

## **SEALAND COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL FINANCE MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON 18<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2016 AT THE SEALAND PRIMARY SCHOOL.**

**PRESENT: Councillors:** David Wisinger (Chairman), Mrs. Gwyneth Bullock, John Dodd, Mrs. Barbara Hinds, Mrs Chris Jones (County Councillor), Norman Jones, Alex Lewis, Mrs Mary Southall, Mike Walker (Vice Chairman) and Mrs. Shelley Webber.

Peter Richmond - the Clerk and Financial Officer.  
Also in attendance – three members of the public.

#### **15/218      FINANCIAL REPORT –2015/16 and 2016/17**

The Clerk advised:-

- a) that a precept is an order to the charging authority – Flintshire County Council to pay a requested sum to the precept authority – Sealand Community Council and that the schedule of payment from Flintshire County Council will be 3 equal instalments – on the last working days of April, August and December.
- b) that the Government has confirmed that the appropriate sum for the S137 Expenditure Limit for the purpose of Section 137 (4) (a) of the Local Government Act 1972 for the calculation of the Free Resource Base is based on the local population taken from the current electoral role of 1964 and £6.50 per head produces an upper limit of £12,766.
- c) on details of anticipated income and expenditure for the 2015/16 and 2016/17 financial years.
- d) the Clerk is contracted for a normal working week of 12 hours. Payment is net with the Council deducting income tax at 40% and making payment to the HMRC.
- e) the allowance is paid to the Clerk for the use of his private telephone, computer and a contribution towards the cost of maintaining his residence in which a room is dedicated as an office. The payment for 2015/16 is £ 2,000.00. Details of the payment are submitted on an annual basis to the HMRC. The Clerk advised that the payment should not be increased for the 2016/17 financial year.
- f) that expenses incurred in carrying out his duties are also reimbursed. The expenditure being incurred on behalf of the Council as part of its administration and running cost, i.e., stamps, payphone for daytime calls, and travelling expenses. NJC rate for Casual Users being paid for car mileage within Sealand and as required mileage to venues outside Sealand – 47p per mile.
- g) the estimated income for the current 2015/16 financial year is £58,712 and estimated expenditure is £59,961. The opening balance at 1 April 2015 was £42,773. The estimated opening balance at 1 April 2016 is estimated at approx. £41,524 assuming all planned expenditure takes place which may not be the case.

RESOLVED:-that the report be noted.

#### **15/219      ALLOWANCES AND SALARY**

RESOLVED: - that the following be agreed for 2016/17 -

£

• Chair's Fund	800
• Clerk's Salary	7,049
• Clerk's Allowance	2,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>£9,849</b>

**15/220      PAYMENT OF GRANTS – FREE RESOURCE ACCOUNT**

RESOLVED: - that –

- i) grant payments for the 2016/17 financial year be restricted to a maximum of £150 apart from Sealand Primary School who should receive up to a maximum of £1000.
- ii) Free Resources Fund should be £3,500 - **Total - £3,500**

**15/221      SCHOOL MILK**

RESOLVED:-that Council should continue to provide milk to the pupils of Sealand Primary School ages 7+ to 10+ - gross anticipated cost £3,100. **Total - £3,100**

**15/222      PLAYLEADER SCHEME 2016 AND PLAY AREA IMPROVEMENTS**

RESOLVED:- that Council should –

- i) support both proposed Play Schemes – overall estimated cost £6,000
  - ii) advise the Head of Leisure Services of its decision.
  - iii) allocate £5000 for possible matched funding for play equipment.
- Total - £11,000**

**15/223      STREET LIGHTING**

RESOLVED:-that the following be allocated:-

	<b>£</b>
Energy	3,700
Repairs and Maintenance	5,400
New / Replacement Columns	16,000 (8 lights)
Electrical Testing	750
<b>Total</b>	<b>£25,850</b>

**15/224      OTHER AREAS OF EXPENDITURE**

RESOLVED:- that the following funds be allocated:-

	<b>£</b>
Printer Cartridges	400
Street Furniture Repairs -	350
CCTV Repairs / New Purchase	350
Printer Maintenance	150
Insurances	2,500
Stationery	50
Annual Subscriptions	520

Audit Fees	650
Conferences	350
Council's Web Site	600
Postage / Mileage	1,000
Engraving Chain of Office	50
Data Protection Registration	35
<b>Total</b>	<b>£7,005</b>

**15/225      PRECEPT 2016/17**

The Clerk advised that the Council had agreed to an indicated expenditure of £60,304

Estimated income excluding precept is £1,870. Estimated opening balance at 1 April 2016 is £41,524.

To achieve an estimated balance at 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017 of £40,000 a precept of £56,910 is required – rounded up to £57,000.

The Clerk advised that the County Council require the completion of a precept mandate form to be signed by the Chairman and Clerk. The Clerk outlined the form -

Current year's precept – 2015/16 - £57,000

Current Tax Base of equivalent Band D properties is £1,138.42

The current Band D charge is £49.94

The precept for 2016/17 - £57,000

Tax Base for 2016/17 of equivalent Band D properties is £1,133.04

The band D charge for 2016/17 will be £50.31

The increase in the Band D charge amount is £0.37

The percentage increase in the 2016/17 band D charge compared to the 2015/16 band D charge is 0.74%

RESOLVED:- that the –

i) precept for 2016/17 be set at £57,000 and for Flintshire County Council to be advised accordingly and for the Clerk and Chairman to sign the required precept mandate.

ii) Clerk be thanked for his usual excellent and informative financial report.