

Minutes of the Policy & Resources Committee
13th December 2021, 7.30pm
The Guildhall

Present:

Cllr Barker
Cllr Rowlands

Cllr Saunders
Cllr Hook

Cllr T Martin
Cllr Henderson

In Attendance:

L Bareham (Town Clerk)

319. Apologies for Absence
Cllr Cavanagh

320. Declarations of Interest
None

321. Minutes of Previous Minutes and Matter Arising
Cllr Hook confirmed that Agenda Item 317 was to commission external advice. The Clerk confirmed the funds in Nationwide had cleared.

The Minutes were proposed by Cllr Saunders, seconded by Cllr T Martin and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to accept the Minutes of the Policy and Resources Meeting dated 29th November 2021**

322. Accountancy Package
The Town Clerk had been approached by Scribe to undertake a demo, which she and the Finance Assistant attended. Although the Council had not been looking to change the package, Scribe had some additional features, including the ability for Councillors to view remotely.

*It was proposed by Cllr Barker, seconded by Cllr T Martin and on being put to the Meeting it was **RESOLVED to delegate the decision to the Town Clerk as to whether the Council change accountancy package***

323. Draft Annual Action Plan
The Annual Action Plan for 2022-2023 was proposed by Cllr Barker, seconded by Cllr Rowlands and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to adopt the Annual Action Plan (attached as Appendix 1)**

324. Meetings and Committee Review
Cllr Saunders was supportive of an Active Travel or Highways and Active Travel committee to include the HIP.

Cllr Barker, proposed, seconded by Cllr Rowlands and on being put to the Meeting it was **RESOLVED to suspend Standing Orders to allow Cllr Thomas to speak.**

Cllr Thomas agreed with the Active Travel proposal too, although noted that Public Spaces was at a time to enable KCC and SBC to attend. The Town Clerk will investigate whether officers can attend evening meetings.

Cllr Rowlands noted the delay with working groups getting decisions agreed.

Cllr Henderson proposed, seconded by Cllr Barker and on being put to the Meeting it was **RESOLVED that the paper put to Full Council on 10th January 2022.**

A further discussion took place regarding hybrid meetings, to enable members of the public to watch online. The Town Clerk will set up a demo with Cloudy IT

325. Draft Budget Report

A discussion took place regarding the draft budget report and it was generally agreed that a 3% increase was reasonable, although Cllr Saunders noted it was prioritising funding back to committees without identifying projects.

326. Items for Report

It was agreed that there would be no extraordinary meeting in December to agree the budget and that face-to-face meetings will go ahead in January as planned.