

BRANDON TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Full Brandon Town Council Meeting Precept Meeting
held at Old School House, Market Hill, Brandon on Wednesday 4th January 2023 at 7.00pm

Present: Cllr S Skinner (Chair), Cllr S Annear, Cllr B Brabbs, Cllr P Etherington,
Cllr J Lloyd-Blackwell, Cllr V Lukaniuk, Cllr D Moore, Cllr D Palmer,
Cllr P Ridgwell, Cllr C Whiteman, Cllr P Wittam

Also Present: 2 members of the public

- 1 **APOLOGIES** for absence and approval of reasons tendered.
Cllr L Atkins, Cllr J Hughes, Cllr N Vant
- 2 **DECLARATION OF INTEREST** and additions to Members Register of Interest.
Cllr P Etherington – Non-pecuniary interest re staff salaries. Cllr D Palmer – Pecuniary interest re Brandon Remembrance Playing Fields grant.

Cllr Lukaniuk stated that Cllr Palmer had declared an interest, what about Cllr Etherington?
Cllr Etherington replied that she had signed the interest book. Cllr Wittam raised a point of order stating that it was not just an interest it was a pecuniary interest as Cllr Etherington shared a residence with a member of staff and as the budget was being considered as a whole the staff salaries would be included in that. Cllr Brabbs queried where the interest laid as Cllr Etherington did not share a residence with the staff member and lived independently. This point was put to the Clerk who confirmed that there was no pecuniary interest. Cllr Wittam declined to accept this statement and left the meeting.

3 TO CONSIDER AND FORMULATE A BUDGET FOR BRANDON TOWN COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR 2023/24

The Chair introduced the subject and put to Council that the format of the meeting would follow that previously used at the January 2022 meeting. Cllr Lukaniuk confirmed that Suffolk County Council had increased their budget by 3.3% and West Suffolk by 5%. Brandon Town Council proceeded to review a draft budget amounting to £393,066.06.

The meeting proceeded to review each cost code in turn.

Cost Code 1125 – Website Upkeep

It was proposed that the budgeted figure of £300 be reduced to £150.

Proposer: Cllr S Skinner

Seconder: Cllr C Whiteman

Resolution Record No: **BTC/126/04/Jan/23**

CARRIED: Unanimous

Signed

Cost Code 1130 – Office Equipment/Furniture

It was proposed that the budgeted figure of £1000 be reduced to £500.

Proposer: Cllr S Skinner

Seconder: Cllr P Etherington

Resolution Record No: **BTC/127/04/Jan/23**

CARRIED: Unanimous

Cost Code 1131 – Computer Equipment

It was proposed that the budgeted figure of £3000 be reduced to £1000.

Proposer: Cllr S Skinner

Seconder: Cllr V Lukaniuk

Resolution Record No: **BTC/128/04/Jan/23**

CARRIED: Unanimous

Cost Code 1140 – Staff Training

It was proposed that the budgeted figure of £1500 be reduced to £1000.

Proposer: Cllr S Skinner

Seconder: Cllr C Whiteman

Resolution Record No: **BTC/129/04/Jan/23**

CARRIED: Unanimous

Cost Code 1146 – Information/Books/Software etc

It was proposed that the budgeted figure of £500 be reduced to zero.

Proposer: Cllr S Skinner

Seconder: Cllr V Lukaniuk

Resolution Record No: **BTC/130/04/Jan/23**

CARRIED: Unanimous

Cost Code 1150 – Advertising

It was proposed that the budgeted figure of £300 be reduced to £100.

Proposer: Cllr S Skinner

Seconder: Cllr C Whiteman

Resolution Record No: **BTC/131/04/Jan/23**

CARRIED: Unanimous

Cost Code 1156 – Postage

It was proposed that the budgeted figure of £500 be reduced to £250.

Proposer: Cllr V Lukaniuk

Seconder: Cllr S Skinner

Resolution Record No: **BTC/132/04/Jan/23**

CARRIED: Unanimous

Cost Code 1160 – Mileage

It was proposed that the budgeted figure of £500 be reduced to £250.

Proposer: Cllr V Lukaniuk

Seconder: Cllr S Skinner

Resolution Record No: **BTC/133/04/Jan/23**

CARRIED: Unanimous

Signed

Cost Code 2131 – New Equipment (office)

It was proposed that the budgeted figure of £1000 be reduced to zero.

Proposer: Cllr S Skinner

Seconder: Cllr V Lukaniuk

Resolution Record No: **BTC/134/04/Jan/23**

CARRIED: Unanimous

Cllr Palmer left the meeting.

Cost Code 1401 – Grants

It was proposed by Cllr Lukaniuk that the budgeted figure of £30,000 be increased to £33,000 in line with inflation.

Proposer: Cllr V Lukaniuk

Seconder: Cllr S Skinner

Resolution Record No: **BTC/135/04/Jan/23**

CARRIED: Unanimous

Cost Code 1402 – S137

It was proposed that the budgeted figure of £14,000 be reduced to £10,000.

Proposer: Cllr S Skinner

Seconder: Cllr V Lukaniuk

Resolution Record No: **BTC/136/04/Jan/23**

CARRIED: Unanimous

Cllr Palmer returned to the meeting.

Cost Code 2177 – Burial Fees

It was proposed that the budgeted figure of £9,500 be increased to £10,500.

Proposer: Cllr S Skinner

Seconder: Cllr V Lukaniuk

Resolution Record No: **BTC/137/04/Jan/23**

CARRIED: Unanimous

Cost Code 2178 – Ashes Interment Fees

It was proposed that the budgeted figure of £5,500 be increased to £6,050.

Proposer: Cllr S Skinner

Seconder: Cllr V Lukaniuk

Resolution Record No: **BTC/138/04/Jan/23**

CARRIED: Unanimous

Cost Code 2179 – Memorial Fees

It was proposed that the budgeted figure of £2,000 be increased to £2,450.

Proposer: Cllr S Skinner

Seconder: Cllr V Lukaniuk

Resolution Record No: **BTC/139/04/Jan/23**

CARRIED: Unanimous

Signed

Cost Code 2101 – Cemetery/Town Costs

It was proposed that the budgeted figure of £10,000 be reduced to £6,000.

Proposer: Cllr V Lukaniuk

Seconder: Cllr S Skinner

Resolution Record No: **BTC/140/04/Jan/23**

CARRIED: Unanimous

Cost Code 2107 – Cemetery Works

It was proposed that the budgeted figure of £25,000 be reduced to £20,000.

Proposer: Cllr V Lukaniuk

Seconder: Cllr C Whiteman

Resolution Record No: **BTC/141/04/Jan/23**

CARRIED: By majority vote: 6 for, 3 against, 2 abstentions.

Cost Code 2131 – New Equipment (cemetery/town)

It was proposed that the budgeted figure of £3,000 be reduced to £1,500.

Proposer: Cllr S Skinner

Seconder: Cllr V Lukaniuk

Resolution Record No: **BTC/142/04/Jan/23**

CARRIED: Unanimous

Cost Code 2132 – Trade Waste

It was proposed that the budgeted figure of £2,000 be reduced to £1,500.

Proposer: Cllr S Skinner

Seconder: Cllr V Lukaniuk

Resolution Record No: **BTC/143/04/Jan/23**

CARRIED: Unanimous

Cost Code 3117 – Water Charges OSH

It was proposed that the budgeted figure of £500 be reduced to £400.

Proposer: Cllr V Lukaniuk

Seconder: Cllr S Skinner

Resolution Record No: **BTC/144/04/Jan/23**

CARRIED: Unanimous

Cost Code 3120 – Window Cleaning OSH

It was proposed that the budgeted figure of £400 be reduced to £250.

Proposer: Cllr S Skinner

Seconder: Cllr V Lukaniuk

Resolution Record No: **BTC/145/04/Jan/23**

CARRIED: Unanimous – suggested reduction in expenditure by Cllr Etherington is based on the number of visits being reduced to six per year from twelve.

Cost Code 3178 – OSH Maintenance

It was proposed that the budgeted figure of £1,500 be reduced to £1,000.

Proposer: Cllr S Annear

Seconder: Cllr S Skinner

Resolution Record No: **BTC/146/04/Jan/23**

CARRIED: Unanimous

Signed

Cost Code 2121 – Machinery Servicing

It was proposed that the budgeted figure of £3,000 be reduced to £1,500.

Proposer: Cllr C Whiteman

Seconder: Cllr V Lukaniuk

Resolution Record No: **BTC/147/04/Jan/23**

FAILED: By majority vote: 3 for, 6 against, 2 abstentions.

Cost Code 2122 – Fuel & Oil

It was proposed that the budgeted figure of £3,000 be reduced to £2,500.

Proposer: Cllr V Lukaniuk

Seconder: Cllr C Whiteman

Resolution Record No: **BTC/148/04/Jan/23**

CARRIED: Unanimous

Cost Code 2130 – Truck Replacement

It was proposed that the budgeted figure of £2,500 be reduced to Zero.

Proposer: Cllr V Lukaniuk

Seconder: Cllr C Whiteman

Resolution Record No: **BTC/149/04/Jan/23**

CARRIED: By majority vote: 9 for, 2 against.

Cost Code 2139 – Protective Clothing

It was proposed that the budgeted figure of £1,000 be reduced to £500.

Proposer: Cllr S Skinner

Seconder: Cllr S Annear

Resolution Record No: **BTC/150/04/Jan/23**

CARRIED: Unanimous

Cost Code 2140 – Town Keepers Mobile Calls

It was proposed that the budgeted figure of £360 be reduced to Zero.

Proposer: Cllr S Skinner

Seconder: Cllr S Annear

Resolution Record No: **BTC/151/04/Jan/23**

CARRIED: Unanimous

Cost Code 4101 – Horticulture

It was proposed that the budgeted figure of £2,000 be reduced to £500.

Proposer: Cllr S Skinner

Seconder: Cllr P Etherington

Resolution Record No: **BTC/152/04/Jan/23**

CARRIED: Unanimous

Cost Code 4104 – Truck Maintenance & Tax

It was proposed that the budgeted figure of £500 be reduced to zero.

Proposer: Cllr S Skinner

Seconder: Cllr S Annear

Resolution Record No: **BTC/153/04/Jan/23**

CARRIED: Unanimous

Cost Code 4201 – The Lode

It was proposed that the budgeted figure of £200 be reduced to zero.

Proposer: Cllr V Lukaniuk

Seconder: Cllr C Whiteman

Resolution Record No: **BTC/154/04/Jan/23**

CARRIED: By majority vote: 6 for, 5 against.

Cost Code 4202 – The Orchard

It was proposed that the budgeted figure of £500 be reduced to £250.

Proposer: Cllr S Skinner

Seconder: Cllr V Lukaniuk

Resolution Record No: **BTC/155/04/Jan/23**

CARRIED: Unanimous

Cost Code 4206 – Horticultural Work

It was proposed that the budgeted figure of £500 be reduced to zero.

Proposer: Cllr S Skinner

Seconder: Cllr S Annear

Resolution Record No: **BTC/156/04/Jan/23**

CARRIED: Unanimous

This resulted in a precept figure of £327,956 an increase of 8.35% based on a tax base of 2,543.72.

- 4 **URGENT BUSINESS** any items the Chairman considers a matter of urgent business – to be submitted no less than 48hrs prior to the meeting or by discussion with the Chairman – None.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm

Signed