

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

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4 January 2022

Dear Councillor

You are hereby summoned to attend the Council Meeting to be held **at the Town Hall** on Monday 10 January 2022 at 7.30pm.

Covid-19 Requirements: Please follow the attached Guidance (updated December 2021) for Attending In-person Meetings.

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 13 December 2021 – *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 No. 510 – *to note*.
- ii) Late correspondence – *to note*.

9. Reports from Council representatives appointed to outside bodies.

10. Notes of Recent Meetings – The following notes of informal Committee and Council (Planning) Meetings are available for information and comment:

Finance and Administration held on 15 December 2021 – *attached*.

Council (Planning) held on 22 December 2021 – *attached*.

– *for information and comment*.

11. Budget and Precept for 2022/23 – With reference to the recent round of informal committee meetings and the report to the Finance and Administration meeting on 15 December, the draft budget is attached (see DRAFT for 2022/23 column). The Town Council's overall draft budget currently shows an increase in spend of £56,334, with a precept increase of £62,550 (6.07%). However, the increase in the number of Band D Equivalent properties, by 57.81 on 2022/23, reduces the figure to 4.83% per property. The overall Band D Equivalent charge would increase from £210.15 to £220.30 (an increase of £10.15 per year).

Recommendation

It is recommended that the draft budget proposals be approved by the Full Council, with a budget of £1,228,776 and a precept of £1,093,192 for 2022/23.

12. Vacancies on Committees (*Minute 147/21 and others*) – Further to previous meetings there are opportunities to fill the remaining committee vacancies. Any unfilled vacancies following this meeting can be filled at future meetings. The current vacancies are:

Community Services – two
Finance and Administration – one
Property and Amenities – one
Environment Task Group – one
Sports Forum – one

If any Councillor would like to fulfil any of the above roles, they can be appointed at the Council meeting – *for consideration*.

13. Strategic Plan 2022-2026 (*Minute 149/21 and others*) – Further to the second Strategic Planning Session held on 25 November the report on the outputs, if available, will be considered. As agreed at the previous meeting, public consultation via the newsletter, website and social media is being prepared – *for information and comment*.

14. Corsham Railway Station (*Minute 131/21*) – Further to the Council meeting on 8 November 2021, Wiltshire Council has been working with the Department for Transport (DfT), GWR and Network Rail on progressing the successful Restoring Your

Railways scheme. The Town Council has previously approved up to £11,000 towards the work and has a further £17,228 earmarked towards the station. The cost of the Strategic Outline Case for the station is expected to be in the region of £80,000, with up to £50,000 coming from the DfT. It has been suggested that the remaining £30,000 be split equally between the Town Council and Wiltshire Council. It is therefore recommended that the Town Council increases its contribution from £11,000 to £15,000. Further funds are likely to be needed as the scheme progresses to the next stages.

Recommendation

That Corsham Town Council contributes up to £15,000 towards the Restoring Your Railways Outline Business Case.

15. Making Wiltshire Safer, Focus Group Invitation – The Police and Crime Commissioner has invited town and parish councils to attend a focus group to talk about the draft Police and Crime Plan and priorities for Wiltshire. The Chippenham CPT focus group will take place online from 9:30 to 10:30am on 25 January – *volunteer requested*.
16. Issues for Corsham Area Board Consideration (*Various Minutes*) – Further to previous meetings, this regular agenda item asks the Town Council to identify issues for Area Board consideration – *suggested issues invited*.
17. Council Vacancies (*Minute 133/21 and others*) – There are currently four Town Councillor vacancies - three for co-option and a further one being advertised with a closing date of 5 January in case an election is called. The vacancies for co-option are in Corsham Pickwick Ward (2) and Corsham Neston Ward (2). Nominations to fill the vacancies for co-option have been advertised but no nominations were received by the closing date. The closing date for the co-options has been extended and now closes at 5pm on Monday 7 February 2022 – *for information and comment*.
18. Covid-19 Emergency Update/Recovery Plan – The Chief Executive will give an update on Covid-19 matters – *for consideration*.
19. 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.