

EAST GRINSTEAD TOWN COUNCIL

FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE – 14TH January 2021 at 7.16 pm

Cllr Sweatman (Chair)
Cllr Peacock (Vice Chairman)
Cllr Dabell (Town Mayor)*
Cllrs: Mrs Belsey, J Belsey*, Mrs Farren, Mrs Mainstone, Matthews, Mrs Mockford*, Osborne*, Visser* & Whittaker

Also in attendance: Councillors Amos, Mrs Bennett, Favor, Ody, Scott, Woodgate

Officers present: Town Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer

245 PUBLIC QUESTIONS

There being no public present the Chairman moved along to the published agenda.

246 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

RESOLVED: Apologies were accepted for the following :

Cllr Belsey	Clash of Meetings
Cllr Mrs Mockford	unwell

247 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Chequer Mead Trustees declared for the Charity budget line.

248 DRAFT BUDGET BOOK FOR 2021/2022 & RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES

The Chairman introduced the budget papers and thanked the various Committee Chairs and Councillors for their input and support through a difficult year.

He indicated that the Committees have already met and have recommended their budgets as laid out in the papers

- RESOLVED:
- 1) To accept the Planning Committees recommendation from 6th January
 - 2) To accept Public Services Committee's recommendation and the Amenities & Tourism Committee's recommendation of the 14th January that there are no alterations to be considered for the revenue estimates as set out in the separately circulated booklet.

He then turned to the Finance and General Purposes Budget cost centres. He made specific reference to the hard work of the Chequer Mead Trustees in what has been a difficult year for all, and especially the Charities. It was noted that cost centre 200 had an error in the Councillors and Mayoral Allowances as the original draft had not been altered following the December F&GP Committee, where the decision not to increase the allowances was made. This needs to be altered which will reduce the budget by £657 but not affect the overall precept % change.

RESOLVED:

- i) To approve the revenue estimates for 2021/2022 in respect of Finance & General Purposes Committee, namely cost centres 100, 400 and 1000, and 1100 without alteration to those laid down in the draft revenue estimates;
- ii) To approve cost centre 200 with amendment to that cost centre (democratic representation) by reverting the Council and Mayoral allowances to the level of 2020/21, and note that subsequently small adjustments to the support service allocation across the budget.
- iii) That subject to Council's approval of the budget, the grants to the named community organisations contained in those papers, be approved for release in the 2021/22 year subject to the receipt of annual accounts.

249 BUDGET AND PRECEPT FOR 2021/22

RECOMMENDED TO FULL COUNCIL ON 25TH JANUARY 2021

1. That the revenue estimates 2021/2022, as set down in the draft budget booklet,(subject to the above amendment to cost centre 200) become the Town Council's budget for 2021/2022 financial year;
2. That the Town Council's capital programme for 2021/2022 be as set down in the draft budget booklet;
3. That the Town Council's estimate payments of £1,319,158 (one million three hundred and nineteen thousand, one hundred and fifty eight pounds) and estimated income of £309,815 (three hundred and nine thousand, eight hundred and fifteen pounds) in the 2021/2022 financial year be approved, resulting in a net cost to the Town Council of £1,009,343 (1 million and nine thousand, three hundred and forty three pounds)
4. That Council, on 25th January 2021, be requested to approve an actual precept for the 2021/2022 financial year, which the Committee recommends should be set at £1,009,343 (1 million and nine thousand, three hundred and forty three pounds) (representing an annual council tax, of £88.11 per Band D property) based on the known tax base of 11,456.

The Chairman advised that the next full meeting of the Committee will be held THURSDAY 25th MARCH 2019 at 7.00pm and ended the meeting at 7.30pm

SIGNED:

CHAIRMAN