



**MINUTES OF RYDE TOWN COUNCIL'S FINANCE & COMMUNITY RESOURCES
COMMITTEE HELD ON
TUESDAY 12 JANUARY 2021 at 4PM VIA THE ZOOM MEETING FACILITY**

Present: Cllr Phil Jordan (Chair), Cllr Henry Adams, Cllr Adrian Axford, Cllr Charles Chapman, Cllr Diana Conyers, Cllr Michael Lilley, Cllr Sue Lyons, Cllr Malcolm Ross, Cllr Lou Temel, Cllr Tim Wakeley, Cllr Wayne Whittle

In Attendance: Liz Dutton (Committee and Admin Assistant), Tonia Voller (Administration Assistant), Gareth Hughes (RFO) Jon Baker (Committees and Ryde Place Plan Co-ordinator)

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME – A question was received and the Chairman confirmed that the question would be read out and an answer provided at the next meeting of the Acquisition and Commercial Committee to be held later in the week

1/21 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr Karen Lucioni.

2/21 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations declared at this stage

3/21 MINUTES

The minutes to the previous meeting held on 1 December 2020 were reviewed.

RESOLVED:

THAT the Minutes of the meeting held on 1 December 2020 were approved as a true and accurate record and were signed off by the Chair.

4/21 MEMBERS QUESTIONS

Cllr Temel asked a question regarding the purchase price of St Thomas's Church and the Chairman responded accordingly.

5/21 RISK ASSESSMENT

Consideration was given to the Risk Assessment. The report was noted.

6/21 ASSET REGISTER

Consideration was given to the Asset Register. A question was asked concerning whether any of the Christmas Lights had been decommissioned as they appeared in four different lines. The Clerk agreed to email a response to members. The report was noted.

7/21 INTERNAL AUDIT PLAN

Consideration was given to the Internal Audit Plan. A question was asked relating to the appointment of the Internal Auditor and the RFO agreed to bring a paper to the next meeting of the Committee to review the appointment of the Internal Auditor. The report was noted.

8/21 BUDGET AND PRECEPT SETTING 2021-22

The Responsible Financial Officer introduced his report and confirmed that figures in appendix A had not included an amount for the estimated first year costs for Ryde Town Hall or for the 2 new requests for annual funding that had been received. Members went on to discuss the issues over sand collecting at the entrance to the harbour and on the beach. The Chairman suggested the issue could be raised and included in the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that was currently being negotiated with IWC and also to request the BDM to explore possible solutions with Alex Minns from IWC. Members noted pressures on this year's budget as the Town Council had committed to a number of different projects and recognised that a Covid recovery budget which encouraged growth was important. It was noted that the level of reserves should also be considered during the budget setting process due to new investments and services being taken on and a reserves policy would be helpful in going forward.

It was agreed for the RFO to put forward a number of options showing different levels of increases in the precept, namely 5% increase, 7.68% increase (as the budget report currently showed) together with further options allowing for other funding initiatives. A final option would include an increased level in reserves.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND TO FULL COUNCIL:

That the RFO bring a budget paper setting out a range of options as outlined above for further discussion.

9/21 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED:

THAT the next meeting of the Finance and Community Resources Committee will be held on Tuesday, 9 March 2021 at 4pm