

GREATER WILLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL
Resource Committee
Minutes of Meeting
3rd December 2014

IN ATTENDANCE

Councillor Tinsley, Councillor Henfrey, Councillor Buckham, Councillor
Etherington
Councillor Cogdon, Councillor Carr, Councillor Greensmith
Councillor Smith, Councillor Bennett, Councillor Graham
Helen Cogdon Town Clerk,
Emma Mennouni Community Services Officer

Councillor Etherington opened the Resource Committee meeting.
He informed those in attendance of housekeeping rules regarding the use of
the washroom and fire exits. He asked all present to switch off mobile phones
throughout the conduct of council business.

ACCEPTANCE OF APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor Todd.
Acceptance of apologies were proposed by Councillor Tinsley and seconded
by Councillor Buckham.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Councillor Cogdon declared an interest in Items 4 and 5.

**TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING ON THE
5th NOVEMBER 2014**

The minutes of the 5th November 2014 as printed and circulated were
approved and taken as a true record.
Proposed Councillor Buckham
Seconded Councillor Cogdon

Matters Arising (for information only)

None

APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURE AND CHEQUE RECONCILIATION

The Clerk said that,
Expenditure for November 2014 was £9,783.93
The balance on the current account at 30th November 2014 is £7,441.18

Resolved 1. Approval of the report.

Proposed Councillor Buckham
Seconded Councillor Henfrey

APPROVAL OF BUDGET REPORT

Due to the additional grant income achieved for the Christmas in Willington project the budget is now £103,575

Total spend to date £50,158.38

Committed costs are £3,913.86

Available resource on budget £49,502.76

Resolved 1. This is a true record

Proposed Councillor Tinsley

Seconded Councillor Buckham

CONSIDERATION OF COMMUNITY FUND APPLICATIONS

No new applications have been received.

7. CONSIDERATION OF CIVIC FUND APPLICATIONS

Two applications have been received

Willington Luncheon Club have asked for a donation towards a Christmas Celebration event.

Resolved 1. To award £50.00

Colliery Road Neighbourhood Watch have asked for a donation towards a Christmas Social event.

Resolved 1. To award £50.00

8. CONSIDERATION OF ARRANGEMENTS TO SUBMIT THE 2015/16 PRECEPT REQUEST.

The Clerk said;

On the 26 October 2014 D.C.C Cabinet approved that they would continue to pass on the Town and Parish councils element of its formula grant in 2015/16 but in so doing apply pro rata reductions in the LCTRS grant paid to Town and Parish Councils in 2015/16 in line with reductions in the overall formula funding made available to D.C.C.

In our case the tax base has dropped from 1,641.4 to 1,638.7 and the LCTRS grant has reduced from £10,953 to £10,139. Therefore to stand still we need to increase our precept request by £939.93. This is however a better position than we anticipated last year as we expected the grant to half and set the precept and a three year plan with this in mind.

Councillor Tinsley and staff have produced a draft budget which was tabled.

The Clerk said that attempts to make savings had been made however some budget heads could not be cut. With consideration towards the precept the group recommended that the budget is maintained below 100k.

The communication and marketing, allotments and mayoral, civic events budget costs have been reduced. The Shop Front head is now Town Centre/ Business Development. It is proposed to move the 5k shop front allocation to Town

Centre reserves.

Councillor Graham said he did not agree with the allotment budget being reduced.

The Clerk said the budget is used to set the precept i.e. how much the town council will charge residents. Councillor Graham hadn't spent his allocation over the last three years. A budget was to be spent, subject to slippage, it identifies the actual costs needed to operate. It is not to make savings from. She confirmed that

Springfield's savings are identified in reserves.

Councillor Etherington asked why a 2k contingency had been added. The Clerk replied that a contingency is advised as best practice with regard to the management of project development work or the unforeseen. However, again the council has the opportunity to decide to use reserves.

Councillor Etherington said he felt this was a reasonable budget. Councillor Buckham said it appeared prudent.

Councillor Tinsley said the draft budget is set at £99,500 with a precept request of £84,018 which equates to a band D charge of £51.27 pa. This is an increase of

8 pence a week. He asked if members wanted more time to consider and reach a decision on the precept in the New Year.

The budget and precept request were proposed by Councillor Etherington
Seconded by Councillor Buckham

Resolved 1. To submit the precept for £84,018

2. To submit the LCTRS grant application for £10,139

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS (FOR INFORMATION ONLY)

The Clerk said a letter of thanks had been received from Reverend David Spokes for the councils donation of £50 towards Church Funds. The donation was made In appreciation of the Annual Civic Service and Remembrance Day Services that were held at the Church.

10. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Councillor Tinsley proposed that due to the holidays the date of the next meeting is deferred to Wednesday 14th January 2015. This was agreed.

Signed by the Chairman
14th January 2015