

CLEVEDON TOWN COUNCIL**Minutes of the Precept meeting of COUNCIL held in The Council Office, 44 Old Street, Clevedon at 7.30pm on Wednesday 28th January 2015 7.30pm**

PRESENT: Chairman – N. Pennycott
 Councillors:-, C. Blades, C. Francis-Pester, B. Garner, J Geldart, A Giles-Townsend, G Hill, L. Little, P. McNeill, J. Middleton, T. Morgan, J. Norton-Sealey, , A. Shopland, D. Shopland G. Watkins, J. West, C. Wring
 Town Clerk - Ms P Heath; Deputy Town Clerk Mrs I. Johnson

INFORMAL

The Town Councils internal auditor Mr Malcolm Kingshott gave a presentation to the Councillors as to their responsibility in respect of the Councils finances as per requirements included in the Audit regulations.

15/492 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors B. Hatch, L Knott (family commitments), Cllr Bussey (work commitment)

RESOLVED: That Council **ACCEPTS** the apologies and reasons given for absence.

15/493 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest for items on the agenda

15/494 THE RECOMMENDATION BY THE FINANCE & GENERAL POLICY COMMITTEE AND TO SET THE PRECEPT REQUEST FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2015/2016

The Chairman of Finance and General Policy introduced the budget, explaining the process behind the budget creation and the discussions that had already taken place both within the individual Committees and at the Finance & General Policy meeting on 14th January 2015.

An amendment was proposed by Cllr D Shopland and seconded by Cllr Morgan that the budgets of 4 Committees - Allotments, Town Events & Amenities, Transport & Highways and Environment & Property – should have a straight 10% cut on their proposed budgets.
VOTE: 3 for [Cllr D Shopland & Cllr T Morgan asked for their vote to be recorded] 12 against

Members discussed the effect the precept would have on the Council Tax bills of the residents in particular those on limited income. Appreciating the difficulties they would face but pointing out that the Council has to cover cuts in services and provisions by North Somerset Council.

Members discussed at great lengths the process the Council goes through to set the budgets, the opportunity members have to amend or alter the budget prior to the precept

meeting, and the financial process required during the year before the budgets are spent.; putting an item in the budget does not mean that the amount has to be spent

Proposed, seconded and **RATIFIED** that the Council set a precept of £296262 which will service a budget of £313965. A band D rate of £39.25
VOTE 12 for 3 against [Cllr D. Shopland and Cllr T Morgan asked for their vote to be recorded] 1 abstention.

15/495 CHAIRMAN'S ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

495.1 Breathe Easy

The Chairman thanked those Councillors who made use of the free lung examinations held in Clevedon.

495.2 Spare Equipment

The Town Clerk explained that there were 2 pieces of furniture and a printer that were no longer needed, and were available if required by a Councillor, if not they would be given to a local charity shop.

495.3 Telephone System

The Town Clerk explained that the Telephone system was changing on the following day so the office may not be contactable, the contractors would be on site even though BT had not undertaken the work to the phone lines that had been contracted to be completed prior to the installation. There would, as agreed previously, be a direct dial number bypassing the automatic attendant system on the Councils number 877815 for Councillors use.

495.4 MV Balmoral

The Town Clerk was pleased to inform members that the MV Balmoral had been awarded approximately £300,000 for the Coastal Communities fund; this means that there will be a schedule of sailing starting in June.

Meeting closed at 8.30 pm

APPROVED AS A TRUE RECORD

CHAIRMAN.....DATE.....

Net Budget		£	313965
NSC Precept Grant		£	17703
PRECEPT TO RAISE		£	296262
Band D Numbers	£	7,548.04	
Band D Payment		£	39.25