



Minutes of the Budget meeting of the Ramsey & Parkeston Parish Council held remotely, in line with Government guidance and legislation, using the Zoom application, on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2020 at 7 p.m.

**Present:** Cllrs Baalham, Bird, Davidson, Fay, Ferguson, Kadlec, Lungley, Passmore (Chair), Ramsay,

**Also Present:** None

**Clerk:** Lin Keating, Clerk

**Absent:** None

- 1. To accept apologies for absence including those due to technical issues:** Cllrs Colbourne, Wood
- 2. Declaration of Interest: Councillors are invited to declare any disclosable Pecuniary Interests or other interest and nature of it, in relation to any item on the agenda.**

- Cllr Davidson declared an interest in relation to the proposed project connected to the Parkeston Welfare Park
- Cllr Passmore declared an interest in relation to the proposed project connected to the Ramsey War Memorial Hall playing field

- 3. To consider the proposed budget recommendations 2021/22 and agree any amendments for adoption at the meeting of the Ramsey & Parkeston Parish Council to be held on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2021 in line of deadlines for submission to Tendring District Council – 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021.**

The Clerk gave an overview of the proposed budget recommendations for 2021/22 as set out in the documents circulated with the agenda, giving explanatory notes beforehand. No queries had been received prior to the meeting.

The provisionnal Tax Base figures received from Tendring District Council on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2020 gives a figure of 713.9 for Ramsey & Parkeston PC. This figure is the number of Band D equivalent dwellings in the parish, taking into account of any discounts, premiums or exemptions as at 13<sup>th</sup> November 2019. Band D tax band is calculated by dividing the precept request by the tax base figure (713.9) and will be published in the final recommendations once the precept is approved.

Comments/queries raised:

- a) Cllr Lungley noted the reduction of the budget for Maintenance & Waste reduction; this has been reduced in reflection of the underspend in 2020/21 and allows the additional funds to be spent in other departments.
- b) Cllr Ramsay gave a presentation of the cemetery fees revision that he has worked on with Cllr Davidson; an increase of 15% on burial and memorial fees, available to both parishioners and non-parishioners, together with a 10% increase on the Chapel Lodge rent will increase the income and help to retrieve some of the costs imposed in improvements and essential maintenance on the Cemetery Lodge (full details are reflected in the amended Budget figures circulated with these minutes).

Further proposals in additional services to be offered, including provision of headstones, kerbsones, memorial bricks and grave digging, in conjunction with a Master Mason, are to be promoted through marketing materials, our website and social media are ongoing.

In addition consideration is being given on opening the Cemetery Chapel for christenings/weddings and funeral services. Cllr Passmore requested that a method statement is written to cover full details for consideration.

Cllr Lungley and the Clerk thanked both Cllr Ramsay and Cllr Davidson in the time given to the work. Proposed by Cllr Ramsay, seconded by Cllr Ferguson with all in favour the increases as outlined were approved to be put in place as from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021.

**Action:** Clerk to give 3 months written notice of the increases to the tenants and Funeral Directors

- c) 2020/21 Budget spend: The Clerk reported that considering approved spend to date there is a balance within the Projects budget for the current year of £7326.
  - Ramsey Mile Marker: Cllr Lungley reported that the cost for a replacement marker as raised at the meeting in November, is circa £500. Proposed by Cllr Ramsay, seconded by Cllr Davidson with all in favour, approval was granted under this current year's budget.
  - Ramsey street lamps – LED replacement programme: The proposed schedule as circulated with the agenda for this meeting shows 20 lamps are outstanding for the replacement LED units. To complete the programme by the end of the financial year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022 it was proposed to replace 9 lamps within the current budget (maximum spend £3906) with 11 lamps replaced within the 2021/22 budget. Along with lowering our carbon footprint, the replacement lamps have proved popular with residents and cost effective. Proposed by Cllr Passmore, seconded by Cllr Lungley with all in favour approval was granted.**Action:** Clerk to notify contractor for installation within budget timescales.



Minutes of the Budget meeting of the Ramsey & Parkeston Parish Council held remotely, in line with Government guidance and legislation, using the Zoom application, on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2020 at 7 p.m.

The Clerk is to finalise and circulate the amended recommendations of the proposal for the Precept request for 2021/22 for adoption at the next full council meeting to be held on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2020. Submission to Tendring District Council has a deadline of 15<sup>th</sup> January 2020.

14 <sup>th</sup> January 2021	Remote
18 <sup>th</sup> February 2021	Parkeston/Remote - TBC
18 <sup>th</sup> March 2021	Parkeston/Remote - TBC
22 <sup>nd</sup> April 2021	Parkeston/Remote - TBC

The Chairman closed the meeting at 7.35p.m.