Public Services Committee
Thursday 12 January 2017 at 6pm

Present: Cllrs: R G Heseltine (Chairman), J W Dawson, Mrs W E Clark, Mrs K McIntyre
Mrs P Heseltine, C D Clark, P Madeley, E Jaquin

Also present: Cllr J Kerr, A F Hickman

Officers: Dave Parker (Chief Officer) and Jill Peacock (Resources Manager)

1. To accept representations from the Public between 6.00 pm and 6.15 pm.

   None.

2. To accept apologies for absence.

   None.

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

   None.

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 note the minutes from the previous meeting held on 8 December 2016.

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

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

   None.

7. To consider matters relating to the setting of the Council's budget and precept for 2017 – 2018.

   Given the funding required to meet service levels in the Public Services Committee's areas of responsibility it was **AGREED** that the following proposed budgets should be put to the Council's Finance and Policy Committee for consideration in the Council's overall budget for 2017-18:

	£
Allotments	9,939
Recreation Grounds	25,331
Churchyards and Burial Grounds	13,498
Street Furniture	2,850
Street Lighting	7,165
Tree and Hedge Work	4,665
Statues and Memorials	440
Public Conveniences	30,890
Highways Verge Grass-Cutting	10,899
Civic Events and Ceremonial	2,850
Events and Festivals	19,000
Christmas Lights	17,000
Town Centre Management	4,500
Town Centre Ambassadors	3,500
Marketing and Promotions	8,750

It was **RECOMMENDED** that:

- The contract for the Highways Verge Grass Cutting is extended for a further 12 month period.
- The contract for the Cleaning and Securing of Coach Street Toilets is extended for a 3+further 12 month period.

- To reflect the increasing cost of providing allotment gardens, while ensuring the charge to tenants remains well below the equivalent amount defined as ‘reasonable’ in s10 of the Allotments Act 1950, the annual rent for a full-size plot should be increased to £75.

- The annual rents for the Council’s grazing land, because they have remained the same for more than ten years, should be increased to £200 per annum at Greatwood and £250 per annum at Carleton Road.

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

   None.

The meeting closed at 7 pm.