

**CYNGOR TREF CONWY TOWN COUNCIL**  
**GUILDHALL, CONWY**  
**MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**  
**HELD ON MONDAY 12<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2016**

**PRESENT : Councillors – B Chapman (Deputy Mayor, Chair), V Macdonald, E Leighton-Jones, B James, S Cotton, G Edwards, E Hughes, C Rigal, H Roberts**

**IN ATTENDANCE : H Barritt (Town Clerk)**

**APOLOGIES : The Mayor & Councillors J Hughes, A James, T James, R Parker & S Allardice**

**Declarations of Interest – Code of Local Government Conduct: None**

**Minute Number**

**5. Budget and Precept 2017/18**

The Town Clerk presented the financial position of the Town Council as at 31<sup>st</sup> October 2016.

As at 31<sup>st</sup> October 2016 £20,313 savings were anticipated as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017. The Town Clerk has identified additional savings of £64,319. This would give a balance on Reserves at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017 of £230,945. The Reserves would be made up of £112,506 of Earmarked Reserves. These will be used against the projects they are specified for in future years.

The Town Clerk presented the first draft budget for 2017/18. The Council Tax Base had not yet been received from the County Council so the Town Clerk had used the Base for 2016/17 of £7,047.13 to calculate the Bad D charge.

**A) Highways**

The budget is expected to be £33,725. This includes the following new projects:

- Coach Pull-In, Rose Hill Street, Conwy

CCBC have requested that the Town Council contribute towards the cost of this project. The total cost is expected to be £80k & the requested contribution is £10k. The pull-in is needed as coaches can no longer access Morfa Bach Car Park due to weight restrictions. Passengers disembark from coaches onto the road side, so improvements are needed to the layby for safety

Members said that this facility was essential for the tourism trade in the town.

RESOLVED that £10k is put into the budget and a letter of support is sent to the County Council for the project

- Parc Benarth Lamp Post

The Town Clerk said that North Wales Police were unable to help with funding

RESOLVED that £3k is put into the budget

- CCTV

In addition to the contribution towards the running of the cameras, CCBC have requested a contribution of £19k towards replacement cameras over 2017/18 & 2018/19.

CCBC is considering decommissioning some cameras due to the low level of incidences they are recording. The camera at Conwy Morfa was removed in December 2015 due to “diminishing pressing need & an unresolved technical issue with wireless Line of Sight”

Members were concerned about the decommissioning of cameras.

RESOLVED that:

i) £8k is budgeted for in 2017/18 to replace cameras

ii) CCBC are asked to attend a meeting to discuss CCTV provision with the Town Council

- The Town Clerk asked Members if they wished to budget for the seat on The Bund, following recent correspondence between County Councillor Priestley & Network Rail. There is currently £800 in Earmarked Reserves for this project.

RESOLVED that the project is not budgeted for but the amount is left in Earmarked Reserves in case the matter arises.

With the above amendments, the first total draft budget is £41,725. £8,741 of Reserves will be used to give a precept requirement of £32,984

B) Publicity & Amenities

The budget is expected to be £39,685.

The only project for 2017/18 is to print more Guildhall leaflets in other languages. £1,270 has been included in the budget.

Members discussed the budget for Festivals:

- i) An additional £500 needs to be included for Deganwy Prom Day
- ii) In February, the Town Council received a presentation from Mr. Tunstall regarding "The Tournament" to be held in June 2017. The Town Council resolved to fund uniforms for stewards at a cost of £1,500 in 2016/17. This would need to be met from reserves as it had not been budgeted for. Mr Tunstall had given the Town Clerk a woven badge of the Town Council logo which he said could be sewn onto garments. Members were concerned about the use of the Town Logo.  
RESOLVED that an additional £1,500 is put in the 2017/18 budget for uniforms & "The Tournament" is put on a future agenda

With the above amendments, the first total draft budget is £41,685. £5,323 of Reserves will be used to give a precept requirement of £36,362

C) General

The budget, with the amendments to the Highways and Publicity & Amenities Budgets, is expected to be £345,250.

The Town Clerk said that she had included the following additional items:

- i) Computers - £5k. Equipment is now over 6 years old & needs updating
- ii) General Guildhall repairs – it is likely that the Town Council will need to contribute to the repairs to the Guildhall
- iii) Guildhall Lamp Shades – the Chamber lamp shades are in a very fragile state & will need replacing
- iv) Christmas trees – the current contractor has informed the Town Clerk that he is unlikely to be able to source trees from the usual plantation. This will result in an increase in prices.

Reserves of £81,868 can be utilised to reduce the amount required for the precept. This will give a precept of £263,382. Using the 2016/17 Council Tax Base, this would result in a Band D charge of £37.37, a £1.34 (3.7%) increase on 2016/17.

The Town Clerk will update Members on the latest figures at the Special Meeting of the Council on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2016.

## 6. Christmas Events

The Town Clerk updated Members on arrangements for the Christmas events.

RESOLVED that:

- a) Councillor E Hughes finds out about a contact at Tŵr Llewelyn regarding passes for residents to their car park via Morfa Bach Car Park
- b) if members of the public want to pay for attending the event, they are advised to make a contribution to their favourite charity

Members discussed a problem that had arisen over the small trees distributed to businesses in Conwy. Businesses were under the impression that they had paid £10 for the trees. Confusion had arisen due to the Chamber of Trade collecting £10 for the Torchlit Parade at the same time & stating in an email that the £10 was for the tree. Members agreed that the Town Council needs to distribute the trees separately from the Chamber of Trade next year.

RESOLVED that:

- a) an email is sent to the businesses from the Town Council clarifying the position. The email is sent to the Conwy Town Councillors first for checking
- b) Mr Tunstall is asked what he is doing regarding the situation

**There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.29pm**