

MINUTES OF THE **MEETING** OF THE **STRATEGIC PLANNING FORUM** HELD ON **WEDNESDAY 28TH NOVEMBER 2018** AT 7.00 P.M. AT THE TOWN HALL, GREAT WESTERN HOUSE, 9 DEVON SQUARE, NEWTON ABBOT

PRESENT: Councillors M Hocking (Chairman) Presiding

Mrs C Bunday	M Joyce
Mrs J Cleave	C N Parker
D Corney-Walker	K Purchase (Mayor)
C Coyle-Moore	M E Ryan
D Howe	T Ward
R Jenks (Dep Mayor)	

In attendance: Philip Rowe – Town Clerk
Sam Scott – Deputy Town Clerk
Alex Robinson – Committee Administrator

SP20. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors Mrs Ann Jones and Ms Liz Roberts.

SP21. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Strategic Planning Forum held on 14th November 2018 were received and signed as a correct record.

SP22. INTERESTS

None declared.

SP23. BUDGET AND STRATEGY FOR 2019/20

The Chairman introduced the **Budget Summary for 2019/20** and **Draft Budget Report for 2019/20**, both previously circulated, and invited the Town Clerk to provide a background to the papers, to Members.

The Town Clerk reported that further to Minute 18/11(SP24) that those items requested for adjustment or amendment to the budget had been made and had been incorporated into the draft 2019/20 budget. He invited questions from Members.

The Clerk reminded Members that their consideration would be on the budget initially in order to make recommendation to the Finance and Audit Committee prior to a resolution to be passed by the Council in January 2020 to agree a precept for the Council for 2019/20.

Following a discussion among Members;

A budget summary statement was submitted to the meeting as follows:-

Budget	£695,631.00
Reserves at 25%	£173,907.00

Add CTSG recovery	£ 30,000.00
Add contingency	£ 14,000.00
TOTAL	£913,538.00

Less Cash at Bank £ 85,000.00

Precept £828,538.00 Equates to increase of £6.28 p.a. or 12p per week or 6.76%

The Town Clerk presented the summary as a realistic budget for 2019/20. The proposed budget and Precept would have the effect of increasing the Council Tax for a Band D property by 12p per week (£6.28 per annum). It was considered important to make the distinction between the additional cost in real (cash) terms rather than as a percentage. Arising from a detailed discussion the following budget would be recommended to the Finance and Audit Committee 16th January 2019, as represented by the illustrated table below:

Precept	Multiplier 2018/19	Annual Band D £/p	Inc/ Dec £/p	% Inc.	Band D cost per week	B / D cost per day	Diff in in P/wk	Total Precept
£777,109*	8,365.0	£99.18	6.28	6.76%	£1.91	27.2	0.12	£828,539

* The precept figure before increases for inflation and loss of Council Tax Support Grant.

Councillors expressed their sincere thanks to the Town Clerk and Deputy Town Clerk for their effort in preparing such comprehensive background papers to the draft budget which greatly assisted Members in their consideration of the matter. Following consideration accordingly it was;

AGREED that the Strategic Planning Forum recommend the **Budget and Precept for 2019/20**, as set out below, and the **Draft Budget Report for 2019/20** (subject to minor amendment) to the Finance & Audit Committee meeting to be held on 16th January 2019:

Precept £	M/plier 2018/ 2019	Actual Band D cost	Band D Incr. (£ & p)	Band D % Inc.	B / D Cost Per week (p)	B/ D Cost per day (p)	Diff p per week	Total Precept £
777,109*	8,365.0	99.18	6.28	6.76	1.91	27.20	0.12	828,539

SP24. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting would be held on 22nd May 2019.

CHAIRMAN