



Broughton Town Council

Finance & Audit Committee Minutes

Minutes of the meeting of the Finance & Audit Committee held at 6.45pm on Monday 20th January 2025 at the Phil Grundy Community & Sports Centre.

Present: Cllr Price, Cllr Portess, Cllr Simpson & Cllr Senior.

Also present: Clerk to the Council – Deb Hotson.

1. Apologies for Absence

All members present.

2. Declaration of Interest

To record declarations of interest by any member of the Council in respect of the agenda items listed below. Members declaring interests should identify the agenda item and type of interest being declared.

Cllr Portess declared a personal interest in agenda item 4c.

3. To consider the exclusion of the public and press in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 s1(2) due to the confidential nature of the item to be discussed.

No member of the public or press was present.

4. Budget & Precept 2025/26

a. To consider the staffing hourly rate increase from April 2025.

The National Living Wage hourly rate will increase to £12.21 from 1st April. It was agreed to recommend to the full council an hourly increase to £12.50, staying above the National Living Wage.

b. To consider the budget & precept for 2025/26.

The budget was circulated prior to the meeting and all additional spending discussed.

It was agreed that the recommendation to the full council will be to keep the precept the same as last year at £150k which will see a -0.4% decrease from last year on Band D properties.

c. To consider the new ground person role determining actions required.

The reason for this agenda item on the Finance Committee was just to discuss the cost of this additional role as included in the budget. A Personal Committee was agreed on 10th February to discuss the role in full.

5. Interim Audit 2025

To review the interim audit determining actions required.

The Clerk went through the recommendations, and it was agreed that these should be addressed.

6. AOB

The ground maintenance for the field was discussed. Clerk to obtain a quote from BCSA. Clerk to also provide the cost to maintain the tractor over the past 4 years to BCSA with a view to asking for a contribution for future works.

7. Date and Time of the next meeting

To be agreed as and when required. The meeting closed at 7.45pm.