



AYLESBURY TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 13 DECEMBER 2021 AT 7.00 P.M. IN THE TOWN HALL, AYLESBURY

Present: Cllr A Christensen (Chairman)
Cllr T Dixon
Cllr R King
Cllr P Koya
Cllr Lloyd
Cllr N Mehta
Cllr A Sherwell

Cllr S Bateman

Officers present: Keith Gray (Town Clerk)
Mark Broughton (Deputy Town Clerk)
Deborah Cole (Finance Officer)

No members of the public were present

The Chairman brought the meeting to order at 7.00 p.m.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
None

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**
To declare any personal or prejudicial interests
No declarations of interest were received, however the Town Clerk issued a dispensation to all committee members present to enable a vote to be held on item 7.

3. **TO AGREE THE MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 16 JUNE 2021**
Resolved: That the Minutes of the meeting of 16 June 2021, be duly approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

4. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**
The Town Clerk indicated there were no matters on the minutes or any further matters to report.

5. BUDGET MONITORING & CASH BOOKS

To consider the cash books and bank reconciliation for Month 7 (October 2021) and to review the budgetary position to Month 7 (October 2021) and report to Town Council, as appropriate.

A member asked about the basis for this information being provided as he found it of limited value. The Town Clerk responded that it was a point of law and custom and practice that financial information be received by this Committee to ensure transparency.

Resolved: It was agreed that Month 7 (October 2021) accounts as presented be duly accepted.

6. INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT 2021/22

To receive and endorse the first interim internal audit report 2021/22

It was noted that this report had been endorsed at Full Council on 9 December 2021 and there were no further matters worthy of discussion.

The report was thus agreed.

7. ANNUAL PRECEPT AND BUDGET 2022/23

To receive and consider the draft 2022/23 annual budget and precept and make recommendations to Full Council, as appropriate

The Chairman asked if members had any initial questions on the draft budget which had been circulated in advance of the meeting.

Discussion centred around the reasons for the increase in the precept and the proposed plans, responsibilities and services under the Localism Agenda. Discussion also centred on the matter of supporting the Aylesbury Garden Town agenda and the Aylesbury Community Board as a delivery partner for these two Bucks Council groups which are geared to upgrade and work with community organisations such as Parish Councils who are best to take on projects and initiatives that enhance community. Discussions also took place on the need for additional staff to ensure community projects and works took place and salary changes required for the maintenance team.

All members of the Finance Committee agreed, unanimously, that the town council are best able to take on and manage services from Bucks Council.

Resolved: It was proposed by Cllr Lloyd, seconded by Cllr Koya that the budget in 2022/23 be £1,874,849 incorporating a Precept of £100 (per Band D household) and that on being put to the vote there were For 6 votes, Against 0 votes and Abstentions 1 vote, and therefore duly carried.

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Committee be arranged when necessary.

Meeting closed at 7.32 pm

Signed: _____ Date: _____
Chairman