

## MINUTES OF THEALE PARISH COUNCIL

*Minutes of the Full Council Meeting of Theale Parish Council held on Monday 27 January 2020 in the Peter Gooch Room, The Pavilion, Englefield Road, Theale*

**Present:**

*Councillors: B Williams (Chairman), J Richardson, K Gash, A Clark, S Coker, D Baker and P Clifford*

**Clerk:** J Kirk and **Assistant Clerk:** P Manley

**Public/Press:** None

**To receive any Apologies for absence:**

*Apologies for absence were received from Councillors: L Cox, C Rolfe, Z Fenwick and I Hopcroft*

**To receive any Declarations of Interest:**

None

**136/19/20 To consider TPC Draft Maintenance Budget spreadsheet and accompanying supporting document for the financial year 2020/2021 in order to agree a Precept request to West Berkshire Council no later than 31 January 2020. Members are asked to consider the draft maintenance only budget provided and consider the requirement for additional funding to deliver new and earmarked projects. The tax base figure for 2020/2021 is 1,120.91. (All documentation previously circulated to members):** Draft budget proposals had been circulated to all Members in advance of the meeting. The proposals included a maintenance only budget summary, details of earmarked reserves, general reserves, historic Precept and Band D information against tax base. The tax base calculation figure for 2020/2021 for Band D is (1,120.91).

Members considered and debated each budget line of the draft budget and agreed adjustments where necessary and noted the requirement for a slight increase in funding to deliver a maintenance only budget which also allowed the carry forward of earmarked reserves.

Proposed by Cllr Williams, seconded by Cllr Clifford it was unanimously

**RESOLVED** to approve the Theale Parish Council budget for 2020/2021, as agreed by the meeting, to raise a total precept of £114,690. The Band D equivalent for Theale householders in the Parish Council element of the West Berkshire Council Tax demands for 2020/2021 will equate to an annual charge of £102.31, an increase of £1.50 per annum per household (1.58% p.a.)

The Clerk will send the precept request to West Berkshire Council before the deadline of 31<sup>st</sup> January 2020.

**137/19/20 To formally appoint a councillor as the “internal checker” to check the Parish Council accounts on a quarterly basis up to the Annual Meeting of the Council in May and thereafter to be appointed on an annual basis:** Cllr Clark proposed that Cllr Richardson continue as the TPC Internal Checker until the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council in May 2020. This was seconded by Cllr Coker and resolved unanimously.

**138/19/20 To consider and agree for publication a revised TPC Parish Council Office public opening hours schedule:** This item was held over until the March Parish Council Meeting.

**139/19/20 To consider a request from W Cumber & Son (Theale) Ltd regarding the safekeeping of items in the Parish Office:** (information previously circulated) Cllr Williams proposed that provided the Cumber business are willing to work within the confines of the Parish Council office opening hours, taking into account that the office may not always be open during on certain days and during staff holiday periods. Appointments to collect keys must be made in advance with the office. This was seconded by Cllr Clifford and resolved unanimously.

There being no other business the Meeting closed at 21:48 pm.