



**Meeting of Cinderford Town Council
The Council Chamber, Cinderford,
Tuesday 25th January 2022, 7.30 p.m**

The meeting started after the Playing Fields & Estates Committee meeting.

Present:

Cllr Chris Witham
Cllr Mark Turner
Cllr Tim Holder
Cllr Chris Brown
Cllr Roger Sterry
Cllr Lynn Sterry
Cllr Jeremy Charlton-Wright
Cllr Graham Morgan
Cllr Di Martin
Cllr Sally Reader

In attendance:

Emma Bennett (Clerk, CTC)
Les Love (Facilities & Estates Manager, CTC)
Ryan Morgan (Ground & Maintenance, CTC)
0 Members of the public

Apologies:

Cllr Max Coborn
Cllr Mason Coborn
Cllr Rachel Lewis
Cllr Louise Bent

1. **To receive apologies for absence**
Noted as above.
2. **Declarations of Interest – to receive any declarations of interest in any matter to be discussed at the meeting. Members and Officers are requested to identify the nature of the interest.**
(Council Tax Arrears - Councillors to declare if in arrears)
No declarations declared
3. **Public Participation Session – to provide the opportunity for Members of the Public to raise questions or comment on items on the Agenda (limited to 15 minutes, with a maximum 3 minutes per person).**
Not applicable.
4. **Chairman's Urgent Business**
Not applicable.
5. **To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 11th January 2022 (copy herewith)**
The minutes of the 11th January 2022 meeting, having been previously circulated, were confirmed and signed as a true record.
Proposed: Cllr J Charlton-Wright, Seconded Cllr: M Coborn. Abstained due to absence from 11 January 2022 meeting: Cllr. E.D. Martin, Cllr S Reader, Cllr M Turner. Remaining Councillors were in favour.

6. Matters Arising from Minutes

To be discussed at 8th February 2022 meeting.

7. To discuss the match funding term for the Levelling Up and implications for the 2022/23 budget

Council previously noted (minute 16E on 11th January 2022) that the Levelling Up Fund is the biggest increase to the proposed budget with the Council funding £587,000 over 5 years with additional match funding being received. Following discussions with FODDC it had been highlighted that the Levelling Up contribution can be included in the asset register for land, buildings, plant and building improvements and can be over a longer term than 5 years. Any increase in term would have implications for the budget.

8. To note the taxbase and Band D charge

FODDC had confirmed the 2021/22 taxbase as 2465.33, band D charge 151.93. For 2022/23 this had been confirmed as taxbase 2443.49 (a reduction in band D properties).

9. To note FODDC claim back of the 2020 £30k Covid Business Support Fund

The Clerk advised that FODDC had also advised that they had incorrectly paid Cinderford Town Council £30k in Covid business support funds which they now wished to claim back. Council were disappointed with the decision and the Clerk was required to query the repayment with FODDC.

10. To receive the latest financial reports

Copies of the latest financial reports were provided for information and the contents noted. .

11. To receive and approve the Budget for 2022/2023 and agree the precept following consideration of items 7 to 10 above

Council considered the proposed budget previously agreed at the 11th January 2022 meeting. Council modelled the Levelling Up expenditure over 5, 7 and 10 years to see relevant figure options. Following consideration of various options Council agreed to Levelling Up expenditure over 7 years.

Council budget expenditure was therefore agreed at £449,710.00. The precept was agreed at £410,882.00, with the taxbase at 2,443.49. The Band D Charge would be £168.15 (a rise of 10.68% for Band D). Council discussed the rise noting that Band D properties had reduced and additional expenditure was planned by the Council on maintenance of buildings not covered by the Levelling Up Fund, youth work, events, Miners Welfare, and grounds maintenance vehicle.

Cllr Witham proposed, Cllr Martin seconded. All in favour.

12. Date of next Meetings (N):

- Council Meeting – Tuesday 8th February 2022

Signed:.....

Date:.....