

**Malmesbury Town Council**  
**Full Council meeting 15.12.20**  
**Report No.1a**

**Annual Budget and precept 2021/22**

- i. The Council are asked to consider the annual budget for the year 2021-22, considering the existing and possible new budget allocations needed.<sup>i</sup>
- ii. On the 2<sup>nd</sup> December the Policy and Resources Committee considered and agreed a proposed Council budget for 2021/22, as outlined in Report 1b.
- iii. When considering the budget, the Policy and Resources Committee allowed for;
  - Inflation at 2.5 % as an on cost to existing Council goods and services.
  - Local Government Pay increases, to be agreed, but assumed to be up to 3% (maximum).
  - Staff incremental rises.<sup>ii</sup>
- iv. In addition to maintaining existing services, the Policy and Resources Committee considered new or aspirational projects or areas of service delivery, notably but not definitively CCTV and the Flood Scheme at St Johns Bridge.
- v. The Councils precept increase for 2020/21 was agreed at 2.5% on a Band D equivalent which equated to £210.63 per household. The total income received from the 2020/21 Precept raised £457,587.
- vi. The tax base for 21/22 is 2160.06, compared to 2172.47 last year.
- vii. Based on this year's tax base the following increases would be;
  - 2% rise would equate to a precept of £466,000 with an increase of £4.21 per household.
  - 2.5% rise would equate to a precept of £468,300 with an increase of £5.47 per household.
  - 3% rise would equate to a precept of £470,577 per household with an increase of £6.32.
- viii. The Policy and Resources Committee agreed to recommend to Full Council a precept rise of 2% resulting in £214.84 for a Band D property, with an expenditure of £566,448. (as outlined in Report No 1b).
- ix. The projected income target would be £81,349, with a shortfall of £19,099 to be taken from reserves as required.

**Recommendations**

- x. Subsequently since the Policy and Resources Committee meeting the funds held in the previously Joint Burial Fund pertaining to Malmesbury Town Council have been transferred into the main Council account. These funds of £41,000 have

been provisionally allocated this as an Ear Mark Reserve for 'projects' not yet specifically provided for in this year's budget preparations; for subsequent allocation and approval by the Policy and Resources Committee as required.

- xi. It should also be noted that the 'Town Team' budget line has been extended to include 'economic development'; and that this overall budget usage should be decided pending the status of the Town Team, and the wider work of the Council in relation to supporting the High Street and local economy at the appropriate time.
- xii. Some re-configurations of the budget set up have been included, attributing some stated budget lines to the Policy and Resources Committee, in line with the 'small grants' delegated responsibility. This is to clarify the powers of the Council by which this use of the council tax is used specifically in relation to s137 of the Local Government Act 1972, and to ensure the overall allowance can be clearly reported.
- xiii. The Councils is asked to consider and agree the budget and precept for 21/22, and to note the recommendations.

Richard Spencer- Williams – Town Clerk 9.12.20

### **Legal Power**

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<sup>i</sup> Local Government Finance Act 1992 s41

<sup>ii</sup> Local Government Act 1972 s112