



Sleaford Town Council
Finance & Strategy Panel
Notes and Report of Meeting – 10th January 2019
10am – 11.55am

Panel Members present:

Councillor Anthony Brand (Lead)
Councillor Mark Graves
Councillor Heather Lorimer
Councillor Ken Fernandes
Councillor Grenville Jackson
Councillor David Suiter
Councillor S Shanahan-Kluth

Non panel members present: Councillors Bozena Allen and John Charlesworth

Meeting supported by the Clerk, Deputy Clerk and Administration Officer.

1. Welcome by Lead

The Panel Lead welcomed all to the meeting.

2. Notes from previous meeting 3rd December 2018

The Panel agreed the notes which had been presented to Council on 9th January 2019.

Action: Clerk to follow up seeing legal advice from NALC on the tax position and treatment of the Chairman's Allowance.

Item for next F&S Panel meeting for the changes to the Town Hall including room hire.

3. Budget

In presenting the budget, the Clerk explained the loss of the CTSS grant but this would be counteracted by the increase in properties.

The Panel discussed the income in relation to the Eastgate Car Park refurbishment. It was noted that the permits income as well as ticket income would be affected for a period of at least 2 months.

For clarity it was requested that the presentation of the budget included an out turn column in preparation for Full Council.

It was also noted that further explanation on some budget lines would be of benefit.

Action: for Deputy to contact NKDC to the likely cost impact of the boundary review should a by-election take place in Quarrington and Mareham.

Recommendation to Council: To Increase the precept by 2.3%.

4. Eastgate Car Park

The Lead circulated a photo to demonstrate car park space measurements. It was noted that the revised layout of Eastgate Car Park following the refurbishment may lead to reduced spaces.

Action: The Clerk requested for 2 Councillors to attend a meeting with himself and the contractor Councillors Brand and Graves were elected.

5. Boston Road Layby

The Panel had a discussion on the Boston Road Layby and whether a Stopping up Order had been done.

Action: The Clerk to check on the Land Registry and to seek clarification with LCC to confirm that Boston Road Layby is in STC's ownership.

6. Suggested Improvements of Council's Website

The Lead gave a short demonstration of two parish council's website.

The panel compared STC's website and discussed accessibility and functionality.

The panel made some suggestions for the website to have links to Voluntary Organisations, calendar for meetings and room hire. The Lead invited panel members to email in any suggestions.

Action: The Deputy Clerk to speak with other Parish Council's to establish alternate website providers, maintenance and cost involved. To meet with the current provider to discuss options.

7. Closed Burial Ground

The Deputy Clerk gave some background as to what is involved in the council looking after a closed burial ground.

The Panel discussed the Arch at the back of the Churchyard grounds and who was responsible for maintaining it.

Action:- The Deputy Clerk to organise a meeting with the PCC and Panel Lead.
The Deputy Clerk to seek further clarification from LALC with specific regard to the Arch.

8. Date for next meeting

Thursday 7th February 2019 10am