

CYNGOR TREF CONWY TOWN COUNCIL
GUILDHALL, CONWY
MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 4th DECEMBER 2017

PRESENT: Councillors – B Chapman (Mayor, Chair), S Cotton, V Macdonald, A James, B James, D Hale, T Hughes,

S Barber-Bailey

IN ATTENDANCE: H Barritt (Town Clerk)

APOLOGIES: Councillors E Hughes, H Roberts, T Lewis, T James, P Hart, M Priestley, G Edwards, J Vaughan

Declarations of Interest – Code of Local Government Conduct: None

Minute Number

4. Budget and Precept 2018/19

Members received the latest forecast for 2017/18 & the first draft of the 2018/19 budget.

The Town Clerk said that she is anticipating a saving of just under £19k for 2017/18. This will give a balance on reserves of around £216k as at 31/8/18. £137k of this will be General Reserves with the remaining £79k for Earmarked projects.

The Town Clerk presented the first draft of the 2018/19 budget.

The total spend on the Highways budget is £21,505 for continuing projects plus £20,376 for new projects, giving a total spend of £41,881. Earmarked Reserves of £8,725 can be utilised to offset the expenditure, giving a precept requirement of £33,156.

Members suggested that budgets should be included for Deganwy signs of £2,000 & Dog Fouling signage of £825. Earmarked Reserves of £400 & £825 respectively can be utilised to offset this expenditure.

The total spend on the Publicity & Amenities budget is £37,930. Earmarked Reserves of £8,754 can be utilised to offset the expenditure, giving a precept requirement of £29,176.

Members debated as to whether the Town Guide should be reprinted & as to whether an online version on the website would be more appropriate. Members suggested that this could also be in Japanese.

The total spend on the General (overall) budget is £370,906 (including Highways & Publicity & Amenities). Earmarked Reserves of £38,114 can be utilised to offset the expenditure, giving a precept requirement of £332,792. This is a 27% increase on 2017/18.

The Town Clerk informed Members that she had not yet received the Council Tax Base for 2018/19 from CCBC so, basing the Band D on last year's Base gives £46.62 per Band D property compared to £36.74 for 2017/18. If the Council wanted to only increase the Band D by 1% in 2018/19 the amount would be £37.11. To achieve this either expenditure would need to be cut or Reserves utilised.

It is possible to utilise Reserves in two ways:

- Use all General Reserves. Under the first draft of the budget this will be £67,913 & will result in Reserves dropping to £110k at the end of 2018/19 if no savings are made in the year
- Release the Community Development Fund budget of £25k for 2017/18. No requests have been made for this to date. This would mean that General Reserves of £43k would need to be utilised. Under the first draft of the budget this will result in Reserves dropping to £135k at the end of 2018/19 if no savings are made in the year

RESOLVED that the Community Development Fund budget for 2017/18 is released & used to offset the 2018/19 budget.

The Town Clerk asked Members to consider the first draft budget for 2018/19 and she will provide updates at meetings over the next couple of months before it is finalised.

5. Christmas Events

Members discussed arrangements for Christmas.

The Town Clerk informed Members that there were 2 small trees still in the Guildhall cellar & that the Residents' letters were ready for distribution. Members were also asked to contact local organisations for assistance with marshalling the event.

Members received a quote for signage for the Boxing Day Dip of £ 26.50 and for the Christmas Eve event of £881.50. The Christmas Eve event includes the cost of 3 Chapter 8 marshals.

RESOLVED that the quotes are accepted

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8:00pm