

Knutsford Town Council

Town Clerk: Adam Keppel-Green

Council Offices, Toft Road, Knutsford, Cheshire, WA16 6TA

01565 653929 www.knutsfordtowncouncil.gov.uk

townclerk@knutsfordtowncouncil.gov.uk



Minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held 19th November 2019 In the Lower Council Chamber of the Town Council Offices

F19/030 Present

Cllrs Forbes, Houghton, Malloy, McCulloch and Robertson.

In attendance: A Keppel-Green (*Town Clerk*) and Cllrs Coan, Hamilton Coan and Power.

F19/031 To receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Fletcher, Gardiner (personal business) and Nicholson (health).

F19/032 To note declarations of members' interests

No member declared an interest in any item.

F19/033¹ Public Participation

A resident spoke in support of the council including budget for undertaking Conservation Area appraisals during 2020 outlining that existing appraisals were out of date and noting their importance in the planning process.

F19/034 To receive and confirm the minutes of the meeting held 24th September 2019

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes.

F19/035 To consider a recommendation to Full Council for the setting of the 2020/21 budget and precept

It was **RESOLVED** to remove the cemetery improvements budget (4440/250).

It was **RESOLVED** to increase the projected expenditure for room bookings to £300 (4151/560).

Cllr Hamilton-Coan arrived.

It was **RESOLVED** to increase the Makers Market income budget to £5,750.

The meeting was adjourned to allow a member of the public to answer questions with respect the conservation area appraisals. The meeting was subsequently reconvened.

Cllr Power left the meeting.

¹ Cllr Coan arrived during this item.

The meeting was adjourned for a five-minute recess.

It was agreed that the working group reviewing the options for the public toilets give council an understanding of the capital costs included within the contract.

It was **RESOLVED** to reduce the market hall earmarked reserve to zero to reduce the precept requirement with the intention that it be reinstated in full as part of the 2021/22 budget process.

It was **RESOLVED** to reduce the earmarked elections reserve to £7,500.

It was **RESOLVED** to recommend the allocation of reserves and draft budget as amended to council, resulting in a precept of £526,098.

F19/036 To consider year to date committee and council income and expenditure

The budget and spending to date was noted.

F19/037 To note the External Auditor's report

It was noted that the external auditor had raised no comments or issues.

The Chairman thanked the Town Clerk and the Internal Audit working group for their work in ensuring a clean audit.

F19/038 Member questions to the Town Clerk

No questions were raised.

F19/039 To consider the actions log

The log was noted.

F19/040 To consider the council's outstanding debtors report

It was **RESOLVED** to exclude the public and press due to the confidential nature of discussions. The Town Clerk provided an update on outstanding debtors. It was **RESOLVED** to readmit the public and press.

F19/041 To note the date of the next meeting

The date was noted.