



Skipton Town Council

16/

Full Council Thursday 19 January 2017 at 7pm

Present: Councillors M Emmerson, A Rankine, G Bell, C Clark, Mrs W Clark, J Dawson, C Harbron, Mrs. P Heseltine, R G Heseltine, A Hickman, E Jaquin, J Kerr, P Madeley Mrs. K McIntyre & P Whitaker.

Officers: Dave Parker (Chief Officer), Jill Peacock (Resources Manager) & Wendy Allsopp (Committee Services Officer).

1 member of the public & 1 member of the press were present.

1. To accept representations from the Public between 7.00 pm and 7.15 pm.

John Launder, Chairman of Skipton Refugee Support Group introduced himself.

He gave Members an overview of the group's activities and asked Council to consider declaring its support in welcoming refugees & asylum seekers to the town.

2. To accept apologies for absence.

Cllr C Dow.

3. To record declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests in items on the agenda.

The Chief Officer reminded Members that it was not necessary to declare interests in matters relating to the setting of the precept

4. To consider the recommendations of the Chief Officer relating to requests for dispensations to Members on items requiring a declaration of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests.

None.

5. To approve the minutes from the Full Council meetings held on 17 November 2016.

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the minutes of the Full Council meetings held on 17 November 2016 as a true and accurate record of what transpired at that meeting.

Chief Officer & Clerk to the Council: Dave Parker
Town Hall, High Street, Skipton BD23 1FD
Telephone 01756 700553
Email admin@skiptontowncouncil.gov.uk

6. To report and receive information arising from the minutes of items not on the agenda from members and the Chief Officer.

None.

The Chairman agreed to bring forward item 13.

13. To consider supporting Skipton Refugee Support Group in making the town a 'City of Sanctuary'.

Following discussion it was **RESOLVED** that Skipton Town Council would complete a resolution of support for Skipton to be recognised as a 'City of Sanctuary' and that it would 'Support those who are working alongside refugees and asylum seekers in Skipton'.

7. To receive and consider minutes, recommendations and reports of the Environment and Planning Committee.

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the minutes of the Environment and Planning Committee meeting held on the 13 October 2016 and Sub-Committee meetings held on 10 October & 7 November 2016 as a true and accurate record of what transpired at those meetings.

8. To receive and consider minutes, recommendations and reports of the Public Services Committee

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the minutes of the Public Services Committee meeting held on the 8 September 2016 as a true and accurate record of what transpired at that meeting.

9. To receive and consider minutes, recommendations and reports of the Finance and Policy Committee.

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the minutes of the Finance and Policy Committee meeting held on the 20 October 2016 as a true and accurate record of what transpired at that meeting.

10. To receive and consider minutes, recommendations and reports of the Audit and Scrutiny Committee.

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the minutes of the Audit and Scrutiny Committee meeting held on the 22 September 2016 as a true and accurate record of what transpired at that meeting.

11. To receive a report of the Mayoral Engagements for November 2016 until January 2017.

The Mayor, Councillor Emmerson, asked Members to note the engagements which he had attended.

He told Members that he had enjoyed visiting the Taj Takeaway where a cheque had been presented to the local Sue Ryder charity branch.

12. To consider and approve the Council's budget for 2017-2018 and to set the level of the Precept.

Councillors noted the Chief Officer's report and associated papers.

Following discussion Members **RESOLVED** to:

- Adopt the Council budgets, as proposed, for 2017-2018.
- Set the Council's Precept for 2017-2018 in the sum of £465,718 and; instruct the Chief Officer to advise the Billing Authority (Craven District Council) of the Council's requirements.
- Increase the charge for a full-sized allotment from £75 per annum to £80 per annum with effect from 1st October 2017 and; allow the Chief Officer to set an appropriate administrative charge to any tenants wishing to pay their allotment rents by instalment.

In consideration of this item Members considered the affordability of allotment plots, in line with legislative requirements.

- Increase the charge for the use of Council owned grazing land at Greatwood to £200 and at Carleton Road to £250 per annum.
- Transfer £5,000 from the Council's General Capital Reserve to cover the costs associated with the purchase of new links for the Mayoral chain and towards the costs associated with DDA compliance works at the council's recreation grounds.
- Transfer £11,500 to the Holy Trinity Church Wall Reserve.
- Extend the Council's General Grounds Maintenance contract with ISS through to 31st March 2019 and; the contract for the cutting of Highways Verge grass to 31st March 2018.
- Extend the Council's contract with Bulloughs for the cleaning and securing of the Coach Street Toilets facility to 31st March 2018.

14. Questions for the Leader of the Council.

Members received an update on the staffing review.

15. To receive notification of matters that members would like including on a future agenda.

None.

The meeting closed at 8.17 pm