

**KING'S SUTTON PARISH COUNCIL  
FINANCE GOVERNANCE & POLICY COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD  
AT 7.30 P.M. ON THURSDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2015  
IN THE KING'S SUTTON MILLENNIUM MEMORIAL HALL**

**PRESENT:** Councillors R Irving (Chairman), R Burrell, T Forde, R Sykes

**ABSENT:** Cllr J Creed

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mrs A Le Druillenec (Clerk)

**CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENT:**

**The Openness of Local Government Public Bodies Regulations 2014:**

No Members of the Public were present. The Chairman did not make his Announcement.

**FGP: 59.15/16 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES AND APPROVE THE REASONS FOR ABSENCE:**

**None.**

**FGP: 60.15/16 TO RECEIVE REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS:**

**None.**

**FGP: 61.15/16 TO INVITE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:**

**None.**

**FGP: 62.15/16 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

**None.**

**FGP: 63.15/16 BUDGET 2016/2017:**

**A. To recommend a draft Payments Budget 2016/2017:**

(YE Budget 2015/2016 Position Payments; Draft Payments Budget 2016/2017 previously distributed)

Cllr Irving spoke to this item.

The Budget deficit for 2015/2016 had been estimated at £3,000.

Negative impacts on the draft budget 2016/2017 amounted to £11,000 and included:

i) Receipts:

Category 6: Advertising receipts

ii) Payments:

Category 1.1: Play equipment maintenance - provision for quarterly inspection regime.

Category 1.1: Signage, seats, posts and bins

Category 4.1: Waste Collection

Category 7: Thursday Bus

Category 8.1: Power - 50% price increase introduced May 2015

Category 11.1: Clerk's Salary - additional hours

Category 11.5: Room Hire - provision for Youth Club

Without amendment the total budget deficit would be circa £14,000.

The following changes to the draft Payments Budget were recommended:

Category 5: Tree Management: Reduce from £6,000 to £1,000 and take this from Reserves.

Category 12.2: Lighting Replacements: Retain £2,500 in the Budget but take this from Reserves.

Category 12.4: Play Area Renewal Fund: Nil

The Parish Council had been minded to budget £5,000 per year for 15 years. The Committee did not believe this was necessary for the purposes of the 2016/2017 budget due to the anticipated s106 developer contribution for off-site play provision from Barwood Homes. This would repay the Parish Council's loan made from designated reserves for the new play equipment.

These recommended changes to the original draft 2016/2017 Payments Budget would reduce the negative impact from £11,000 to £2,500.

Total draft Payments Budget 2016/2017: £71,307.

### **B. To recommend a draft Receipts Budget for 2016/2017:**

(YE Budget 2015/2016 Position Receipts; Draft Receipts Budget 2016/2017 previously distributed)

Cllr Irving spoke to this item.

No changes were recommended.

Total draft Receipts Budget 2016/2017 (excluding Precept): £11,540.

### **B.1 Setting the Precept for 2016/2017:**

(Information dated 14<sup>th</sup> December 2015 from SNC on Parish Precept 2016-2017 and New Homes Bonus previously distributed)

(Paper 'Setting the Precept 2016-2017' circulated at the Meeting)

Mr Paul Sutton, Head of Finance and Procurement, SNC had advised that the estimated Council Tax Base for King's Sutton for 2016/2017 was 812.7.

In 2015/2016 the Council Tax for a Band D property was £69.02 calculated on the basis of a Precept of £55,527 and Tax Base of 804.5.

The Committee considered that:

i) To keep Council Tax for a Band D property at £69.02 for 2016/2017 it would be necessary to set a Precept in the sum of £56,092. This represented an increase in the Precept of £565 or 1.02% over 2015/2016.

ii) To increase the Precept for 2016/2017 by £1,873 or 3.37% over 2015/2016 to £57,400 would lead to a 2.33% increase in Council Tax for a Band D property to £70.63.

iii) The recommended draft Payments Budget for 2016/2017 was £71,307.

A precept in the sum of £57,400 + recommended draft Receipts Budget for 2016/2017 in the sum of £11,540 would amount to £68,940, leaving a shortfall of £2,367.

iv) The Committee considered the level of Reserves.

At the beginning of the 2015/2016 financial year the Parish Council held £69,754 in General Reserves which equated to 125.6% of the precept for 2015/2016 and just under a full year's expenditure.

The Committee was not in favour of allowing the General Reserves to fall much below the level of one year's payments.

**RESOLVED:** It was proposed by Cllr Irving and seconded by Cllr Burrell to Recommend a Precept of £57,400 for 2016/2017 and thereby effect an increase of 2.33% in Council Tax for a Band D property. This would amount to an increase of £1.61 per annum for such a property.

**RESOLVED:** It was proposed by Cllr Irving and seconded by Cllr Forde to Recommend:

i) A draft Payments Budget for 2016/2017 of £71,307

ii) A draft Receipts Budget for 2016/2017 of £68,940.

The Meeting ended at 8.15 p.m.