

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

**MINUTES OF THE EXTRA MEETING HELD
AT 7.30 P.M. ON TUESDAY 13TH DECEMBER 2016
IN THE KING'S SUTTON MILLENNIUM MEMORIAL HALL**

PRESENT: Councillors R Irving (Chairman), R Burrell, J Creed, T Forde

ABSENT: Cllr R Sykes

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs A Le Druillenec (Clerk)

**CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENT:
The Openness of Local Government Public Bodies Regulations 2014:**

**FGP: 68.16/17 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES AND APPROVE THE REASONS
FOR ABSENCE:**

None.

FGP: 69.16/17 TO RECEIVE REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS:

None.

FGP: 70.16/17 TO INVITE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Cllr Burrell declared an Interest in Item 5.1: Draft Payments Budget
Reason: Category 11.5 of the draft Payments Budget included room
rent at the Hall for the KS Youth Club. Cllr Burrell is Chairman and
Trustee, KSMMH Committee of Management.

FGP: 71.16/17 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

None.

**FGP: 72.16/17 BUDGET 2017/2018: TO RECOMMEND A:
A. DRAFT PAYMENTS BUDGET FOR 2017/2018:
B. DRAFT RECEIPTS BUDGET FOR 2017/2018:**

B. To Recommend a Draft Receipts Budget for 2017/2018:
(draft Receipts Budget updated since FG&P Meeting of 22nd November 2016
previously distributed)

The Committee **Noted** the following entries:

- i) Category 8.2: Tree Management and Tree Works: £2,000
- ii) Category 9.2: Road Safety: £1,000
- iii) Total Receipts: £13,089.

A. To Recommend a Draft Payments Budget for 2017/2018:

The Committee **Noted** the following entries:

- i) Category 3: Grasscutting: £2,520 (£10 per cut increase)
- ii) Category 5: Tree Management: £1,000 (from Designated Reserves)
- iii) Category 11.5: Room Hire: £3,180 (Youth Club Room Hire £1,500)

Proposal: To increase the budget for room hire for the Youth Club by £500 to make a total of £2,000.

Proposer: Cllr Burrell **Seconded:** Cllr Forde

A vote was taken.

For: 2 Against: 2

The Chairman exercised his Casting Vote and the Proposal was **defeated** by 3 votes to 2.

- iv) Category 11.10: Chairman's Allowance: £220.

Agreed: To reduce to £100.

- v) Category 11.11: Training: £750.

Agreed: To reduce to £500.

- vi) Category 12.1: Tree Works: £1,000 (from Designated Reserves)

- vii) Category 12.2: Lighting Replacements: £2,500 (Low level lighting at Spinney Bank)

- viii) Category 12.9: Cemetery Exceptional Expenditure: £15,000 (Land Purchase £4,000 + Refurbishment of paths £11,000)

The Committee considered the implications for the budget of retaining £15,000 in Category 12.9.

- i) There would be a budget shortfall of £17,000.

- ii) General Reserves were estimated to be £86,000.

(Calculated as follows:

At 31st March 2016 the balance carried forward was: £178,070

Add: Estimated Receipts 2016/2017: £162,756

Less: Estimated Payments 2016/2017: £122,089

Estimated Balance at 31st March 2017: £218,737 ²

² Designated Reserves: £132,396

² General Reserves: £86,341)

- iii) Reducing the Budget by £11,000 (paths) would still result in an annual deficit of £5,000.

- iv) Refurbishment of the paths was a long term investment, not a revenue cost and it was not likely to be repeated in subsequent years.

- v) A revised estimate for the paths was £15K - £20K and this could be taken from General Reserves.

Agreed:

- i) Category 12.9: Cemetery Land Purchase: £4,000

- ii) Insert New Category: Cemetery Paths: £15,000 (from Reserves)

- iii) Total Budget Payments: £91,269 (including £15,000 for Cemetery Paths)

- iv) Total Budget Receipts: £28,089 (including £15,000 Reserves for Cemetery Paths)

C. Setting the Precept for 2017/2018:

Total Draft Payments: £91,269

Total Draft Receipts: £28,089

Shortfall: £63,180

C.1 Council Tax Base:

SNC had advised that the Council Tax Base for 2017-2018 was 828.9, an increase of 16.2 points (1.99%) over 2016/2017.

It was unlikely, but yet to be confirmed, that Parish Councils would be subject to Precept capping in 2017/2018.

The Precept for 2016/2017 was £57,400 and represented an increase of 3.37% over the previous year.

Increasing the Precept by the same amount of 3.37% for 2017/2018 would give a Precept of £59,334.

Setting a Precept for 2017/2018 of £59,720 (an increase of 4.04%) would increase the Council Tax for a Band D property by 2.01%.

There would be a Budget shortfall of £4,000 which would be taken from General Reserves. The Committee hoped to demonstrate that it was protecting the taxpayer from excessive increases by using up some of its General Reserves.

Agreed: To recommend a Precept of £59,720 for 2017/2018.

The Meeting ended at 9 p.m.