

**EAST GRINSTEAD TOWN COUNCIL**

**FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE – 22<sup>ND</sup> JANUARY 2024 at 7.08 pm**

Committee Members: Cllr Farren (Chair)  
Cllr M Belsey (Vice Chair)  
Cllr Visser (Town Mayor)  
Cllr Ody (Deputy Town Mayor)  
Cllrs: Barnett, J Belsey\*, Gibson\*\*, Whittaker

Others present:, Town Clerk, Deputy Town Clerk Cllrs: Gibbs, Mockford, Peacock, Pond, Reeves

\*\* present on zoom = (this doesn't count as an official attendance under the Local Government Finance Act of 1972)

\*= absent

285. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There were no public present

286. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were accepted from:

Cllr J Belsey	Personal Commitment
Cllr Gibson	Attending another council meeting, but attended on zoom

287. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no new declarations.

288. **TO CONSIDER THE DRAFT BUDGET BOOK FOR 2024/2025**

The Chairman introduced the item and advised that the considerations that Members will need to undertake at the meeting will ultimately culminate in a formal recommendation to Council.

RESOLVED::

- A. To accept the recommendations from the Planning, Public Services, Amenities and Tourism and Environmental and Sustainable Travel committees regarding their budgetary requirements.
- B. To Approve the budget for cost centres under Finance and General Purposes Committee control, as laid out in the draft Budget Booklet 2024/25 comprising:
  - Democratic representation (cost centre 100),
  - Corporate management (cost centre 200),
  - Community support (cost centre 400) including the grants to community organisations, Central administration and support (cost centre 1100), and
  - Charities (cost centre 1000)

289. TO FORMERLY RECOMMEND THE BUDGET FOR 2024/25

The chairman introduced the item and once proposed and seconded he then opened the overall budget for discussion:

RESOLVED To recommend to Council:

- 1) That the revenue estimates 2024/2025 as set out in the draft budget booklet as previously circulated to members, be approved by Council on 29<sup>th</sup> Jan to become the Town Council's budget for 2024/2025 financial year;
- 2) That the Town Council's capital programme for 2024/2025 be as set down in the draft budget booklet;
- 3) That the Town Council's estimate payments of £1,601,433 (one million six hundred and one thousand, four hundred and thirty three pounds) and estimated income of £364,355 (three hundred and sixty-four thousand, three hundred and fifty-five pounds) in the 2024/2025 financial year be approved, resulting in a net cost to the Town Council of £1,237,078 (1 million and two hundred and thirty-seven thousand and seventy-eight pounds)
- 4) That Council, on 29th January 2024, be requested to approve an actual precept for the 2024/2025 financial year, which the Committee recommends should be set at £1,237,078 (1 million two hundred and thirty-seven thousand, and seventy-eight pounds) (representing an annual council tax, increase of 10.9% at £103.44 per Band D property) based on the known tax base of 11,959.5.

The chairman advised that the next full meeting of the Committee will be held on **THURSDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2024** at 7.00pm. He ended the meeting at 7.14pm

SIGNED:

CHAIRMAN