEMBER 2023 AT 2.00PM

There being no further business to discuss, the Chairman closed the meeting at 4.15 pm.

CHAIRMAN _____ DATE _____

Distribution:

Members of the Executive Committee
Town Councillors – For Information
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