

LOUGHTON TOWN COUNCIL

RESOURCES AND GENERAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

MINUTES of the Meeting held on Wednesday 11 January at 7pm at 1 Buckingham Court.

Present:

Councillors: S Pewsey (in the Chair)
J Angold-Stephens M Dalton J Jennings
S Murray A Omer

Also in attendance:

Councillors: P Beales C C Pond C P Pond
M Stubbings (from Min no RG38) D J Wixley

Officers: E K Walsh (Town Clerk)
P Hoy (Services Manager)

RG32 Apologies for absence

No apologies for absence were received.

RG33 Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were received.

RG34 Confirmation of Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 7 December 2016 were CONFIRMED as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

RG35 Public Representations

None were received.

RG36 Matters for Report

36.1 Local Government Finance Settlement Consultation 2017/18 – Min no RG16.6

The Committee NOTED that the Government had not extended Council tax referendum principles to parish and town councils in 2017/18 but would keep the level of precepts set by town and parish councils under review.

36.2 Investments Review – Min no RG26.4.2

The Committee NOTED that:

- i) the balance in the Santander 180-day Notice Account had been reinvested and notice served such that the funds would be released on 6 June 2017; and
- ii) the interest rate for the Nationwide Business Saver account had decreased from 0.50% to 0.35% with effect from 23 December 2016.

RG37 Council-wide Priorities

The Committee reviewed the lists of priorities from the spending committees and AGREED that the Council-wide high priority list should be as shown below:

Ranking	Committee	Activity
1	Resources & General Services	Council accommodation
2	Environment and Heritage / Planning and Licensing	Neighbourhood and Local Plans
3	Recreation	Playgrounds
4	Recreation	Roding Valley Recreation Ground improvements

Cllr Stubbings joined the meeting during the next item.

RG38 Estimates for 2017/18

The Committee considered the report and NOTED:

- a. the increase in the tax base from the 2016/17 figure of 12,090.4 to 12294.8.
- b. that the Local Council Tax Support Grant had been confirmed as £27,016 (a reduction of £13,509 on that for 2016/17).

After considering the estimates, the Committee AGREED that £72,000 could be taken from General Reserves to reduce the net requirement whilst leaving the General Reserves at 62.8% of the net running costs to meet the Reserves Policy.

The Committee also AGREED to the proposed budget revisions which provided total savings of £84,900.

The Committee RECOMMENDED to Council that the precept for 2017/18 be set at £634,800 with the budget details as follows:

Committee	Income		Expenditure	Including re-charges
	£	£	£	£
Resources and General Services	28,500		458,850	205,850
Environment and Heritage	24,466		117,875	204,875
Recreation	113,385		519,845	654,845
Planning and Licensing	0		35,500	66,500
Misc expenditure items TBC**			3,297	3,297
		166,351	1,135,367	1,135,367
Interest		10,000		
Use from earmarked reserves				
Resources & General Services	2,000			
Environment & Heritage	36,500			
Recreation	161,700			
Planning and Licensing	25,000			
		225,200		
Local Council Tax Support Grant		27,016		
Use of General Reserves		72,000		
Total income		500,567		
Net requirement		634,800		

**The Chairman and Vice Chairman were asked to identify priority items of new expenditure from the committees' rolling programmes amounting to £3,297 to propose to Council.

The Committee thanked the Town Clerk and her staff for their work to prepare the budget.

RG39 Meetings Schedule

The Committee approved the following schedule of meetings for 2017/18.

2017 May	17	Wednesday	Annual Council
	22	Monday	Planning and Licensing
June	5	Monday	Planning and Licensing
	14	Wednesday	Recreation
	19	Monday	Planning and Licensing
	21	Wednesday	Environment and Heritage
July	3	Monday	Planning and Licensing
	5	Wednesday	Resources and General Services
	17	Monday	Planning and Licensing
	19	Wednesday	Council
	31	Monday	Planning and Licensing
August	21	Monday	Planning and Licensing
September	6	Wednesday	Recreation
	11	Monday	Planning and Licensing
	20	Wednesday	Environment and Heritage
	25	Monday	Planning and Licensing
October	9	Monday	Planning and Licensing
	11	Wednesday	Resources and General Services
	18	Wednesday	Council
	23	Monday	Planning and Licensing
November	1	Wednesday	Recreation
	6	Monday	Planning and Licensing
	15	Wednesday	Environment and Heritage
	20	Monday	Planning and Licensing
December	4	Monday	Planning and Licensing
	6	Wednesday	Resources and General Services
	13	Wednesday	Council
	18	Monday	Planning and Licensing
2018 January	10	Wednesday) Resources and General Services (Budgets) (7pm)) Recreation
	15	Monday	Planning and Licensing
	17	Wednesday) Council (7pm)) Environment and Heritage
	29	Monday	Planning and Licensing
February	12	Monday	Planning and Licensing
	14	Wednesday	Resources and General Services
	26	Monday	Planning and Licensing
	28	Wednesday	Council
March	12	Monday	Planning and Licensing
	14	Wednesday	Annual Town Meeting, The Murray Hall, Borders Lane at 8pm
	26	Monday	Planning and Licensing
April	4	Wednesday	Recreation
	9	Monday	Planning and Licensing

Resources and General Services Committee 11 January 2017

	11	Wednesday	Environment and Heritage
	23	Monday	Planning and Licensing
	25	Wednesday	Resources and General Services
May	9	Wednesday	Council (approval of accounts)
	14	Monday	Planning and Licensing
	23	Wednesday	Annual Council

All meetings would be held in the Council Chamber at 7.45pm unless otherwise shown or advised at a later date.

Signed
Date: **15 February 2017**