

NEWBIGGIN-BY-THE-SEA TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Finance Committee held on Tuesday 03 January 2012 at 7 pm at the Town Council Cottage Newbiggin by-the-Sea.

PRESENT:

Councillors: R McCready (Chairperson)

L Anderson

M Cholerton

A Thompson

Officer: D Earl – Town Clerk

Also present: Councillors M Kirkup M Peden and W Rogers

FC14/11 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor M Boon.

FC15/11 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 06 December 2011 be approved as a true record

FC16/11 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Councillors Anderson and McCready declared personal interests being members of Newbiggin in Bloom Association; Councillors Anderson and Rogers as members of the Newbiggin Allotment Association; Councillor Thompson as a member of the County Council Executive; Councillors Thompson and Peden as members of Newbiggin Royal British Legion Association; the Town Clerk in relation to Blyth Valley Arts and Leisure Ltd.

FC17/11 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That under Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items on the Agenda as they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1 and 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A of the 1972 Act relating to employment financial and business affairs.

FC18/11 DRAFT BUDGET PROPOSALS FOR 2012/13

Draft proposals for the 2012/13 budget had again been circulated for consideration and the Chairperson outlined the approach and suggested amendments following discussion at the previous meeting.

Each area of the budget was again examined and agreed by the members with some discussion of the extent of the programme for youth development schemes through sport leisure and the arts and the ability to deliver the proposed budget without increasing the Precept for a second year.

Certain service delivery budgets would be pooled and a joint repairs and replacement fund created while minimum balances would be maintained to provide contingencies.

RECOMMENDED that:

- i) The revised proposals set out in Appendix 1 form the basis of the budget for 2012/2013;**
- ii) The Town Council fix the amount required for the Precept for 2012/2013 at the same level as the current year at £113,110.**

The Town Clerk declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the following item and withdrew from the meeting during its consideration.

FC19/11 EMPLOYMENT MATTERS

The Chairperson outlined to the Committee matters relating to employment following previous discussion with the Town Clerk. The current contract provided for ninety hours to be worked each month but it had been necessary for overtime averaging over twenty hours per month to be worked throughout the year so far and the transfer of some local services was likely to see this increase further. It was therefore suggested that the contractual hours be increased to thirty hours per week from February.

RECOMMENDED that:

- i) The contract of employment be varied to provide for 30 hours per week with effect from 01 February 2012;**
- ii) The Town Clerk be paid one months' additional salary in lieu of the additional hours already worked;**
- iii) With effect from 01 April 2012 the salary be increased by one increment.**

Signed by the Chairperson:

Date:.....