



WOODBIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

Shire Hall Market Hill Woodbridge Suffolk IP12 4LP
Town Clerk: Ms Kate Lacey MBA MCIPD
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TO MEMBERS OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Cllr Bale	Cllr Rawlings
	Cllr Sutton
Cllr Gillard	Cllr Sylvester
Cllr Holdcroft	Cllr Thompson
Cllr O’Nolan	Cllr Walsh

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the **FINANCE COMMITTEE** to be held at the **SHIRE HALL, WOODBRIDGE** on **TUESDAY 19 NOVEMBER 2019 at 7.00pm** for the transaction of the following business:

Public Attendance

Members of the public and press are welcome to attend. The public will be invited to give their views/question the Town Council on issues on the agenda or raise issues for consideration of inclusion at future meetings. This item will be limited to 15 minutes duration.

AGENDA

- 1. APOLOGIES**
To receive apologies for absence
- 2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST**
Members and officers are invited to make any declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary or Local Non-Pecuniary Interests that they may have in relation to items on the Agenda and are also reminded to make any declarations at any stage during the meeting if it becomes apparent that this may be required when a particular item or issue is considered.
- 3. REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION**
Councillors with a Pecuniary Interest in an item on this Agenda, who wish to remain, speak and/or vote during consideration of that item, may apply for a dispensation in writing to the Town Clerk prior to the meeting. Applications may also be considered at the meeting itself should the nature of the interest become apparent to a Councillor at the time of the meeting.
- 4. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**
15 minutes maximum
- 5. CONFIRMATION OF COUNCIL MINUTES**
To confirm the minutes of the Finance and Staffing Committee held on Tuesday 22 October 2019 – Copies in the Members area and the public area of the website.

Please be aware that the recording of this meeting is probable

6. **TO CONSIDER THE PRELIMINARY DRAFT BUDGET 2020/2021**

To consider the preliminary draft budget for 2020/2021 and agree further work on the budget

7. **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Verbal report by the Chairman

8. **CLOSURE**

To close proceedings and confirm the date of the next meeting scheduled for Tuesday 17 December 2019 at 7 pm



Gordon Mussett
Locum Town Clerk

ITEM 6

TO CONSIDER THE PRELIMINARY DRAFT BUDGET 2020/2021

The preliminary draft budget has been circulated to Members. Attempts have been made to clarify the payments currently made against each budget heading, so that Members have a clearer understanding of the regular, on-going commitments of the Council. Exceptional, un-budgeted expenditure should be met from ear-marked reserves, and it is necessary to ensure that these are topped up annually.

Some items identified, both in the current year, and in the next year, would appear to be ideal candidates for attracting grant funding from external sources, so there is no budget commitment shown against them at this time.

We have not as yet received the definitive number of Band D properties for 20/21 but any increase will only have a minor impact on the Council Tax figure shown in the draft.

In terms of future presentation, once agreed we need to produce a three-year forward forecast. Given our casual income is relatively low, and fixed, this will show future Council Tax increases above whatever rate of inflation is applied. For 20/21 a rate of inflation on expenditure has been estimated at 3%.

For a little over £2/week the average family unit in Woodbridge can enjoy the Council's parks and green spaces, the amazing vistas from the Whistocks development, access to information about other local services, and the confidence that the Town Council is caring for their future, both in its climate change awareness-raising (and implementing) measures, but also in trying to ensure that future development is appropriate.