

BUCKFASTLEIGH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the **Finance Committee** meeting held in the Council Chamber on **Wednesday 23rd November 2016 at 7.30pm.**

Present: Councillors:- Pam Barrett (Acting Finance Committee Chair), Fanny Jackson, Linus McCloskey, Andy Stokes and Judith Hart (Town Clerk/RFO)

Part I (Open to the Public)

16/57. Questions raised by the Public: None

16/58. Apologies: Cllrs Neil Smith and Janet Jones
Cllr Mark Maish did not attend

16/59. Declaration of Interests: None

16/60. To approve as a correct record and sign the Minutes of the Meeting held on 26.10.2016:

Signed and approved by Councillor Pam Barrett

16/61. Budget Expenditure Report 01.10.16 - 31.10.16:

Noted and with reference to grant expenditure.

16/62. Bank Payments Report 01.10.16 - 31.10.16:

Noted.

16/63. To discuss the Budget and Precept submission for 2017/18:

Cllrs Pam Barrett, Andy Stokes and the Clerk had met to examine the expenditure options for the new budget and identified projects which are potentially deliverable during 2017/18. Cllr Barrett explained the draft budget spreadsheet compiled by the Clerk. There are two proposed options for expenditure that would increase the precept based on an average Band D property in the parish. To achieve the projects identified for 2017/18 it will be necessary to increase the precept. Further consultation following the participatory event that took place in October will be undertaken at the Christmas Fair which will give residents the opportunity to choose their preferred projects by using a 'Wish Tree'. The results of both events can then be made available on the website together with a press release.

The Council is keen to have feedback from the community as the budget and precept need to be agreed by January full Council for submission. The Christmas stall will provide another opportunity to assess community support.

It was noted that other projects such as new CCTV, a community bus and fund raiser would need a substantial amount of work to deliver and could be looked at for another financial year. The Council currently provides funds for the Town Hall and the new Community Development Fund.

16/64. To minute the award of the grant to the Buckfastleigh Citizens Advice Bureau and funding towards the Community Christmas Lunch:

Members agreed that the annual £250.00 grant to the Teignbridge CAB grant should be used to fund the initial administrative costs for the use of the Medical Centre up until 31.03.17 by the new weekly service.

It was agreed that Cllr Pam Barrett could use grant funding to cover the cost of providing fancy goods such as crackers, chocolates and gifts for the Community Christmas Lunch at Buckfast Abbey. Cllr Barrett will liaise with the Abbey as to what may be needed.

16/65: Items requiring Urgent Attention: None

Meeting closed at 8.27pm.