



Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of Lenham Parish Council **Held on 18th January 2023 7:30pm at Lenham Community Centre**

PRESENT Cllr. J Britt, Chairman presiding.

Cllrs. P Culver, K Hammond, M Michaelas, N Osborne, A Ratcliffe & A Walmsley
J Bate RFO, L Westcott Clerk

Public participation

1 member of the public.

22/135 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE RECIEVED

Apologies received and accepted from Cllr. S Heeley.

22/136 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS

Declarations of interest on Agenda items. No declarations received.

Declarations to changes to the Register of Interests. No declarations received.

Requests for dispensations. No requests received. Cllr K. Hammond has a standing dispensation (relating to SOHL).

22/137 NOTIFICATION OF INTENTION TO FILM, PHOTOGRAPH OR RECORD ITEMS

There were none.

22/138 TO RECONSIDER THE PRECEPT REQUIREMENT FOR 2023/24

Cllr. A Ratcliffe asked why the meeting was required when the precept was previously agreed at January's full council meeting. Cllr. J Britt reported that at least two Cllrs. were not comfortable or understood the figures previously presented, so J Bate has spent time making the figures easier to understand.

J Bate presented the figures predicted for the end of the 23/24 financial year. LPC have an agreement to retain 50% of annual expenditure in the bank. The agreed budget is £248,730 with a precept of £228,730 allocating £20,000 from reserves. This additional allocation from reserves means the potential bank balance at the end of 23/24 would be approximately £7000 below the required 50% reserves level at 47%.

If £30,000 is allocated from reserves, lowering the precept to £218,730, the bank balance at the end of 23/24 would potentially be £17,000 below the required 50% reserves level at 43%.

Following discussion of the options and the potential for additional core income (as opposed to income for projects) Cllr. P Culver felt that the only way to meet the 50% reserve level would be to underspend on the budget or receive more income. RFO J Bate confirmed that likely income has been incorporated into the calculations, there is unlikely to be more income.

Cllr. J Britt asked all Cllrs. to vote:

- Option A - precept of £228,730, all Cllrs. voted yes
- Option B - precept of £218,730 no Cllrs. voted for this.

The meeting closed at 20:00

Signed as a true record on this day 1st February 2023.....
Chairman of Lenham Parish Council

