

STOKESLEY TOWN COUNCIL
FINANCE COMMITTEE

A Meeting of the Finance Committee was held on Tuesday 30 November 2021

Finance Committee Membership:

Cllrs Mike Canavan, Sean Carey, Katriina Makinen and David Oxley.

Due to illness two members were unable to attend. Cllrs Chris Johnson and Graham Sowerby were seconded to attend.

Present: Cllrs Mike Canavan, Sean Carey, Chris Johnson and Graham Sowerby
Clerk –Mrs Julie McLuckie.

1/30/11/21 NOTICE OF MEETING

The notice convening the meeting was taken as read.

2/30/11/21 MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

None present.

3/30/11/21 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- a. **RESOLVED** that the apologies for absence from Cllrs Makinen and Oxley be received.
- b. **RESOLVED** that the reasons for the absences provided be received and agreed.

4/30/11/21 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

None declared.

5/30/11/21 ELECTION OF THE CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED that Cllr Mike Canavan be appointed Chairman.

6/30/11/21 TERMS OF REFERENCE

RESOLVED that the terms of reference were reviewed and agreed subject to the following amendment 'Three members of the Committee must be in attendance for the meeting to proceed or in exceptional circumstances another Councillor can be seconded'.

7/30/11/21 MINUTES FROM THE MEETING HELD ON 1 DECEMBER 2020

RESOLVED that the minutes from the meeting held on 1 December 2020 were agreed as a true and accurate record.

8/30/11/21 INVESTMENTS

- a. **RESOLVED** that the Town Council investment report be received. The investment continues to achieve a high rate of return and it was agreed that the investment portfolio should continue for the next financial year.
- b. **RESOLVED** that the Manorial Lands Trust investment report be received. The investment continues to achieve a high rate of return and it was agreed that the investment portfolio should continue for the next financial year.

9/30/11/21 TOWN COUNCIL BUDGET REVIEW FOR 2021/22 AND PRECEPT FOR 2022/23

- a. **RESOLVED** that the Annual Budget 2021/22 for the Town Council was reviewed and noted.
- b. Members prepared the budget proposals for 2022/23 based on the information provided by Town Council Committees, where available. **RESOLVED** that the following amendments would be made compared with the 2021/22 budget.

'Income' for 2022/23:

CIL Funding – none due this year so decrease to £0.

Events to increase to £10,000 – anticipated from the Platinum Jubilee Events.

New Budget Heading – Electrical Vehicle Charging Points agreed that this would be set up as a separate budget along with Parking.

HDC / NYCC Grasscutting – Increased to reflect HDC CPI increase / offer from NYCC

'Expenditure' for 2022/23

Council Staff Costs to increase to £60,000

Library Staff Costs to increase to £19,500 to accommodate increase in staff hours

Town Warden (new Item)– Staff Costs £21,000 to be paid from reserves in year one when a full review will be undertaken to ascertain if the post has proven to be successful or not, if the number of hours is correct and that the job description meets the requirements for the Town. A decision would then be made on future funding for the post if it was agreed it should continue. ***Cllr Canavan requested that it be recorded that he was not in agreement with this decision.***

Town Warden Equipment (new item) - £2,000 to be paid from reserves

Office Rental – to increase to £6,615, increased Town Hall hire charges

Open Spaces Play Ares to increase to £11,000 – the Open Spaces & Footpaths

Committee to seek advice on future repair options to be carried out to the Skate Bowl for inclusion in future budget considerations.

Open Spaces Trees and Hedges to increase to £13,000 – updated copy of the hedges service level agreement to be distributed to all councillors

Open Spaces Toilets to increase to £4,500

Meeting Room to increase to £1,500 – full return to face-to-face meetings

Legal and Professional Fees – to reduce to £1000

Events increase to £18,725 – agreed that the Platinum Jubilee celebrations would be paid out of reserves. Committee to seek secure sponsorship and to seek to increase income from the drive-in movie event to cover the costs for this one-off Platinum Jubilee Celebration.

New Budget Heading – Electrical Vehicle Charging Points – agreed to set up as a separate budget.

Town Wifi – to reduce to Nil, assumes NYCC installation provides similar coverage
Website to increase to £1000.

- c. Annual Precept 2022/23– **RESOLVED** that based on the agreed budget for 2022/23 the Precept should be increased by a proposed £16,000 this year from £144,000 to £160,000 (this was subject to review / confirmation after receipt of the Council Tax Base to be provided by Hambleton District Council).

10/30/11/21 STOKESLEY MANORIAL LANDS TRUST AND STOKESLEY TOWN HALL TRUST

- a. **RESOLVED** that the Annual Budget 2021/22 for the Town Hall Trust and Manorial Lands Trust were reviewed and noted.
- b. **RESOLVED** that the Annual Budget 2022/23 for the Town Hall Trust remain the same as for 2021/22 apart from the following changes

'Income' 2022/23

Town Hall Lets to increase to £60,000

Bar Sales to increase to £4,000

Ticket Sales to increase to £4,000

'Expenditure' 2022/23

Laundry to increase to £2,000

Water to increase to £1,000

Gas – to increase to £7,000

Electricity – to increase to £6,000

Staff costs to increase to £44,000

Artists Costs to increase to £7,000

Bar Stock to increase to £2,000

Professional Fees would increase to £900

Furniture / Fittings would increase to £4,000

The £20,000 shortfall would be met by the Manorial Lands Trust in accordance with the deed of gift if required.

It was agreed that the Clerk would circulate a proposed increase in the Town Hall Hire Charges for 2022 prior to the Trustees meeting on 2 December 2021 where a formal decision would be taken.

c. **RESOLVED** that the Annual Budget for 2022/23 for Manorial Lands Trust remain the same as for 2021/22 apart from the following changes.

'Income' 2022/23

- Farmers Market Rents to increase to £8,000
- Fair Rent increase to £12,900
- Decking Leases – new budget heading - £1,250

'Expenditure' 2022/23

- Transfer to Town Hall Trust to decrease to £20,000
- Cobble Repairs - £10,000
- Repairs to remain at £5,000
- Fair Road Closure to increase to £3,500
- Marketing / Promotion to decrease to £0

It was agreed that there would be no rent increase to Friday Market as they had been subject to an increase in 2020. The Farmers Market would be increased from £12.70 to £13.20 per stall from April 2022.

11/30/11/21 ANNUAL ACCOUNTS AUDIT

a. **RESOLVED** that the responses circulated to carry out the Audit process for the Town Council be received and it was agreed to remain with the current provider Chipchase Manners as they offer the required service at an appropriate cost.

The meeting closed at 9.40 pm.

Signed

Date