Oakham Town Council

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**MINUTES OF AN EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF OAKHAM TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 22nd JANUARY 2025 AT 6.30 P.M. IN THE TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Cllrs: A Douthwaite, P Ainsley, C. Nix, S-A Wadsworth, M Brookes, C Clark.

 **ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:** Kathy Geraghty (Deputy Clerk).

Cllr Ainsley opened the meeting and welcomed all present.

**For the duration of this evening's meeting** and IAW with Standing Orders para 3i, and as Chairman I waive the requirement to stand when speaking unless you wish to do so.

**The meeting will be recorded.**

**01/25–14 APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCES:** Cllrs S Pryer, H Williams are indisposed. Proposed by Cllr Clark, seconded Cllr S-A Wadsworth, carried.

**01/25–15 DECLARATION OF MEMBERS’ INTERESTS AND APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATION:** Reminder to Members to disclose either a Pecuniary Interest or Other Interest in any item on the agenda. The clerk cannot advise members on this. Members are personally responsible for declaring an interest. Members are respectfully advised to read the Code of Conduct for more information. Councillors are also responsible for ensuring that their Registers of Interests are up to date (within 28 days of any changes) None.

**01/25–16 DEPUTATIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:** An opportunity for members of the public to speak in accordance with Standing Orders. None.

**01/25–17 MINUTES:** To confirm the accuracy of the minutes from the meeting held on 8th January 2025.Proposed by Cllr S-A Wadsworth, seconded by Cllr Douthwaite, carried.

**01/25–18 CHAIRMANS, CLERK & MEMBERS REPORTS:**

**Friday, January 17th,** I had the honour of attending Councillor Buxton's funeral at the Great Glen Crematorium. The service was a deeply moving and fitting tribute.

Councillor Buxton's contributions to our community were significant. His legacy will be remembered and cherished by all who had the privilege of knowing him. Our thoughts and sympathies are with his family and loved ones during this difficult time.

**Other activities:
On Thursday, January 16th,** I had the pleasure of meeting with representatives from the **Ukrainian Rotary Club** to examine ways of establishing closer working relationships with British charities that support armed forces veterans and their families.

**On Tuesday, 20th January,** met with the **Twinning Association** to reflect on last year's activities and to progress events over the coming year. Attendees: CC, PA.

**On Tuesday 21st January Town Centre** meeting at the Wisteria Hotel with retailers, RCC: Attendees from OTC: PA, CN. SAW, CC, MB**,** Town and deputy clerk.

**Immediate Future Activities:**

**Town Centre Place Shaping event has been moved from Feb 3rd to Feb 10th**Morning Walk about Oakham and afternoon in RCC discussion with RCC, OTC and consultants Placemake.

**Clerks Report**

The Deputy Clerk updated the councillors of a request to use Cutts Close by Hollands Funfair from Sunday 27th April 2025 until Monday 5th May 2025.

Also, the Baptist Church have a team over from Texas & requested use of Cutts Close on the 8th June 2025, everyone agreed.

**01/25-19 BUDGET AND PRECEPT 2025-26:**

**6.1** A precept demand to be presented to Rutland County Council of £293,794. An increase of 4.8% from the previous year.

Proposed by Cllr Douthwaite, seconder Cllr Clark fore x 4 Against x1 Cllr Brooke Abstained x 1 carried.

**6.2** Maintaining Operational and General reserves of £119,386.

Proposed by Cllr Douthwaite, seconder Cllr Brookes, carried, 1 x abstention.

Chairman and Deputy Chair swap chairs at 18.51pm

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Budget FY 2026 | **Budget** | **Outturn** | **Budget** |
| **FYE 2025** | **FYE 2025** | **FY 2026** |
| **EXPENDITURE** |
| **General Administration** |
| Salaries, pensions, payroll management etc. | 80,000 | 75,000 | 80,400 |
| Members Allowances | 2,000 | 3,000 | 9,500 |
| Rent & NNDR | 11,000 | 11,000 | 17,850 |
| Offices and toilet consumables | 2,675 | 2,675 | 1,900 |
| Utilities | 10,000 | 10,000 | 10,500 |
| Insurance | 5,300 | 5,300 | 6,200 |
| Subscriptions LRALC, SLCC etc. | 2,200 | 2,200 | 2,250 |
| Expenses and Travel | 250 | 250 | 250 |
| Training | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,800 |
| Accountancy and Audit | 2,000 | 2,000 | 2,750 |
| Legal Expenses | 3,000 | 3,000 | 8,000 |
| I.T. Support Contract | 1,500 | 1,500 | 4,200 |
| **General Administration Total**  | **121,425** | **117,425** | **145,600** |
| **Contracts and Grants** |
| Grounds Maintenance  | 32,000 | 32,000 | 30,000 |
| Floral Displays | 15,000 | 15,500 | 15,500 |
| Christmas Decorations | 25,000 | 32,000 | 35,000 |
| Toilet Maintenance | 17,500 | 17,500 | 19,000 |
| Inspections - buildings & play areas | 2,000 | 2,000 | 3,000 |
| Grants  | 5,000 | 3,000 | 3,000 |
| **Contracts and Grants Total** | **96,500** | **102,000** | **105,500** |
| **Recreation, Planning & General**  |
| Events/ Promotion/military/banners/paper adve | 10,000 | 9,250 | 11,000 |
| Advertising, tenders council business etc | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,500 |
| Planting and Tree Surgery | 10,000 | 16,000 | 9,000 |
| Additional Maintenance consumables/tools | 1,000 | 1,300 | 500 |
| Street and Park Furniture | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 |
| Planned Maintenance including play equipment | 3,000 | 3,000 | 10,000 |
| Grit Bins | 500 | 500 | 500 |
| **Recreation, Planning & General Total** | **31,000** | **36,550** | **37,500** |
| **Other Expenditure** |
| Bank Charges | 300 | 300 | 300 |
| Community Street Lighting  | 40,000 | 24,465 | 25,000 |
| Oakham Hopper | 27,000 | 27,000 | 27,000 |
| **Other Expenditure Total** | **67,300** | **51,765** | **52,300** |
|  |  |  |  |
| **TOTAL RECURRENT EXPENDITURE** | **316,225** | **307,740** | **340,900** |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **INCOME** |  |  |  |
| Interest Received | 1,500 | 2,000 | 2,000 |
| Bowls Club Rent | 1,000 | 900 | 923 |
| Tennis Club Rent | 1,000 | 1,100 | 1,127 |
| Princess Avenue Building | 8,800 | 10,800 | 10,800 |
| Rutland House Community Trust | 3,300 | 3,300 | 3,416 |
| Cutts Close Lettings | 2,500 | 1,500 | 2,500 |
| Allotment Rents | 750 | 750 | 790 |
|  VAT RETURN | 40,000 | 40,000 | 45,000 |
| Ipod Point | 2,200 | 2,900 | 3,000 |
| **Total Income** | **61,050** | **63,250** | **69,556** |
|   |   |   |   |
| **EXPENDITURE LESS INCOME** | **239,104** | **244,490** | **271,344** |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **FINANCED BY** |  |  |  |
| Expenditure | 239,104 | 286,940 | 271,344 |
| Transfer to reserves | 0 | 42,450 | 22,450 |
| Precept demand to RCC | 280,325 |   | **293,794** |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **EARMARKED RESERVES** | **Budget** | **Expndtr** | **Top up** | **FYE2026** |
| EMR Severe Weather | 15,000 | 1,350 | 1,350  | 15,000 |
| EMR Equipment Replacement | 25,000 | 0 | (10,000) | 15,000 |
| EMR Unplanned Legal Expenses | 15,000 | 0 | (5,000) | 10,000 |
| EMR Elections | 2,000 | 0 | 0 | 2,000 |
| EMR Unplanned Maintenance | 15,000 | 15,000 | 10,000  | 10,000 |
| EMR Operational Reserves (3 months) | 59,776 | 26,100 | 26,100  | 67,836 |
| **TOTAL RESERVES** | **131,776** | **42,450** | **22,450**  | **119,836** |

**01/25-20 PLANNING APPLICATIONS:**

**2025/0021/FUL** 9 Gilmore Close, Oakham, LE15 6FR. Proposed by Cllr Wadsworth, seconder Cllr Clark carried 1 x abstained.

**Meeting Finished 18.58pm**

**DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING: 12th February 2025**

Signed……………………………………….. Date………………………