

PADDOCK WOOD TOWN COUNCIL

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MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE HELD on Monday 14TH January 2019, at the Day Centre Commercial Road, 7.45 pm.

PRESENT: Cllr M Flashman, in the chair
Cllrs R Atkins, S. Hamilton, R. Moon, R. Steward, E. Thomas

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs N. Reay, Clerk

APOLOGIES: Cllrs D Henshaw, R. Turk

F20 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
There were no declarations of interest.

F21 **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**
Cllr Hamilton proposed, Cllr Flashman seconded:
That the minutes should be APPROVED with the following amendment to item F16: a set of notes relating to the previous Personnel Meeting were handed to the Clerk.
CARRIED 5 in favour, 1 against (Cllr Moon)

(Note: following the meeting the Clerk was asked by the councillor concerned to destroy the notes – this has been done)

F22 **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES**
(a) The new copier has been installed. However, due to an issue with the email address used by the council it cannot be set up to allow scanning. This is due to the GDPR regulations. This is being looked at by the council's IT advisor and it is hoped the issue will be resolved soon.
(b) The SLCC scales for the 2019/2020 have been issued.

F23 **PITCH FEES**
Paddock Wood FC now cut the senior pitch at the Elm Tree themselves. They have purchased the necessary equipment to do the work. Council contractors continue to cut the rest of the field.

As the club cuts a portion of the field, the club has asked that the council considers a reduction to the hire fees, currently £57.65 + VAT per match.

The clerk advised that the reason the club now cut the pitch was because they wanted the clippings collected and the council's contractor does not do this.

Members were concerned that by allowing a reduction in fees to one club, other clubs or users of the council's facilities may expect a reduction in fees if they carry out any tasks, voluntarily.

Cllr Flashman proposed, Cllr Moon seconded:
That the council should not agree to a reduction in the pitch fees.

CARRIED: 5 in favour, 1 abstention

Members would however, like the club to apply for a grant.

F24

BUDGET 2019/20

Members discussed the attached budget figures and notes.

A sum had been allowed for Chairman's Allowance as allowed for under S15 (5) (LGA 1972). PWTC has not separated out the chairman's expenses in the past but it was considered good practice to do so. All money spent would be receipted and accounted for in the same way any other expenses were.

Part of the sum had been transferred from the Member's Allowance code.

Cllr Hamilton proposed, Cllr Thomas seconded:

That the Chairman's Allowance should be included in the budget.

CARRIED 5 in favour, 1 against

Members also asked that the following amendments be made to the budget figures:

+ £6000 on the car park code for the cemetery – this will allow the project to be progressed more quickly as the total fund will be £18,000

+ £6,000 on the code for the building maintenance – this will allow improvements to be made to the Memorial Pavilion once the survey had been carried out.

+£1000 to the hanging baskets code – to allow for additional planting to be carried out

Cllr Hamilton proposed, Cllr Thomas seconded:

That the budget figures with the above amendments should be APPROVED

CARRIED 5 in favour (Cllrs Flashman, Hamilton, Moon, Steward & Thomas)
1 against (Cllr Atkins)

This equates to a 2.96% increase on the budget.

F25

PRECEPT

Cllr Flashman proposed, Cllr Thomas seconded:

That precept of £451,366 for the year 2019/2020 should be set.

CARRIED 5 in favour (Cllrs Flashman, Hamilton, Moon, Steward & Thomas)
1 against (Cllr Atkins)

This equates to 0.3% increase on the precept for 2018/2019. (= 0.41pence band D property)

F26

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Monday 24th June 2019. (to be confirmed)

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm.

CHAIRMAN