



Town Hall, High Street, Corsham, Wiltshire SN13 0EZ

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7 January 2020

Dear Councillor

You are hereby summoned to attend the Council Meeting to be held at the Town Hall on Monday 13 January 2020 at 7.30pm.

Please would members of the Accounts Sub-committee arrive by 7.10pm.

Yours sincerely

David J Martin
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

AGENDA

1. Apologies.
2. Public Question Time and Petitions.
3. Declarations of Interest.

To receive any Declaration(s) of Interest under Corsham Town Council's Code of Conduct issued in accordance with the Localism Act 2011.

4. Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 9 December 2019 – *attached*.
5. Matters Arising from the above Minutes – *for information only*.
6. Policing and Community Safety – To consider policing and community safety issues.
7. Chairman's Announcements.
8. Correspondence –
 - i) As mentioned in Members Information Sheet Nos. 438 and 439 – *to note*.
 - ii) Late correspondence – *to note*.

9. Reports from Council representatives appointed to outside bodies.
10. Minutes of the Finance and Administration Committee meeting held on 11 December 2019 – *attached*.
11. Matters Arising from the above Minutes – *for information only*.
12. Minutes of the Council (Planning) meeting held on 18 December 2019 – *attached*.
13. Matters Arising from the above Minutes – *for information only*.
14. Minutes of the Council (Planning) meeting held on 8 January 2020 – *to follow*.
15. Matters Arising from the above Minutes – *for information only*.
16. Budget 2020/21 (*Minute F&A 22/19, P&A 49/19 and CS 45/19*) – With reference to the Finance and Administration Committee meeting held on 11 December 2019 the draft budget is attached.

The Town Council's overall draft budget currently shows an increase in spend of £133,152, with a precept increase £161,135 (19.56%) but the extra properties brings the Band D Equivalent figure down to 17.99%. The overall Band D Equivalent charge would increase from £168.74 to £199.09 (an increase of £30.35 per year).

Recommendation

It is recommended by the Finance and Administration Committee that the draft budget proposals be approved by the Full Council, with a budget of £1,099,822 and a precept of £985,035 for 2020/21.

17. Town Centre/Parking Survey Report (*Minute CS 44/19, P&A 73/18 and others*) – Further to previous Council and Committee meetings, members are asked to approve the introduction of first-hour free parking in all public car parks in Corsham for an initial 12-month period (*see attached report*) – *for approval*.
18. Request to support the Local Electricity Bill – The not-for-profit organisation Power for People has written to local councils asking them to support a Local Electricity Bill. The Bill:
 - aims to address the current situation, whereby the very large financial setup and running costs involved in selling locally generated renewable electricity to local customers result in it being impossible for local renewable electricity generators to do so;
 - if made law, would make these financial costs proportionate to the scale of a renewable electricity supplier's operation and therefore empower councils, together with their communities, to sell locally generated renewable electricity directly to local people, businesses and organisations, and
 - would result in councils or community organisations that set up local renewable electricity companies receiving revenues that could be used to help fund local greenhouse gas emissions reduction measures and to help improve local services and facilities.

The proposal would be in line with the Town Council's approach to environmental issues – *for consideration*.

19. Vacancies on committees, other groups and outside bodies – Further to recent Councillor resignations, there are opportunities to fill vacancies on committees, other groups and outside bodies. The current vacancies are:

Committees and other groups

Community Services Committee – two vacancies

Finance and Administration Committee – one vacancy

Neighbourhood Planning Steering Group/Delivery and Monitoring Group – one vacancy

Accounts Sub-Committee – one vacancy

Appeals Panel – one vacancy

Outside bodies

Wiltshire/National Association of Local Councils – one vacancy plus reserve

If any Councillor would like to fulfil any of the above roles, they can be appointed at the Council meeting and will remain until the Annual Council meeting on 11 May 2020. Any unfilled roles can be considered again when the current Town Councillor vacancies have been filled – *for consideration*.

20. Review of Financial Regulations (*Minute F&A 23/10*) – At the Finance and Administration Committee meeting held on 11 December 2019, revised Financial Regulations, produced in accordance with recent guidance from the National Association of Local Councils, were considered (*copy attached*). The Committee recommends that the updated Financial Regulations, as presented to the Committee, be approved by the Town Council – *for approval*.
21. Strategic Plan Update (*Minute 143/19 and others*) – The third quarterly report of 2019/20 is attached – *for consideration*.
22. Community Awards 2020 – The Community Awards Panel members are reviewing the arrangements for the 2020 Awards Scheme. Posters and application forms are being produced and the awards scheme will be open for nominations until Friday 6 March 2020. Presentation of the awards will take place at the 'Corsham Celebrates' event on Thursday 23 April 2020. Members are strongly encouraged to promote the award scheme within the Corsham area – *for information and comment*.
23. Issues for Corsham Area Board Consideration (*Minutes 193/18 and 146/18*) – Further to previous meetings, this regular agenda item asks the Town Council to identify issues for Area Board consideration – *suggested issues invited*.
24. Co-option to Fill Councillor Vacancy, Corsham Town Ward (*Minute 193/19*) – Further to the previous meeting, Victoria Conrad decided to decline the offer of being co-opted to the Town Council. The three other original applicants have been given another opportunity to be co-opted to the position. The applicants are Alan Brown, Kenneth Mellor and Sue Snook. Members need to decide whether they think any or all candidates are suitable before a ballot or voting. Nomination details for the candidates are attached.

The more recent vacancies for Corsham Pickwick Ward, following Neil Pocock's resignations, and Corsham Town Ward, following John Maloney's resignation, are currently being advertised – *co-option requested*.

25. Authorisation of cheques and payments – A list will be available at the meeting.

A Meeting of the Accounts Sub-committee will take place at 7.10pm.

The Methuen (Town) Hall meeting will take place immediately after the Council meeting.