

Minutes of a Special meeting of Denbigh Town Council held on Thursday 12th December 2019 at 6.30pm at the Town Hall, Denbigh.

Present: Councillors Gaynor Wood-Tickle (Chair), Catherine Jones, Roy Tickle, Rob Parkes, Philip Stevens, Lara Pritchard, Alyn Ashworth, Dyfrig Berry & Sylvia Jennings; & Jenny Barlow (Town Clerk);

Apologies: Cllrs Irene Williams, Gaynor Morgan-Rees, Rhys Thomas & Glenn Swingler.

The chair welcomed all to the December pre budget meeting.

103. To discuss and agree new financial priorities for the 2020/21 budget.

The town clerk requested any new financial information to be discussed at tonight's meeting. This would be agreed in principle and added to the budget and costings made accordingly for discussion at the January budget meeting.

The below items were discussed at length and agreed to be added/removed from the budget for 2020/21 for discussion and agreement.

Cllr Alyn Ashworth arrived at 6.43pm.

a) Christmas lights - £3k would be added to the budget. This will be retained in reserves at the end of the year ready to purchase new lights in the future.

b) Staff Pension – the town clerk gave an overview of the actuarial figures. It was decided to leave the credit amount and not make any additional contributions.

c) Proposed dog walking area. The town clerk advised that she had contacted an environmental staff member at Flintshire County Council for feedback on their dog walking area. She advised that they had not encountered any issues with the cleanliness of the areas.

The town councillors requested the town clerk to re visit the costings and to see if further commuted sums are available from Denbighshire County Council. The location needs to be reviewed as well as confirmation from DCC that the grass would be cut at no cost to the town council.

d) Denbighshire Urdd Eisteddfod 2020. The town councillors agreed to allocate £2k for the financial Year 2020/21n as the amount raised to date as well as projected income from scheduled events is near the amount needed from Denbigh.

e) Town Hall – An additional £5k is to be allocated as a buffer in case of need for the Town Hall asset transfer.

f) Staff Salary – a meeting is to be scheduled with Cllrs Gaynor Wood-Tickle and Rhys Thomas to discuss staff salaries.

g) Website accessibility – Cllr Dyfrig Berry has kindly agreed to action the updates required on the Website, however there will be a cost of approx £90 for the purchase of the package required. The town clerk will contact One Voice Wales for clarification regarding the payment. If payment is not allowed then the clerk will cost the works accordingly.

h) Electronic Finance package – the town councillors agreed for the town clerk to cost this for the coming year.

i) It was suggested that money be retained in reserves to pay for 2 tablets in case a town Councillor needs one to be able to access the Town Council's electronic documents. The town clerk advised that she will contact One Voice Wales for clarification if this is authorised.

j) The Blue lights services volunteer their services unpaid at town council events. It was suggested that a gift of food and drink be given as a way of saying thank you. The town clerk advised that she would contact One Voice Wales for clarification.

k) Grant aid budget reduced from £40k to £37.5k.

Cllr Phillip Stevens left the meeting at 7.45pm.

l) Future projects - £5k is to be allocated for future town council projects.
The Town Council's Future Financial Planning group to meet and discuss a 3 or 5 year plan for the town council in the New Year.

The chairman closed the meeting at 8.05 pm.

For

Signed:.....(chairman)

Date:.....