

MINUTES
of the
Finance Committee meeting held on 14th December 2023 at 1:00PM in the Town Hall,
Tewkesbury

Present: Cllrs C Danter (Chair), P Brookes, P Jones, S Raywood, J Raywood, K Moran,
H Bowman, M Sztymiak

In attendance: D Hill (Town Clerk)

F.23.061 To receive apologies
None.

F.23.062 To receive declarations of interest
None.

F.23.063 To receive dispensations
None.

F.23.064 To receive correspondence relating to the Finance Committee
Cllr Danter reported that she had been approached concerning the possibility of funding for Tewkesbury Abbey via the Town Council's precepting ability. **Action:** Town Clerk to look into this.

F.23.065 Public Participation
None.

F.23.066 To review the draft Town Council budget for 2024/25
The draft budget had been circulated with the agenda pack for review. It was noted that there were a few figures that needed to be rounded down slightly in the Buildings & Moorings and Watson Hall budgets. The Buildings & Moorings budget had increased by £10,000 due to the addition of a new budget code for accessibility at the Town Hall. The increase in the IT budget was queried and the Town Clerk reminded members that the increase related to expenditure to instal an OWL streaming system into the Council Chamber. The committee discussed the potential budget required for new Town Crier's robes and it was agreed that the amount budgeted for regalia should be increased to £5,000. It was noted that the Severn Ham committee budget was still in draft. Cllr Brookes, Severn Ham Committee Chair and the Deputy town Clerk had prepared the budget for approval at the committee meeting to be held on 18th December. **Action:** The Town Clerk was asked to make the amendments above to the finance system and to circulate the revised figures for the expenditure budget and precept requirement.
Post meeting note: further to the changes detailed above and the draft Severn Ham budget being approved at the meeting on 18th December, the proposed figures for 2024/25 are as follows:
Expenditure £649,873
Income £150,833
Precept requirement £494,540 representing an increase of 5.28% on 2023/24

- F.23.067** **To retrospectively approve additional expenditure totalling £300 relating to the hydrology study for land off Bredon Road**
It was RESOLVED to approve the additional expenditure of £300. Proposed by Cllr Jones, seconded by Cllr Brookes.
- F.23.068** **To resolve that the press and public are excluded due to the confidential nature of the business under the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings Act) 1960 s.1. Sub section 2**
Proposed by Cllr J Raywood, seconded by Cllr Bowman.
- F.23.069** **To discuss the recruitment process for a new Town Crier and to agree any required budget**
It was agreed to invite the Town Crier to a working group meeting to discuss the recruitment of a new Town Crier. The working group will consist of Cllrs Danter, Jones, Brookes, S Raywood and Sztymiak.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 14:00.

Signature of Chairman upon approval of the minutes 8th January 2024