

**Town Council Meeting
Thursday, 18 January 2024**

Present: Councillors Bacon, Bates, Dodson, Fernie, Hardacre, Kendall, McGinnies, S Middleton, V Middleton, Ogunade, Rushmer, Stephens, Whitehead, and the Acting Town Clerk.

Seven members of the public were in attendance.

This meeting was simultaneously livestreamed and recorded via Zoom.

219 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies for absence were received.

220 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest other than those already declared in members' respective register of interests. One councillor noted that they might be indirectly affected by a proposal to donate to Fitzwilliam Army Cadets.

221 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

It was resolved that the items in exclusion should be taken at the end of the meeting as their consideration would likely delay the public's involvement in the meeting.

222 INCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

Resolved that the public and the press be re-admitted to the meeting following the conclusion of the consideration of business of a confidential nature.

223 TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS

The minutes of the council meeting 21 December 2023 as detailed in the minute book (2023-24) were approved as a true and accurate record.

The minutes of the leisure & recreation committee meeting 04 January 2024 as detailed in the minute book (2023-24) were approved.

224 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

- a) The payment of accounts for October 2023 was moved and approved.
- b) The payment of accounts for November 2023 was moved and approved.

225 INCOME

- a) The council's income for October 2023 was noted and approved.
- b) The council's income for November 2023 was noted and approved.

226 LEISURE & RECREATION COMMITTEE

- a) The appointment of a chair, Cllr Becca Rushmer and a deputy chairman, Cllr Rob Oldroyd of the leisure & recreation committee were approved.
- b) The addition of Cllr Stephens as a new member of the leisure & recreation committee was agreed and approved.

227 DRAFT BUDGET 2024-25

A draft budget for 2024-25, based on a 5.5% increase was discussed. It was agreed that a further update be provided with a 6.5% and 8% increase of the band D at the next council meeting for consideration and approval.

228 CHARGES 2024-25

It was agreed to review the council's charges for 2024-25.

229 COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

It was agreed to review the council's communications and public relations.

230 DONATION

A donation to the Fitzwilliam Army Cadets of £250 was moved, seconded and approved.

231 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were public questions regarding the 2024-25 budget, and an item that was to be considered in exclusion.

232 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

A number of items were returned to which were of a confidential nature, and thus advisable that the public and press be excluded, and they were instructed to withdraw.

233 PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

The payment of accounts for January 2024 was approved in accordance with the procedures agreed under minute no. 86 (11/7/95).

234 PLANNING MATTER

Councillors were given an update on a Section 106 matter.

235 COUNCILLOR TRAINING

It was agreed and approved that a training program for councillors be drawn up and circulated.

The meeting closed at approximately 20:50.