

MINUTES OF ATALGARTH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING AT 6.45PM, WEDNESDAY, 11 JANUARY 2023, HELD IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM, TOWN HALL, TO DETERMINE THE PRECEPT FOR 2023/2024

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cllr L Elston-Reeves (Mayor) (In the Chair), Cllr R Reid, (Deputy Mayor), Cllr J Bond, Cllr A Bufton, Cllr K Burns, Cllr D Coleman, Cllr M Dodds, Cllr C Green, Cllr G Jones, Cllr A Lord, Cllr R Parry

APOLOGIES: Cllr C Bufton-Davies

IN ATTENDANCE : Josephine Rumsey (Town Clerk),
County Councillor W Powell (*present for the 'Tuesday Lunch Club' Presentation*)

WELCOME: Cllr L Elston-Reeves, Mayor, welcomed Helen Corbett, Chair and Anna Weston, Secretary of the newly formed 'Tuesday Lunch Club', to the meeting, who gave a detailed presentation on their aims and progress to date and requesting some clarification from the Town Council re the hiring of the Town Hall for their project, details of which had been circulated in advance of the meeting. Discussion took place and agreed to respond after further discussion at the precept part of the meeting.

Cllr L Elston-Reeves, Mayor thanked both Helen and Anna for their informative presentation.

WELCOME Cllr L Elston-Reeves, welcomed Cllr Jodie Bond to her first meeting as Town Council.

23/01 DECLARE MATTERS OF INTEREST – No matters of interest

23/02 MINUTES – The Minutes of the last Precept meeting held on 17 Jan 2022 and approved at the 9 Feb 2022 meeting were circulated, for ease of reference.

23/03 CORRESPONDENCE – Received the following which had been previously circulated.

- **'Tuesday Lunch Club'** - Further discussion took place on the way forward.
RESOLVED: To inform the 'Tuesday Lunch Club' that the Town Council has agreed for Cllr A Bufton and Cllr K Burns, to work with them to set up the project. The Town Council has agreed to free hall hire for the first six months, after which will then be re-assessed. The Lunch Club will be responsible for the associated running costs ie gas/electricity etc.
- **Section 137 Expenditure Limit for 2023-24** – Notification received that the appropriate sum for the purposes of section 137(4)(a) of the Local Government Act 1972 (the 1972 Act) for Community and Town Councils in Wales for the financial year 2023-24 is £9.93.
- **Bowling Club** - Noted the Inspection test of the Emergency lights had taken place by Skyrme Electrical on 6 Jan 2023 and the Certificate and Estimates for works had been received. Noted the Bowling Club has confirmed the Club is responsible for the renewing of the failed Emergency Lights repair estimate – £598.95 + £108.79 VAT.
RESOLVED: To pay the Invoice of the Inspection test £130 + VAT as previously agreed and the invoice of £124.82 + VAT to fit an Emergency Light in the Disabled WC, to comply with the latest regulations.
- **Talgarth Community Library** – Noted the Talgarth & District Regeneration Group (TDRG), had forwarded to the Town Council, a financial statement from 1/1/2022-31/12/2022 and not audited accounts, as requested, in support of their request for financial support for the Talgarth Library.
- **RESOLVED:** Unanimously agreed to make £500 available to be spent to support the provision of the library, which has the full support of the Town Council. However it was decided that the money would be retained by the Town Council and released for specific purposes when the TDRG make a request, subject to the Town Council having sight of the audited accounts.

23/04 TO DETERMINE THE PRECEPT FOR 2023-2024 – Cllr L Elston-Reeves handed over to Cllr A Lord, for his presentation of the Precept part of the meeting. Cllr Lord went through his presentation explaining the key points indicated in his notes, which he had prepared on behalf of the Town Council, in order to determine the Precept 2023-2024.

Project List - The project list presented for consideration was fully considered.
RESOLVED: Unanimously agreed to the summary proposals.

Handyman position – Following discussion on this proposed project, it was decided not to proceed with this post at this time.

Town Hall Fees – As the price of everything is increased, particularly the cost of electricity and gas, this will require revisiting, in the near future.

9pm Move of Standing Orders- Cllr L Elston-Reeves asked for a move of Standing Orders for 15 minutes.

PROJECTED TOTAL EXPENDITURE 2023/2024 **£84,866.00**

RESOLVED: It was proposed, voted and decided to set the precept 2023/2024 at £73,000.00.

Cllr L Elston-Reeves, Mayor, on behalf of the Town Council, thanked Cllr A Lord for his valued assistance in preparing these figures and notes for discussion with Town Councillors, in order to set the Precept for 2023/2024.

Town Councillors were acutely aware of the financial pressures being faced by fellow local residents, with likely increases to come in Powys County Council Tax demands, including the Dyfed Powys Police and Mid & West Wales Fire & Rescue Authority Precepts. This was a major factor for Town Councillors in their deliberations in determining their Precept level 2023/2024.

23/05 DATE/TIME OF NEXT MEETING - 7 pm Wed 18 January 2023.

There was no further business to be discussed and the Chair declared the meeting closed at 9.12 pm.

Signed:

Date:

Summary of Projected spend for 2023 to 2024

Salaries

£30,490.00

Town Hall

£8,201.00

General Admin

£8,950.00

General Admin One Off

£0.00

Training Courses

£2,000.00

War Graves/Remembrance

£130.00

Town Hall/Toilets Maintenance

£5,650.00

Burial Ground

£7,500.00

King George V

£0.00

Bowling Club

£500.00

Elections

£250.00

Christmas lights

£2,000.00

Repair Loan

£4,500.00

Donations

£650.00

Project list

£14,045.00

Total

£84,866.00