



Minutes of the Annual Budget meeting of the Ramsey & Parkeston Parish Council held on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2021 in the Parkeston Community Centre, Hamilton Street at 7.15 p.m.

**Present:** Cllrs Bird, Davidson, Fay, Ferguson, Kadlec, Lungley, Norgan, Smith, Tuck, Wogan

**Also Present:** Mrs K Balhaam

**Clerk:** Lin Keating, Clerk

**Absent:** None

1. **To accept apologies for absence:** Cllr Passmore
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.**
3. **To consider the proposed budget recommendations 2022/23 and agree any amendments for adoption at the meeting of the Ramsey & Parkeston Parish Council to be held on 13<sup>th</sup> January 2022 in line of deadline for submission to Tendring District Council – mid January 2021 (date to be confirmed).**

The Clerk presented the proposed budget for 2022/23 as previously circulated for comment:

a) The two projects submitted were discussed at length:

- Purchase of a van, submitted by Cllr Davidson circa £7905 to include the purchase of a van, insurance, fuel and sign writing; thereafter approximate costs per annum estimated at £800.

Cllr Davidson asked for the consideration of the project to be considered to assist in the weekly transport of the waste from the Parkeston Cemetery, delivery of salt and the delivery of water to remote memorials within the wards, assist volunteers working in both wards and to address flytipping.

Comments raised:

- Cover the transport of waste in extending the current business waste contract; Cllr Davidson responded in explaining his concerns of a business bin at the cemetery being abused as it would need to be open for genuine visitors to use and confirmed the Parish Council does hold a waste disposal licence.
- Delivery of salt done by volunteers: it was noted that this has been done in the past, however can cause damage to vehicles and since volunteers have withdrawn.
- Concern of purchase mainly to support the Welfare Park and Ramsey Playing Field: the vehicle use for the two organisations is viewed as benefiting the communities through assisting the open spaces upkeep and costs in fuel etc would be covered at such times.

Cllr Ferguson believed it would be beneficial in community work and a valuable asset in the preparation of expected work passed down to Parish and Town Councils through devolution.

Cllr Lungley objected due to the financial implications in both the purchase of a van that would lose value annually and the running costs against the opportunity in using a contractor for waste clearance when necessary.

Cllr Lungley requested that the vote to be recorded<sup>1</sup>:

Those present in favour for the purchase of a van as proposed by Cllr Davidson:

Cllrs Bird, Davidson, Fay, Ferguson, Kadlec, Norgan, Smith, Tuck, Wogan

Cllr Lungley abstained with the motion carried.

- Ramsey Horse Trough replacement and Drinking Fountain restoration, submitted by Cllr Lungley circa £4000.

Cllr Lungley asked for the consideration of the project to be considered to enhance the area where the original trough was stolen, some 10 years back, from the grassed area opposite St Micheal's Church situated at the junction of Mayes Lane/Church Hill: both the installation of a replica/replacement trough and the refurbishment of the fountain are likely to be as features only, dependent on costs.

The Proposal was seconded by Cllr Fay with all in favour the motion was carried.

Additionally a further £5000 is to be set aside for projects to enhance the profile of the council for consideration during the budget year.

<sup>1</sup> Local Government Act 1972, Sch 12, paras 13 (2) and 29 (2): a member is able to request for the voting to be recorded.



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- b) Grant Funding: ongoing annual funding of £500 to the Essex and Herts Air Ambulance and Harwich & District Community First Responders was proposed by Cllr Bird, seconded by Cllr Ferguson with all in favour the motion was carried.  
Previous annual donations to the Harwich Foodbank were halted; Cllr Ferguson asked this to be made an agenda item for the next full meeting for clarification of the reasons.

Action: Clerk/Chair

In Summary the proposed precept for submission equates to a minor increase of 1.3% on the previous year (£74,168 from £72,418)  
The Clerk confirmed a full report for approval at the meeting of the Parish Council to be held on 13<sup>th</sup> January will be circulated with the agenda for the meeting.

Important data to be received to enable to preparation of the final precept request for approval and submission to Tendring District Council:

- Receipt of Tax Base – 2<sup>nd</sup> December
- Receipt of Ready Recknor – 13<sup>th</sup> December

It has been confirmed that the deadline for submission of the precept request is no later than 21<sup>st</sup> January 2022.

Cllr Ferguson asked for thanks to the Clerk in the preparation of the budget to be recorded.

- 4. To confirm the next meeting of the Ramsey & Parkeston Parish Council is to be held in the Parkeston Community Centre, Hamilton Street on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2022 at 7.15 p.m.**

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8p.m.