

MARYPORT TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on Wednesday 22 October 2014 in the Council Chambers, Town Hall, Maryport at 7.00pm.

Present

Councillor S Ashworth	Councillor B Campbell
Councillor B Carter	Councillor Ms G Elliot
Councillor Mrs A Kendall	Councillor P Kendall (Chairman)
Councillor Mrs C McCarron-Holmes	Councillor W Pegram
Councillor Ms C Tindall	Councillor L Williamson

In Attendance

Mrs L Douglas (Clerk)
Mr P Bramley (Clerk)

51/14 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors D King, G McAlpine, A Moore & Mrs L Radcliffe.

52/14 Declarations of Interest

Declarations of interest were received from Councillor B Campbell, Personal, issues concerning Allerdale Mind, Councillors Mrs A Kendall & W Pegram, Personal, members of Maryport Harbour Authority, & Councillor Ms C Tindall, Personal, Flimby Youth Club, Flimby Community Garden, Flimby Community Garden & Flimby Sunshine Club.

Resolved that the declarations of interest be recorded.

53/14 Requests for Dispensations

None received.

54/14 Budget 2015/16

Members considered a report setting out the basis of development of the draft Budget 2015/16, the detailed draft Budget figures & the estimated level of Reserves & Balances at 31 March 2015. The formulation of the draft Budget 2015/16 & its supporting information was reviewed per budget line, in terms of its basis & assumptions.

Members noted the unavailability at the time of the meeting of information due from Allerdale Borough Council concerning the proposed application in 2015/16 of the discretionary support for the local council tax benefit scheme, & the impact of that on the figures under consideration. It was also noted that the Secretary of State held reserved powers within the Localism Act through which restrictions may be placed on local councils' budget proposals, should such powers be exercised. The Secretary of State's intentions regarding application of such powers for the 2015/16 financial year were not available at the time of the meeting.

The draft budget took into account the provision of financial support from the Council for supporting local public events as a part of its objectives towards improving the community & provided for an expenditure budget of £187,400. It was estimated that, subject to the impact of the level of discretionary support for the local council tax benefit scheme provided in 2015/16, such a budget would entail an increase of around 7p per week for the majority of Maryport Council Tax payers.

It was agreed to investigate the possibility of the Maryport Allerdale Credit Union office transferring to the Town Hall.

In a vote taken following a detailed review of the draft budget, all members present supported the proposals as presented, subject to the continued limitation on festival support to a maximum level per day.

Resolved that the Budget 2015/16 as detailed in the report, & reviewed on a line by line basis be agreed in principle, subject to a limitation on festival support to a maximum level per day, & that it be recommended to form the basis of the Council precept for 2015/16, pending the receipt of the outstanding information required.

The Budget 2015/16 is attached.

The meeting finished at 8.30 pm.

Signed

Chairman

Date