

POCKLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES

Meeting of the Town Council
Meeting Room Old Courthouse George Street Pocklington
Wednesday 4 January 2017 at 7pm

Present: Councillors Sykes (chairman), Cooper, Green, Hodgson, Hutchinson, Jones, Perry, Ratcliffe, Sinton, Sharpe, Spademan, West and Winterton.

Attending: 1 member of the public and Gordon Scaife (Town Clerk)

1. Notice of meeting. Cllr West proposed the notice of the meeting 2nd Cllr Perry and agreed.
2. Accept apologies for absence. No apologies were received all councillors were present.
3. Declarations of interest. To record declarations of interest by any member of the council in respect of the agenda items listed below. Members declaring interests should identify the agenda item and type of interest being declared.

No declarations of interest were declared.

4. Consider suspending the meeting to allow presentations by members of the public. There were no presentations so the meeting didn't need to be suspended.
5. Consider continuing the council meeting. The meeting had not been suspended.
6. Consider the draft budget.

The Clerk gave a brief report on the proposed to the budget. The tax base for the town has risen due to the number of new properties that are now occupied in the town. This has allowed the Council to set a larger budget.

The budget has been prepared allowing for no increase in the precept for this year.

The following budget lines have been increased. Wages have been increased by 1% as this has been agreed as part of the national pay award for local government employees.

The insurance costs have been increased as we now have a van and the tractor to insure.

Property maintenance costs have been increased as the Town Council takes on the ownership of the Old Courthouse from East Riding of Yorkshire Council.

Grounds maintenance budget has been increased as there are projects in the Cemetery and Primrose Wood to be undertaken.

The street furniture budget has been increased to allow for two projects these are the replacement of some of the planters and the installation of additional benches.

The town promotion budget has been increased as the Pocklington leaflet needs a redesign.

The street lighting budget has been increased to allow for the purchase of additional lighting columns for the footpath along the old railway line from West Green to Barmby Road.

There are some new budget headings. An equipment budget has been introduced for the purchase of tools and equipment.

An events budget has been introduced. This is partly so expenditure for the summer fair, Bonfire Night and Christmas Festival can be accounted for. The budget also includes any expenditure for an event linked to the Tour de Yorkshire.

A new item is transport budget for items such as bus shelters.

There was a discussion about raising the contingency budget to £10,000 and including a budget for elections of £6,000. The Clerk will include in these in a revised budget to be presented at next week's council meeting.

7. Agree the budget for the Council for 2017/18.

Cllr Cooper proposed that the precept be increased by 2% for this year, 2nd Cllr one councillor voted against and there was one abstention.

The increase of 2% will mean a £1.49 increase in the precept for Pocklington Town Council on a Band D property.

The meeting closed at 7.51pm.