# SLAUGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

**Finance & Policy Meeting MINUTES**

**15th January 2024 –at 6.00pm The Sports Pavilion, High Street, Handcross**

***Sally Mclean - Clerk to the Council Email*** [***clerk@slaughampc.co.uk***](mailto:clerk@slaughampc.co.uk) ***Website:*** [***http://www.slaughampc.co.uk***](http://www.slaughampc.co.uk/)

**Press and Public are welcome to attend - *Public attendance at Parish Council meetings -*** *The Parish Council is an open and transparent local authority and encourages public attendance at meetings. However, the Council is maintaining COVID precautions. You should not attend a meeting in person if: -*

* *you have coronavirus symptoms: a high temperature, loss or change to sense of smell or taste, a new continuous cough.*
* *if you have tested positive for COVID-19 or are waiting for a test result.*

***Keeping us all safe****: When you attend the meeting, keep yourself and others safe by following the Government’s guidance at all times.*

Present: **Cllr’s David Dunn, Gary Marsh Lorette Holborn, Bob St George**

1. Apologies for absence -To receive and accept apologies for absence **Cllr Eric Prescott, Cllr Jane MacNaughton**
2. Declarations of Interest: To note any declarations of interest: **None**
3. Minutes of the meeting of Finance & Policy Committee **27th November 2023**: To receive and adopt the minutes. Proposed Cllr David Dunn second Cllr Bob St George Approved **RESOLVED**
4. Adjournment for questions from the public: The committee is to consider whether to adjourn the meeting in accordance with clause 1(d) of Standing Orders, in order to receive questions from members of the public. **None Present**
5. Matters arising from the Minutes – To note any matters arising from the minutes. **None**

Cllr Bob St George joined the meeting 6.15pm

1. Financial Monitoring - Members to review the income and expenditure against budget 2023/24 to include reserves position:
   1. Ref: Detailed Income & Expenditure by Budget Heading
   2. Ref: Income and Expenditure Account
   3. Ref: Summary Income & Expenditure by Budget Heading
   4. Ref: Trial Balance/Balance Sheet
   5. Ref: Bank Reconciliation Statement/s

Proposed Cllr Gary Marsh Second Cllr Bob St George Approved **RESOLVED**

1. Report Expenditure Differences – The committee is asked to consider variances since previous review:

Members agree the following amendments to the budget:

* Inclusion of Warninglid Recreation Ground - Interim figure of £2k – New Code 4397.
* Reduce Neighbourhood Plan Code 4610 of by £7000 from £8150 to £1150 – The next review is not anticipated until 2025/26 in line with the adoption of the Mid Sussex District Local Plan

Proposed Cllr David Dunn Second Cllr Bob St George **Approved RESOLVED**

1. To approve December 2023 Bank Reconciliation Proposed Cllr David Dunn Second Cllr Gary Marsh **Approved RESOLVED**
2. Members to consider Tax Base Information provided. *A tax base is***the total value of all of the assets, income, and economic activity that can be taxed***by a taxing authority, usually a government.* Proposed Cllr David Dunn Second Cllr Lorette Holborn **Approved RESOLVED**
3. Members are asked to review and approve the current year to date budget and expenditure for 2023/24: *Slaugham BAND D Council TAX £2,134.97 / 2023/24 Slaugham £76.34*
   1. Review the latest budget position: Approved RESOLVED
   2. To consider the reserves: Approved RESOLVED
   3. To consider the budget forecast for 2024/25 and resolve to agree the final precept figure for approval at Full Council on the 25th January 2024 – £139000k

The members acknowledge the cost-of-living crisis, their position in maintaining the constancy of current services; alongside delivering future enhancement projects within the villages in conjunction with the future housing/land development an economic growth within the Parish.

The Committee recommend that the precept for the year 2023/24 increase by £3k from £136000k to £139000k. The tax base of 1860.3 an increase of 78.9 in 2024/25

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Tax Base** | **Precept** | **Band D** | **Increase** |
| **Current 2023/24** | 1781.4 | **£136000** | £ 76.34 |  |
| **Recommended 2024/25** | 1860.3 | **£139000** | £74.72 | £3000.00 |

This will present a reduction of approx. £1.62 per household.



Proposed Cllr David Dunn Second Cllr Bob St George **Approved RESOLVED**

1. To note items arising after the preparation of this Agenda which the Chairman agrees to take as urgent. Such matters will be for noting only or deferral to a future meeting only. **None**
2. Matters that members wish to raise for future discussion: **None**
3. Date of Next Meeting: 18th March TBC

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*Protocol for filming and recording at public meetings: The Council has a protocol for public filming, recording and photography at its meetings, which is available on the Council’s website or on request from the Parish Office*.