

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PRECEPT MEETING OF SOUTHAM TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT THE GRANGE HALL, COVENTRY ROAD, SOUTHAM ON THURSDAY, 8th JANUARY 2015

Present: The Mayor, Councillor Mark Willoughby - In the Chair
Councillors J Soni, C Worsh, M Gaffney, D Smith, L Tasker, C Pratt,
V Shepherd, B Thomas, T Bromwich

Apologies: Cllr J Ward Personal
Cllr E Thornley Personal

District Cllr Andy Crump
PC J Cramp

In Attendance: Mrs D Carro, Mrs D Sanders,

124. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Town Clerk had previously granted a dispensation to all Councillors to enable them to consider this matter.

Cllr L Tasker	Non Pecuniary Reason	Lines 44 & 47 Director VASA Director Graham Adams Centre
Cllr J Soni	Non Pecuniary Reason	Lines 47 & 48 Director Graham Adams Centre Member Christmas Lights Committee
Cllr D Smith	Non Pecuniary	Lines 39 & 48 Member Grange Hall Committee Member Christmas Lights Committee

125. REPRESENTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

None

126. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 27th November 2014, having previously been circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Town Mayor

127. APPLICATIONS FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

None

128. RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICER REPORT

PARISH TAX BASE The provisional Council Tax Base for Southam 2015/2016 had been calculated at £2163.22 Noted

129. BUDGET PROPOSALS

The proposed figures for the 2015/2016 budget were based on a 1.3% inflation allowance. Where there was a clear need to revise the figure in light of current levels of expenditure, or known changes likely to occur, a new proposed figure was shown. **Noted**

130. ELECTORATE

Latest statistics showed that the electorate in Southam stands at 5221. Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 limited a Council's expenditure on grants to £7.36 per elector a total of £38427. **Noted**

131. COUNCIL'S AIMS

The Council had agreed to the following aims that were taken into consideration in all policy matters:

1. To improve the service it provides whilst ensuring best value
2. To work with others to improve safety, the environment and quality of life in the town, paying particular attention to the needs of vulnerable members of our community
3. To regularly and effectively consult the community
4. To promote the local economy

Noted

132. CONSIDERATION OF THE BUDGET FOR 2015/2016

RESOLVED: To agree the figures proposed subject to the following amendments:

132.1 ITEM 47 SOUTHAM YOUTH SERVICES

RESOLVED: to set a budget of £1605 for this item

132.2 GENERAL RESERVES

RESOLVED: to increase the proposed expenditure from General Reserves to £5715

132.3 MAYORAL ALLOWANCE

RESOLVED: i) that in 2015 the unused balance of the Mayoral Account should be given to the Mayor's Charity ii) that from 2016 onward a cap of 50% of the total Mayoral Allowance is placed on the amount given to charity and any remainder should be reserved for the following year. iii) the charity to benefit must provide a significant benefit to Southam.

132.4 REVIEW OF EARMARKED RESERVES

RESOLVED: i) That any surplus on the following budget lines should be moved to earmarked reserves at the end of the financial year

Line 4 Legal Fees & Services

Line 5 Neighbourhood Plan

Line 12 Computer Systems Replacement

Line 26 Elections

Line 30 Salt Litter & Dog Bins

Line 31 Dog Fouling Enforcement

Line 34 Repairs Inspections and Replacement

Line 38 War Memorial
Line 42 Street Lights Columns & Repairs
Line 43 Grasscutting

133. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

It was moved and

RESOLVED: That pursuant to Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the public be excluded from the meeting because publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted.

134. PROPOSED BUDGET 2015/2016 SALARIES

RESOLVED: To agree the figures proposed for the salary lines 12a to 15 inclusive

135. TOTAL BUDGET

RESOLVED: That the total budget is set at £187577 that this will be offset by £1860 income and £5360 from General Reserves in order to keep the increase for a Band D property at 1.31%

136. PRECEPT UPON THE TAX AUTHORITY

RESOLVED: That the precept upon Stratford District Council be declared to be £180357 minus Council Tax Support Grant of £15750 giving a total of £164607

It was noted that Council Tax payable for a D Band property will be £76.09 which will be a £0.98 or 1.31% annual increase.

The meeting closed at 8:25

TOWN COUNCIL BUDGET 2015/2016							
	2014/2015	Total Spent @ 30.11.14	Forecast of Expenditure & Forecast Total Spent & Forecast	Monies Received 30.11.14 as @ 31.03.15	Forecast Receipts	Remaining Budget	Actual Budget 2015/2016
Total Recreation & Amenities	11198	5302	4620	9922	0	1276	32052
Maintenance & Repairs:							
34 Repairs/inspections/replacements	10000	2208	7792	10000	0	0	10000
35 Town Development	0			0	0	0	0
36 Grounds Maintenance Services	9320	5337	3983	9320	0	0	9528
37 Hire of portable toilets	327	320	0	320	7	7	320
38 War Memorial	500			0	0	500	1000
Total Maintenance & Repairs	20147	7865	11775	19639	0	508	20848
TOTAL RECREATION & AMENITIES	31345	13167	16395	29561	0	1784	52900
The Grange Hall							
39 Capital Expenditure	2000	2000		2000	0	0	1000
Total Grange Hall	2000	2000	0	2000	0	0	1000
Street Lighting							
40 Maintenance	1927		1815	1815		112	1939
41 Supply of Electricity	7718	4249	2865	7114		604	7718
42 Columns & Repairs	25000	0	21354	21354		3646	8400
Total Street Lighting	34645	4249	26035	30283	0	4362	18057
Grasscutting							
43 Grasscutting & Churchyard Maintenance	21000	13524	4826	18350		2650	19032
Total Grass Cutting	21000	13524	4826	18350	0	2650	19032
Community Grants							
44 VASA Transport Support	3000	3000		3000		0	7500
45 Section 137 grants	12000	7449	3802	11250		750	12000
46							
47 Southam Youth Services	0			0		0	1605
48 Southam Christmas Lights	2250	3000		3000		-750	2250
49 Southam in Bloom	2250	2250		2250		0	2250
Total Community Grants	19500	15699	3802	19500	0	0	25605
TOTAL OTHER	77145	35471	34662	70133	0	7012	63694
GRAND TOTAL	184881	98827	81752	180580	6755	6959	187932
Income							
50 Parish Pound	-850						-850
51 Interest	-1635						-1010
Total Income	-2485	0	0	0	0	0	-1860
Reserves	-4510						-5715
GRAND TOTAL	177886	98827	81752	180580	6755	6959	180357
Council Tax Reduction Grant	-18230						-15750
PRECEPT	159656						164607
Tax Base	2125.72						2163.22
Band D	£75.11						£76.09
						Band D % Increase	1.31%

N.B. SDC has reduced the support grant by £2480