



CHIRK TOWN COUNCIL CYNGOR TREF Y WAUN

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD 11th DECEMBER 2019

Present

Cllrs. Mr Brian Colley (BC) - Chairman, Mrs Jackie Allen (JA), Mrs Barbara Humphreys (BH), Mr Gareth Baines (GB), Mr Michael Maxfield (MM), Mr Chris Burgoyne (CB), Mr Newman James (NJ), Ms Eleanor Burnham (EB), Mrs Dot Griffiths (DG), Mr Frank Hemmings (FH), Miss Lynne Painter (LP), Mr Mark Roberts (MR) & Mr Terry Evans (TE).
Mrs Karen Brown (KB) Clerk to the Council.

111. To accept apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were accepted from Cllrs. Mrs Sarah Williams and Mr Mark Holmes.

112. Declarations of Interest

None.

BC reminded all members of meeting protocols.

113. TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES AS A TRUE RECORD OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON 27th NOVEMBER 2019.

The draft minutes of the Council meeting held on 27th November 2019 were reviewed. The minutes were proposed as a true record by LP and seconded by FH. **The motion was unanimously agreed.**

114. TO CONSIDER ANY MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES RECEIVED ABOVE NOT REPORTED ELSEWHERE.

Minute 99/85: Members raised the replacement bus service instead of the train service and noted that the bus service was only running in the morning but not in the afternoon. SCRUA and other local bodies had gone back and written again to the Transport Minister and Transport for Wales. WCBC had also written to the first Minister. The new train timetable will come into effect w/c 16/12/19; the lobbying had been unsuccessful. Next steps to be discussed at a future General Purposes Committee.

115. TO CONSIDER BUDGET FOR 2020/21.

BC explained that the Finance Committee had gone through the draft budget in detail line by line and had to reduce some lines of expenditure to ensure the Precept was kept at a reasonable level. The Finance Committee minutes were circulated as reference. The Clerk went through each section of the presented budget. Key discussion points:

- Councillors asked about the wedding licence; they would like information about the options being brought to a future General Purposes Committee.
- Parish Hall House rental income increase of 3% was agreed.
- The Clerk highlighted that although the recreational grounds are priority areas for the Council; the Finance Committee reduced this budget line and any major work will need to be grant funded. This was understood by Council members.
- The Lineman's post should have been reported as a Lengthsman. Councillors asked what duties would be undertaken by this person. The job description is to be written and agreed but duties would be around maintaining hedges, path and leaf clearing, litter picking, weeding etc. to ensure the Town is kept to a high standard.
- It was confirmed that Chirk Town Council receive funding from Wrexham to cover the Community Agent post.
- Based on the presented financial information it is estimated that £119,420 will be required to meet the financial commitments of the Council. This is a 5.8% increase on last year.

116. TO AGREE THE PRECEPT FOR CHIRK TOWN COUNCIL FOR 2020/21.

The Finance Committee's recommendation was to approve the budget presented with a Precept value of £119,420.

The projected funding gap of £119,420 would see the Band D rise to £71.77 annually.

It was proposed by JA and seconded by GB to agree the Council Precept for 2020/21 be set at £119,420. The motion was unanimously agreed by the Council.

117. TO DECIDE UPON APPEALS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE RECEIVED

Julie Williams, Activities Coordinator, Clwyd Alyn requested a donation towards some IT equipment for the residents of Chirk Court Care Home. Members felt that whilst the equipment was fantastic, Clwyd Alyn is a private business and the published accounts show that they are in a healthy financial position. Members also noted that not many residents in the Care Home are actually Chirk residents. On that basis **JA proposed and LP seconded not support this request. The motion was agreed.**

118. TO RECEIVE THE ORAL REPORT OF THE CLERK – INCLUDES CORRESPONDENCE.

Summary of matters raised:

- The wheelchair swing had been installed and Chirk Community Forum are leading the marketing. There is a Facebook video post from a young resident thanking everyone for the new swing which he loves.
- Following the visit today by the internal auditor, there are four recommendations to be followed. Once received, the internal auditor's report will be forwarded to the Finance Committee for further consideration.

119. TO PRESENT ITEMS FOR INCLUSION ON THE NEXT AGENDA

NJ requested that the Christmas lights be an agenda item for a General Purposes Committee.

Meeting closed at 19:40

Signed

Chairman

29th January 2020