

Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Meeting held on Wednesday 14 December 2016 at 6.00pm at Seaton Valley Council Offices.

PRESENT:

Committee members: B Nixon, S Stanners and K Collier

IN ATTENDANCE:

S Potts – Clerk

Cllr A Stanners

No members of the public

The meeting commenced at 6.04pm

FGP089/16 1. Apologies for absence

Cllr Mullen had submitted his apologies and in his absence Cllr Stanners took the Chair.

FGP090/16 2. Disclosure of interests

There were no declarations of interest.

FGP091/16 3. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting held on 02 November 2016 were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

FGP092/16 4. Budget Update 2017/18

The Clerk introduced his report and summarised the process the Budget Review Working Group had gone through to arrive at the re priced base budget attached at Appendix 2C to his report.

The Clerk went on to say that the figures shown in Appendix 2C had only changed in one respect from those presented to Council on 30th November. Further discussion had now taken place with NCC to agree the Partnership Budget for 2017/18 which had reduced by circa £6,000 from the figure presented to Council. The Clerk said that two new apprentices would be taken on in 2017 to replace the two apprentices who are scheduled to complete their apprenticeships. The budgeted costs associated with the new apprentices have been calculated at a reduced level compared to the costs included in this year's budgets.

In closing his presentation the Clerk reiterated that the budgets shown at Appendix 2C simply showed the estimated cost of continuing with the current year's recurring budget and as such had not been adjusted for any changes that Council has not yet agreed. The net position now showed that the 2017/18 repriced base budget is approximately £10,000 less than the current year's base budget.

In seeking clarification of this issue Cllr Nixon asked about two items that had been included in the minutes of the Budget Review Working Group – Newsletters and Christmas Lights. In response the Clerk said that no adjustments had been made in Appendix 2C for these two items as yet as it will be up to Council to decide on whether or not to maintain the current budgets or adjust them in accordance with the findings of the Budget Review Working Group.

The Acting Chair thanked the Clerk for his update and reminded members that any budget proposals they, or their political groups may have, need to be with the Clerk by Friday 13th January 2017.

FGP093/16

5. Dates of Future Meetings

22 December 2016 Planning Committee - Please note: This meeting has been cancelled.

12th January 2017, Planning Committee, Seaton Delaval Offices, 6pm

25th January 2017, Full Council, New Hartley Memorial Hall, 7pm

9th February 2017, Planning Committee, Seaton Delaval Offices, 6pm

The meeting closed at 6.27pm.

Signed by the Chair:

Dated: