

HEBDEN ROYD TOWN COUNCIL

MEETING of the STRATEGY & REVIEW COMMITTEE held Wednesday 22nd November 2023

MINUTES

PRESENT Councillors; Boggis (Chair), Butterick, Fraser, Guilfoyle & Harvey.

Clerk: Jason Boom - Town Clerk.

275. Apologies for Absence and any substitutions

Cllrs Hayes & Needham.

276. Members' Interests relating to agenda items for this meeting.

None were declared at this point.

277. Matters arising from Minutes of Meeting held 18th October 2023 not itemised on this Agenda

No matters were raised. It was confirmed that the Press & Media Guidance and Social Media Guidance had been adopted by the Town Council. These documents have been circulated electronically to members, placed on the website and passed to the Monitoring Officer responsible for the HRTC Code of Conduct.

278. STANDING ORDERS & FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

The Town Clerk explained the reasons for reviewing the Town Councils Standing Orders highlighting comments received from the Council Appointed External Auditor. The Town Clerk also introduced requests from councillors regarding standing at Full Council meetings and managing members of the public attending meetings.

The meeting discussed the custom and practise of standing when speaking at Full Council meetings, with some councillors expressing that it clearly showed who was speaking during the meeting. It was felt that councillors should choose how they presented at Full Council meetings and that sitting would allow them to comfortably use the audio system in the room to ensure all could hear their comments.

It was moved by Cllr Boggis
Seconded by Cllr Butterick and

RESOLVED: to recommend the adoption of the changes as proposed for the Town Councils Standing Orders and Financial regulations with the Town

Clerk instructed to amend them to reflect that councillors can choose to stand. The Town Clerk was also asked to remove gender references throughout the Orders and Regulations making them gender neutral.

279.

BUDGET SETTING

The meeting was presented with an updated budget, with the items recommended at the previous meeting being confirmed as being adopted by the Town Council.

The meeting discussed again the need to decide on the principle of fixing the precept, Mayor's Allowance and Community Funding to the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the life of the council. The meeting felt that given a year of economic uncertainty this decision should be delayed, the CPI rate of 10.1% in September 2023 now reduced to 4.6% in October 2023 reflected this.

The meeting considered three requests for funding. These requests looked to support the Twinning Committee, the development of a new website for the Town Council and delivering Remembrance Sunday events.

The Town Clerk was asked to submit a budget request at the next meeting relating to continuing to support C & K Services and their work to support youth employment.

It was moved by Cllr Boggis
Seconded by Cllr Harvey and

RESOLVED: to recommend the budget requests for the Twinning Committee, to develop a new Town Council Website and for the delivery of Remembrance Sunday events as well as noting the NALC Briefing Note on Parish & Town Council Precepts.

Meeting finished at 8.35pm.