

APPLEBY-IN-WESTMORLAND TOWN COUNCIL

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FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES FOR THE MEETING HELD IN THE MOOT HALL ON MONDAY 14TH JANUARY 2019 at 6.45pm

Present:

Cllr Mrs Anderton
Cllr Connell
Cllr Pape (**Vice Chair**)
Cllr F Potts
Cllr H Potts
Cllr Rooke (*Mayor ex officio*)

Also in attendance:

Cllr Hayes
Cllr Stephenson

F1/01/19 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Chalmers, Cllr Curley and Cllr Mrs Dixon-Dougherty in respect of this meeting.

F2/01/19 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Connell declared a personal interest in any items on the agenda that relate to Cumbria County Council and Eden District Council. Cllr Mrs Anderton and Cllr F Potts declared a personal interest with regard to the application for a grant from Appleby Primary School.

F3/01/19 Actions from the Previous Minutes

There were no outstanding actions from the previous minutes in relation to this meeting.

F4/01/19 Chairman's Report

There was no Chairman's Report in respect of this meeting.

F5/01/19 Management Accounts

The Clerk presented the Management Accounts for December 2018. Cllr Stephenson asked what monies were being allocated to building repairs next year. The Clerk advised that that would depend in part on if the council decide to increase the precept and other budget commitments, any unallocated funds are committed to the building repairs budget. Cllr Stephenson also asked about the Eden District Council grant towards the cost of the Tourist Information Centre. The Clerk advised that as previously agreed with the District Council the grant would reduce by 25% next year to £4,500 as per devolution of services.

F6/01/19 Precept 2019 - 2020

The Clerk explained that the first table in the Finance Report shows how much additional funding would have been generated had the Council increased the Precept by 2 % each year for the last 5 years. Accumulatively this would have totalled £22,463. The Clerk also explained that the second table shows how much funding each % increase would generate this year and also how this would increase the amount per household. Cllr H Potts stated that is would have been a good idea to have increased the precept by a small amount in previous years. Cllr Rooke proposed that the Council increase the precept by 6% which would equate to 1% per year. This was seconded by Cllr Mrs Anderton but the motion was not carried. Cllr H Potts proseed that an increase of 5% would be more acceptable to the council tax payers and this was seconded by Cllr Pape. This motion was carried by 4 votes to 2. It was **RECOMMENDED** that the precept be increased by 5%. The £5253 that the increase will generate will be ring fenced and only used for building repairs. The 5% increase is the equivalent to a 1% rise over the last 5 years and will mean an overall increase of £4.60 per year (for a Band D property).

F7/01/19 Eden District Council: Devolution of Services Funding

ACTION

Clerk

The Clerk advised that there have been significant delays in the transfer of assets to the Council. These delays are mainly due to Eden District Council's legal department and some delays due to getting repairs completed. Following Cllr Mrs Greenwood's question to the Executive Committee it is understood that it is intended to reduce the funding of asset transfers in 2019 – 2020 to 75%. Cllr Connell advised that he would contact the Chief Executive Officer to discuss the matter. It was also suggested that the Clerk contact Kirkby Stephen, Alston and Penrith Council's to see if they had similar issues. It was **RECOMMENDED** that should 100% fund not be available for the 1st year of when an asset transfers the Council will accept no further transfers.

F8/01/19 Grass Cutting: Approaches to the Town

The Clerk advised that retrospective funding was no longer a consideration. Cllr Connell advised that Cumbria County Council had agreed to take responsibility for the grass cutting at the Long Marton approach to Appleby. Cllr H Potts asked if a letter of thanks could be sent to Mr and Mrs Coward who have undertaken the planting for several years. It was agreed that Cllr Rooke would draft a thank you letter.

**Cllr
Rooke**

F9/01/19 Grant Applications

A grant application was considered from the Great North Air Ambulance Service. It was **RECOMMENDED** that £250 be awarded to the Great North Air Ambulance Service from the Charity of Mrs Hannah Kennington (Deceased).

**Assistant
Clerk**

A grant application was considered from Eden Timebank. It was agreed that Cllr Connell would see if funding was available from Cumbria County Council, however, should such funding not be forthcoming it was **RECOMMENDED** that £160 be awarded to the Eden Timebank from the Dorothy Chapman Trust.

**Assistant
Clerk**

A grant application was considered from Appleby Primary School. It was **RECOMMENDED** that £400 be awarded to the Appleby Primary School from the Dorothy Chapman Trust.

**Assistant
Clerk**

F10/01/19 Councillors' reports and items for future agendas

There were no Councillors' reports and items for future agendas raised in respect of this meeting.

F11/01/19 Date of the Next Meeting

Councillors noted that the next meeting of the Finance Committee will be held in the Moot Hall on **Monday 11th February 2019 at 6.45pm.**

ALL

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.15pm

AT THE COUNCIL MEETING ON: **WEDNESDAY 23RD JANUARY 2019**

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE WAS AUTHORISED BY THE COMMITTEE TO SIGN THESE MINUTES TO CONFIRM THEIR BEING A TRUE AND ACCURATE RECORD:

Cllr Jim Chalmers
