

Minutes of a Meeting of Middleham Town Council held in Middleham Key Centre on Wednesday, 12 December 2018 at 7.00 pm. (SUBJECT TO APPROVAL AT NEXT COUNCIL MEETING)

Present

The Chairman Cllr Mrs S Fairhurst, Cllr Mrs H Byford, Cllr Mr M Cade, Cllr Mrs L Stocker and Cllr Mr S Wheeler

Clerk, Mr D Keep

Action

1. Open Forum.

No members of the public were present

2. Apologies.

An apology had been received from Cllr Mr. D Slay.

3. Declarations of interest regarding items on the agenda.

No other interests were declared in matters on the agenda.

4. Minutes.

4.1 Budget and precept for next year

A revised income and expenditure projection prepared by the Clerk had been circulated prior to the meeting. The following points were highlighted:

- The income and expenditure projections were largely based upon a 'business as usual' approach to the Council's activity, with prudent assumptions for both income and expenditure;
- No additional objectives for the coming financial year had been identified by Councillors;
- Since the previous meeting, notification of the 2019-2020 National Salary Award for Clerks applicable from 1 April 2019 had been received, which at 3.5% was significantly higher than the 2% increase previously estimated;
- Sums previously set aside as earmarked reserves covered various contingencies.
- There were separate budgets for the Council and Inhabitant Household.

Councillors noted their responsibility to set a budget, as set out in Law, summarised as follows, by the following process to calculate:

- The revenue expenditure that will be incurred performing its functions;
- Such allowances it estimates for contingencies for revenue expenditure;
- Financial reserves that will be appropriate to raise during the year;
- Financial reserves that are sufficient to meet a previous year's deficit (which is not the case in MTC).

There was not a separate budget for capital items, the major commitment would be the burial ground project and finalised costs were currently unknown.

Action

IT WAS RESOLVED

- 1. to adopt the Council’s budget for 2019-20 as submitted to the meeting**
- 2. to approve a precept of £12,000 being the budget deficit; and**
- 3. To authorise the Clerk to submit the precept application to the District Council.**

Clerk

Clerk

It was noted that NYCC was undertaking a budget consultation and the Clerk would circulate details to ensure Middleham’s views were sought.

5. Any Other Business.

5.1 Highways Surfacing Project. Cllr Byford reported that she was awaiting feedback on the proposal from the project mentor following which it would be circulated to Mark Johnston and James Bethell. Disappointment was expressed that NYCC Highways had not supplied road grit to the trainers in advance of the winter weather.

5.2 Christmas Lights. Thanks were expressed to Cllr Wheeler for installing the lights that looked very attractive.

Date and time of the next meeting: The next monthly meeting shall be held on Wednesday 23 January 2019.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 7.15 pm

Signed.....Date.....