

# LYDNEY TOWN COUNCIL

FINANCE AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MEETING – 2016/12/12 – 06

**MINUTES OF THE EXTRA ORDINARY FINANCE AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MEETING** held in the Council Chamber, Claremont House, Lydney on Monday 12 December 2016 at 5.15 pm.

**PRESENT:** Cllrs B Pearman (Chairman), B Berryman, D Biddle, C Harris, H Ives (late arrival) and A Preest

One member of the public  
Mrs J Smailes – Chief Executive Officer (CEO)/RFO  
Miss C Wheeler – Executive Officer (EO)  
Mrs C Whittington – Finance Assistant (FA)

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Cllr Pearman informed all present that no practice fire evacuation had been scheduled for the duration of the meeting. All attendees were then informed of the locations of the nearest fire exits.

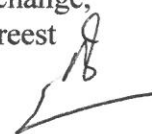
1. **APOLOGIES**  
Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Greenwood. Members were informed that Cllr Ives would be a late arrival to the meeting.
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**  
None.
3. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**  
Members were reminded that the minutes of the previous meeting had been duly approved/authorised at the end of the last Finance & Scrutiny meeting.
4. **OPEN FORUM**  
No requests to speak were received.
5. **FINANCIAL**  
**Full Council Budget/Precept Recommendation**  
Members were provided with a copy of the draft Full Council Budget for 2017/2018. After a short discussion approval of the draft Full Council Budget for 2017/2018 totalling £545,251.00 was proposed by Cllr Harris, seconded by Cllr Berryman. Unanimous.

Cllr Ives arrived at this point.

### **Precept Recommendation**

Members were then asked to consider/derive Lydney Town Council's Precept recommendation for 2017/2018 from the approved Budget. The CEO advised that she had been provided with the Band D Calculations from Forest of Dean District Council and it was noted that Members had been provided with a comparison of the 2016/2017 and 2017/2018 Band D Calculations for consideration. Members noted that the Precept for 2017/2018 based on the approved Budget figure would amount to £184.80 (0.19% reduction (0.36p) in the Band D calculation when compared to the 2016/2017 Band D figure).

During discussion it was noted that the Tax Base could be amended by Forest of Dean District Council's S151 Officer until the end of January 2017 reflecting any developmental change, e.g. if a large housing estate was brought into effect by the Valuation Office. Cllr Preest



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emphasised that the Council operated its finances in an open and transparent way and continued to adopt a financially prudent approach towards its budget, for which he offered his congratulations to the Chairman and the Town Council's Officers.

It was **proposed by Cllr Ives, seconded by Cllr Harris**, that a Precept Recommendation of £499,959.00 for 2017/2018 would be taken forward to the Full Council meeting. Unanimous.

It was then **proposed by Cllr Berryman, seconded by Cllr Preest**, that the Finance & Scrutiny Chairman be instructed to present the Council's "approved" Budget and to deliver the Committee's Precept Recommendation, derived therefrom (PBP process applied) for 2017/2018 to Full Council for their consideration/approval (it was noted that this figure would only be reconsidered by Full Council if the tax base changed). Unanimous.

**Action by – Cllr Pearman**

6. **MEETING DATES**

It was noted that the next meeting of the Finance and Scrutiny Committee would take place on 29 February 2017 (Grant Applications).

7. **APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

Approval of the minutes of today's meeting was **proposed by Cllr Harris, seconded by Cllr Ives**. Unanimous. Cllr Pearman then signed the minutes as a true record.

Meeting closed at 5.26 pm.

Chairman ..... *S. Pearman* .....

Date ..... *12/12/16* .....