

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PRECEPT MEETING OF SOUTHAM TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT THE GRANGE HALL, COVENTRY ROAD, SOUTHAM ON THURSDAY, 11th JANUARY 2018

Present: The Mayor, Councillor Lee Ellard - In the Chair
Councillors A Crump, G Barratt, P Jenkins, G Foster, S Stone, M Brooks,
K Mullen, A Jamieson, A Walster & K Toner

Apologies: Councillor M Gaffney Personal
Councillor G Oubridge Work
Cllr M Connors Personal

Absent without Apologies:
None

In Attendance: Mrs D Carro, Mrs D Sanders,

112. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Town Clerk had previously granted a dispensation to all Councillors to enable them to consider this matter.

Cllr A Crump	Non-Pecuniary Reason	All planning applications Will not take part in any discussion or resolution regarding any planning application in order not to compromise his position on the SDC Planning Committee
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113. REPRESENTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

None

114. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED:

114.1 That the Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 23rd November 2017, having previously been circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Town Mayor.

**114.2 Minutes of the 20th December 2017 Recess Meeting
Noted**

115. APPLICATIONS FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

Council considered the application for planning permission 17/01930/REM detailed on the schedule date January Precept 2018 upon which the Town Council had been consulted by Stratford District Council and

RESOLVED:

Southam Town Council objects to the vehicle tracking and bin lorries overlapping pavements as the Council is of the opinion that this is a safety issue and when cars are parked access for the lorries will be impossible. Southam Town Council also has concerns regarding the ongoing burden to the tax payer of repairing the inevitable damage to pavements.

Southam Town Council withdraws its objection to the affordable housing mix and to the play area, sports field and sports pavilion on the understanding that it will enter into discussion with the developer to address any issues that may arise. It requests that consideration is given to changing the planned safety surface from Grass Matting to Wetpour as the Council is currently doing in its other play areas. This is for reasons of durability.

116. RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICER REPORT

PARISH TAX BASE The Provisional Council Tax Base for Southam 2018/2019 has been calculated at 2506.94

Noted

117. BUDGET PROPOSALS

The proposed figures for the 2018/2019 budget were based on a 3% inflation allowance. Where there was a clear need to revise the figure in light of current levels of expenditure, or known changes likely to occur, a new proposed figure was shown.

Noted

118. ELECTORATE

Latest statistics showed that the electorate in Southam stands at 5343. Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 limited a Council's expenditure on grants to £7.57 per elector

Noted

119. COUNCIL'S AIMS

The Council had agreed to the following aims that were taken into consideration in all policy matters:

1. To improve the service it provides whilst ensuring best value
2. To work with others to improve safety, the environment and quality of life in the town, paying particular attention to the needs of vulnerable members of our community
3. To regularly and effectively consult the community
4. To promote the local economy

Noted

120. CONSIDERATION OF THE BUDGET FOR 2018/2019 after detailed discussions

RESOLVED: To agree the figures proposed.

120.1 REVIEW OF EARMARKED AND GENERAL RESERVES

RESOLVED: That any surplus on the following budget lines should be moved to earmarked reserves at the end of the financial year

Line 25 Market to Rights of Way reserve

Line 30 Holy Well

Line 36 Footpaths

Line 37 Repairs Inspections and Replacements

Line 39 Grounds Maintenance Services

Line 41 War Memorial

Line 46 Grasscutting

Line 48 Section 137 to CAB reserve

- 120.2 RESOLVED: to make the following transfers in Earmarked and General Reserves at the end of the financial year**
- i)Balance of Community Rooms reserve to be transferred to Neighbourhood Planning reserve**
 - ii)Fields Farm Solar reserve to be transferred to Street Lighting Column Replacement reserve.**
 - iii) Southam Youth Services reserve to be transferred to Repairs Inspections and Replacement reserve**
 - iv) Proceeds of the sale of the Parish Pound to be transferred to Natural Amenity/Burial Space reserve**

- 121. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**
No members of the public were present

- 122. TOTAL BUDGET**
RESOLVED: That the total budget is set at £218,679 that this will be offset by £6534 income and £5000 from General Reserves in order to keep the increase for a Band D property at 2.12%

- 123. PRECEPT UPON THE TAX AUTHORITY**
RESOLVED: That the precept upon Stratford District Council be declared to be £207,145 minus Council Tax Support Grant of £5460 giving a total of £201,685

It was noted that Council Tax payable for a D Band property will be £80.45 which will be a £1.67 or 2.12% annual increase.

The meeting closed at 8.25 pm