

**THURSTON PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee Meeting held on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2021 at 10.30am in the Parish Council Office, New Green Centre.

In the Chair: Cllr. Dashper. Present: Cllrs. Haley, Rainbow and West. In Attendance: Mrs V Waples, Clerk.

The Chair for the meeting declared the meeting open at 10.30am thanked all for attending and read out the notice for the reporting at meetings of the parish council.

1. Apologies of absence –
  - a) There were no applicable apologies for absence as all were present.
2. Declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests -
  - a) To receive declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interest in items on the agenda and their nature including gifts of hospitality exceeding £25 – there were none received.
3. To approve the minutes of the Committee Meeting of 17<sup>th</sup> September 2021 as previously circulated –
  - a) 17<sup>th</sup> September 2021 - the minutes were approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting that took place with agreement forthcoming for them to be signed as such by the Chair, aif.
4. To consider the 1st Draft of the Budget for 2022 - 2023: as previously circulated
  - a) To review and consider the 1<sup>st</sup> Draft of the Expenditure Budget for 2022-2023 – following amendments the Committee was in agreement that it would recommend to full Council a revenue budget in the sum of £165,300 to be funded by a Precept of £123,000, grants £3,000 and CIL £39,300. It was noted that the indicative impact on a Band D property would be an increase of £2.41 or 2.77% as the indicative tax base would not be confirmed until early January 2022 once the local government settlement figure was known (mid-December).
  - b) To review and consider the Reserves of the Parish Council as at mid November 2021 – the Committee noted the level of reserves as at 19<sup>th</sup> November 2021 noting that CIL reserves were being used effectively and that once deleted the levels of Earmarked and General Reserves would be reviewed and held in accordance with Council's priorities and strategies moving forward. The meeting gave approval for the Clerk to transfer £100,000 from the Council's current account into the deposit account held with Lloyds Bank, aif.
  - c) To review and consider the Council's Reserves Policy 2021 and/or approve appropriate amendments if necessary – the Committee was in agreement that at this stage there were no amendments required and that the practice of an authority with a reasonable net revenue expenditure holding 3 months equivalent in a general reserve was noted. Changes in the tax base as more properties became occupied would allow the council to plan in future years for an increased general reserve as the increase in activity levels and range of services being provided will require an increased working capital.
  - d) Council to note the late receipt of the indicative tax base from the District Council – as noted previously the tax base upon which the draft budget and its implications had been worked out had only been received the day before. The Tax Base was an Indicative Tax Base and although MSDC did not anticipate any significant change they will not confirm the Final Tax Base early January 2022.
5. To consider matters coming forth from Committee Members: there were no matters forthcoming:
6. Date of future Meetings: to confirm the dates:
  - a) Policy & Resources Committee Meeting – 18<sup>th</sup> February 2022 at 10.30am – venue to be confirmed.
7. There being no further business to transact, the Chairman closed the meeting at 11.40am.

So approved and signed at the meeting of 18<sup>th</sup> February 2022