

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE FINANCE & PLANNING COMMITTEE OF
BEAUMARIS TOWN COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 29 JANUARY 2018 AT 7.00 PM IN THE TOWN HALL**

PRESENT: The Town Mayor Councillor J P Zalot
The Deputy Mayor Councillor C J Theakston
Councillor I Davies
Councillor D W Gallichan
Councillor A J V Grant
Councillor S Zalot

The Town Clerk was in attendance

APOLOGIES: There were no apologies for absence

The Deputy Mayor took the Chair

116.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor S Zalot declared an interest in the Leases of Fishing Kiosks since he owns two of the units

117.0 RATES ESTIMATES 2018 – 2019

Members were circulated with a first draft of the Estimates drawn up by the Town Clerk. The Town Clerk referred members to the actual expenditure for all financial codes during the first six months of the year and his estimates of expenditure for these codes for the final six months up until 31 March. He pointed out that expenditure under the payroll had been higher than predicted because of the increased Superannuation contributions for all staff. He had thus increased the estimated expenditure for Payroll 2018-2019. In addition, he had separated the expenditure codes for all full-time staff. Seasonal and part time staff would now be combined under one financial code.

A member asked about the future staffing of the Gaol and Courthouse.

In response, the Town Clerk stated that he had made an allocation for the Gaol and Courthouse under Capital Schemes in accordance with the deficit that had been predicted by the Business Plan submitted.

Under Administration expenditure, there was a predicted underspend for the year. Accordingly, the predicted expenditure for 2018-2019 had been reduced.

Members suggested that the projected expenditure for Courses and Travelling should be increased by £2,000 to £5,000 for the coming year, and the Town Clerk agreed to make an adjustment.

In response to a question about the Mayor's Allowance, the Town Clerk stated that the past Mayor had returned £500 from his allowance in lieu of the amount of time that he had not served in office.

Expenditure under Finances for the present year had been higher than expected because of a delay in paying the Canolfan support grant.

For the coming year there was an increase in Section 142 Donations to bring them up to the level permitted for the next financial year.

Expenditure for the present year on Allotments, Boating Pool, Cemetery, Green, Happy Valley and Town Hall had been largely as predicted. The main exception was the cost of rates for the Green, which had increased from £4,000 to £30,000 without prior notification when the demand had been received in April. The estimated increase in expenditure for 2018-2019 took into account the higher charge for Rates, since Council's appeal against the increase could take another two years to be resolved.

A member asked if the expenditure under 261 'Others' had included a provision for new LED lights in Castle Street. The Town Clerk said that some provision had been made but this might need topping up from savings on other Capital Schemes.

A member commented that the Floral Maintenance contract should go out to tender this year, and it was desirable for the Beaumaris in Bloom Committee to work with the Contractor.

It was proposed and agreed that heading 383 should remove reference to a Car Park. There was a discussion about the Happy Valley regeneration scheme.

In relation to a possible new pavilion, the Town Clerk said that of the £20,000 previously put into this pot during 2017-2018, £16,000 had been spent on play equipment. He had thus re-allocated £20,000 to the scheme in the coming 2018-2019 financial year. It was likely this could be added to if there was an expected underspend in the cost of the Cemetery landslip works. Members asked what the projected cost of a new pavilion would be, and how this compared to the estimated cost of the original pavilion design from about eight years ago. The Town Clerk said he believed the projected costs now were at least double that of the original proposal.

In relation to the Cemetery landslip, the Town Clerk said that the Highways Department had requested £60,000 towards the work. It was anticipated that the Welsh Government would be offering financial support, and the Town Council along with the County Council would each be contributing £60,000.

It was proposed, seconded and carried unanimously that Council agrees to the projected expenditure of £60,000 for the works.

The Town Clerk said he had added a further £20,000 in the estimates for 2018-2019 to ensure that any extra work, eg repairs to the upper Cemetery wall, could be completed.

A member asked if there was an allocation towards highways repair work at Llanfaes. The Town Clerk said there was not a specific allocation in the Estimates. It was agreed that the Town Clerk check the minutes when the possible repair work was discussed in the November Council meeting.

The meeting looked at the projected income for 2018-2019.

Generally, the predictions were as for the past year with the exception of an increase in the estimated income for parking tickets under Code 501.

The estimates of income and expenditure had been used to calculate the Precept requirement for 2018-2019 of £28,427.87. This was a slight reduction of the Precept required for 2017-2018. Members asked how this would compare to other Town and Community Council Precepts on Anglesey. The Town Clerk commented that fifteen years ago Beaumaris had a highest precept for a Town And Community Council on Anglesey whilst now it was lower than any of the other four towns and also lower than several of the larger Community Councils.

Recommendation to Council:

The required Precept for 2018-2019 be set at £28,427.87, the equivalent of £26.77 per Band D property.

A member asked if the Town Council had the power to increase rates for holiday homes within the boundary. The Town Clerk was asked to investigate.

118.0 CHARGES 2018 – 2019

The Town Clerk said he was not recommending any increase in charges for 2018-2019.

A member asked if there should not be increased charges for parking overnight on the Green. It was agreed this should be discussed at a future Greens & Buildings Sub-Committee.

Recommendation to Council:

To accept the recommended charges for 2018-2019.

Councillor S Zalot declared an in interest in Leases for Fishing Kiosks and left the meeting.

The leases were examined and it was noted that review dates for two should be amended to bring the document up to date.

Councillor S Zalot rejoined the meeting

There was no other business and the Chairman closed the meeting.

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Chairman
Councillor C J Theakston

Date