

Mrs J Nolan Clerk to the Council The Parish Council Community Centre Bell Lane, Ackworth Pontefract, WF7 7JH

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Minutes of the Extra Ordinary Finance & General Purposes Committee held on Monday 6th January 2025 @ 6PM.

Attendance

Cllr Sarah Balfour – Chair Cllr Carolyn Hall Cllr John Bell Cllr Sharon Maiden Cllr Suzy Sherratt

Clerk J Nolan

0 Members of the Public Present

1. Apologies

1.1 To receive apologies for absence given in advance of the meeting **1.2** To consider the approval of reasons given for absence

1.1 Apologies were received in respect of Cllr Roberts.

1.2 The committee had considered and approved the reason given by Cllr Roberts.

2. Declarations of Interests and Dispensations

2.1 To receive any declarations of interest not already declared under the Council's Code of conduct or a member's Register of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests on items on the agenda
2.2 To receive, consider and decide upon any written applications for dispensation for disclosable pecuniary interest

2.3 To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate

2.1/2.2/2.3 None to receive.

3. PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETING ACT 1960) THAT THE PRESS AND THE PUBLIC BE EXCLUDED FROM THE REMAINDER OF THE MEETING ON THE GROUNDS THAT PUBLICITY WOULD BE PREJUDICIAL TO THE CONFIDENTAIL NATURE OF THE BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED

3.1 None present.

4. To review and discuss a draft financial report prepared by the Clerk/RFO in preparation for the Council's 25/26 budget setting.

4.1 The committee reviewed the financial report and offered the following feedback for inclusion:

- To include the calculation method for estimation of general reserves
- To include the additional unpaid hours worked by staff but not claimed or taken in lieu if possible
- To emphasise the responsibility of the Council to ensure a balanced budget is set and approved

After a detailed discussion,

The Chair proposed that a record of the committee's considerations are provided to Council via the meeting minutes; which was agreed by the majority of councillors present:

The considerations for Council are:

- That this committee considered the financial report had been prepared using sound financial information based on the 24/25 budget
- That this committee considered that there should not be any cuts made to the proposed budget which would result in loss of service or provisions offered by Ackworth Parish Council
- That this committee considered that a substantial increase in precept levy is approved to cover the full variance proposed in the 25/26 budget

It was **noted** by the Chair that should Council not approve the proposed budget, that the Clerk would need to be provided with a clear instruction based on an 'acceptable' precept levy approved by Council for review. A delay in this process would require an extension to be granted by WMDC to meet the submission deadline.

Time Closed: 19:33