



Bracknell Town Council

Additional Strategy and Finance Meeting Monday 4th December 2023

Date	Monday 4th December 2023
Time	18:30 - 20:08
Location	Council Chamber
Present	Councillors: Mary Temperton (Co-opted), Guy Gillbe, Graham Firth, Anna Keen, Donna Sidebotham (Sub), Megan Wright, Kwabena Adu-Quaye
Apologies	Councillors: Roy Bailey
Officers	Jackie Burgess, Rachel Gordge

Minutes

SF83 / 23 ATTENDANCE

Apologies were received from Roy Bailey and Kathryn Neil. Donna Sidebotham is substituting for Councillor Bailey. Councillor Mary Temperton was co-opted for the TV Grant and Annual Grant items.

The Chair waived the requirement to stand when speaking.

SF84 / 23 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Mary Temperton declared an interest in the Twinning Association Annual Grant Application as she is the Chair. Councillors Guy Gillbe and Anna Keen are members of the Twinning Association as an ordinary member and a Council representative. Councillor Mary Temperton uses the Look In Café for surgeries every Wednesday but has no financial interest in the organisation.

SF85 / 23 BUDGET

The Town Clerk introduced the budget for the year 2024-25. The budget has been set considering an increase of 2% of the Precept. The budget has been planned without using the CIL funding that the Council holds. The Town Clerk advised that the insurance premium will likely increase following the recent arson claims.

- It was proposed by Councillor Mary Temperton that SHP be awarded £142,000 and that Jealotts Hill Community Landshare be awarded the budgeted £10,000 for their respective Annual Grant applications, this was seconded by Guy Gillbe **APPROVED**
- It was proposed by Councillor Guy Gillbe, following the review of the budget and the Annual Grants, that the precept be increased by 2% which keeps it below the rate of inflation for residents. This was seconded by Cllr Kwabena Adu-Quaye. This will be recommended to Full Council on the 13th of February 2024 **APPROVED**
- It was agreed that the budget item for replacing the fencing around the golf at Jocks Lane is removed to cover the additional Annual Grants awarded and the fencing is brought to the next Strategy and Finance Committee meeting as a CIL funding request
- It was agreed to recommend the budget as it stands to Full Council on the 13th of February 2024 **APPROVED**

SF86 / 23 TV GRANTS

The Town Clerk presented the report for the current TV Grant Scheme. The TV grant is a beneficial and valuable scheme that must be re-engaged and refreshed with more advanced advertising. It was proposed that the scheme is kept going until the end of March 2025 with additional advertising funds being added to the budget for 2024-25

APPROVED

It was agreed that a Working Group be created to discuss new ideas to grow the scheme **APPROVED**

Councillor Megan Wright has been asked by Berkshire Vision to provide bus passes for blind residents and their companions so that they can get around the Borough with support in place. This will be discussed further outside of the meeting and may be brought to the next S&F as an agenda item.

SF87 / 23 CONFIDENTIAL - ANNUAL GRANT APPLICATIONS

To move that in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, that pursuant to Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, as applied by Section 100 of the Local Government Act 1972, Members of the Press and Public be excluded from the meeting.

Two of the grant applications need to have some of the information checked before a decision can be made on their Grant Award. The Town Clerk will contact them, and these two Grants will be discussed at the next Strategy and Finance meeting.

The Annual Grant application report was reviewed by the Committee and the grant award amounts were discussed. The recommended Grant Awards will be proposed for approval at the next Strategy and Finance Committee to then be taken to Full Council in February for a decision **APPROVED**

Date of the next Meeting: 6th February 2024 7.30 pm Council Chamber Brooke House

Sign:

Date: