

**Minutes of the meeting of the  
FINANCE COMMITTEE  
held on Monday 9th January 2017 at 7:30pm  
in the Committee Room, Freight House, Bradley Way, Rochford.**

**Present:** Vice Chair K Binding, Cllr Mrs E Gadsdon, Cllr R Patient, Cllr Mrs M Weir and Cllr Mrs P Young.

**50. Apologies for non-attendance at meeting:**

Chairman Mrs L Shaw (holiday), Cllr R Gardner (unwell), Cllr V Leach (unwell), Cllr D Weir (unwell) had given apologies.

Members were sorry that Cllr D Weir was unwell on this occasion, but noted he had missed several previous meetings as he'd chosen not to attend due to difficulties driving in the dark. Members were concerned that many meetings could potentially be missed during the winter season and hoped Cllr D Weir would re-consider travelling with Cllr Mrs Weir who made her way in by taxi.

Members **accepted** the apologies tendered.

**51. Declarations of any:**

**a) Disclosable Pecuniary Interest;**

**b) Other Pecuniary Interest; or**

**c) Non-Pecuniary Interest**

**on any matter on the agenda for 9<sup>th</sup> January 2017:**

None were declared.

**52. Public Forum:**

No members were present.

**53. To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2016 and to approve the destruction of the notes in respect of that meeting:**

The Minutes of the meeting were **approved** as a correct record and Members approved the destruction of the notes in respect of that meeting.

**54. Action Update List – January 2017:**

Members noted there were no items on the January 2017 Action Update List.

**55. Financial Report – December 2016:**

The Clerk informed Members the total budget was 77.6% spent, taking into account the £20k income from the Essex Community Initiative Fund (CIF) grant along with £13k which comes from the Capital Replacement Fund when annual accounts are produced. It was noted that a large sum had already been spent on the pond and Members were reminded a £9k overspend had previously been agreed for the pond work. The Clerk informed Members that Parks was 82% spent.

Members questioned why there was a low expenditure on postage and the Clerk explained that stamps were purchased around February/March, before the annual April price rise, and used throughout the year.

There were no further questions and Members **accepted** the Financial Report.

**56. Consider Precept for 2017/18 for recommendation to Full Council**

Members noted the overall budget of £181,798.00 had been approved in December's meeting. The Clerk informed Members Rochford District Council (RDC) had now provided the official Council Tax Base and LCTS Grant figures. Following calculations, this represented a Precept increase of 4.25% (£1.52 increase per household, per annum from £35.75 to £37.27 for Band D equivalents).

The Clerk asked Members if they understood all the information she had provided and if there were any questions about the method of calculation, of which there were none.

Vice Chair K Binding proposed that the Finance Committee recommend to Full Council a Precept of £181,775.17. This was seconded by Cllr Mrs P Young and agreed by all Members.

**57. Summary of Decisions:**

- Precept for 2017/18 of £181,775.17 agreed and passed to Full Council for approval.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 7:41pm.

Chairman