

# Buckinghamshire Council High Wycombe Town Committee

### **Minutes**

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE HIGH WYCOMBE TOWN COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY 1 FEBRUARY 2021 IN MICROSOFT TEAMS (REMOTE), COMMENCING AT 6.30 PM AND CONCLUDING AT 7.30 PM

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

K Ahmed, Z Ahmed, A Baughan, L Clarke OBE, M Clarke, R Farmer, S Graham, T Green, D Hayday, A Hill, A Hussain, M Hussain, M Hussain JP, M Knight, W Mallen, R Raja, S Raja and J Wassell

#### **OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE**

J Durkan, A Begley, R Prashar, D Harvey, M Dickman, M Strevens and A Sherwood

#### **Agenda Item**

#### 1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Nigel Teesdale.

(Cllr Sebert Graham attended the meeting and apologies for absence were recorded incorrectly).

#### 2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

#### 3 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting of the meeting held on 19 January 2020 were agreed.

#### 4 SPECIAL EXPENSES BUDGET

Following the previous meeting members considered a revised report outlining the proposed budget for Special Expenses for 2021/22 and the impact on the precept of the unparished area of High Wycombe.

Members had provided questions and received responses in advance of the meeting, and a copy of these would be attached to the minutes once published. Members raised a number of clarifications to the answers and responses were provided where possible.

Members raised concern on a number of points including the increase of the Band D Council Tax, recreation grounds, allotments, maintenance charges, and the cost of the computer system regarding allotments. Also, that not all of the questions had been answered adequately with some Members stating that the officers employed by the Council did not understand the special expenses budget for High Wycombe.

The presenting officer suggested (as he had at the last meeting) that a sub-committee be set up in the autumn so that members could be actively involved in the preparation of the Special Expenses budget for 2022/23. Arrangements would be made with members and the Chairman regarding this matter.

It was also noted that a revised Appendix B providing correcting information with regards to the VAT calculation had been circulated.

A discussion was also undertaken with regards to the budget of Aylesbury Town council in comparison the management costs within the Special Expenses budget.

Fees and Charges: Members considered the options outlined in the report. Councillor M Clarke, seconded by Councillor Marten Clarke, proposed to not increase the cemetery costs. After being put to a vote this was agreed by a majority of the Committee.

Council Tax: However, a further proposal was put forward by Councillor Marten Clarke, seconded by Cllr K Ahmed, proposing to not increase the HWTC's Band D Council Tax. After being put to a vote this was agreed by the majority of the Committee and recommended to Cabinet.

#### **RECOMMENDATION TO CABINET:**

- i) That there be no increase in the Fees & Charges relating to Cemeteries in Appendix B.
- ii) That there be no increase to the HWTC's Band D Council Tax for 2021/22.

## **HIGH WYCOMBE TOWN COMMITTEE Appendix B - Schedule of Fees & Charges 2021/22**

Service	Proposed Charges as at				Proposed Charges at			
	1 April 2020				1 April 2021			
	Net	Vat	Gross		Net	Vat	Gross	
COMMUNITIES								
LEISURE								
Football Pitch Senior	£31.67	£6.33	£38.00		£32.50	£6.50	£39.00	
Changing Room, Nets & Pegs Senior	£25.00	£5.00	£30.00		£25.83	£5.17	£31.00	
Football Pitch Junior	£15.83	£3.17	£19.00		£16.67	£3.33	£20.00	
Changing Room, Nets & Pegs Junior	£12.50	£2.50	£15.00		£12.50	£2.50	£15.00	
Football Pitch Mini	£8.33	£1.67	£10.00		£8.33	£1.67	£10.00	
Changing Room Mini	£12.50	£2.50	£15.00		£12.50	£2.50	£15.00	
Football Pitch 9v9	£15.83	£3.17	£19.00		£16.67	£3.33	£20.00	
Changing Room 9v9	£12.50	£2.50	£15.00		£12.50	£2.50	£15.00	
ALLOTMENTS								
125m2	£24.00	0	£24.00		£25.00		£25.00	
250m2	£48.00	0	£48.00		£49.00		£49.00	
125m2 without water	£18.00	0	£18.00		£19.00		£19.00	
250m2 without water	£36.00	0	£36.00		£37.00		£37.00	
125m2 60+	£12.00	0	£12.00		£12.00		£12.00	
250m2 60+	£24.00	0	£24.00		£25.00		£25.00	
CEMETERIES								
Burial Rights - adult	£771.00	0	£771.00		£794.00		£794.00	
Burial Rights - child	£386.00	0	£386.00		£398.00		£398.00	
Burial Rights - ashes	£450.00	0	£450.00		£464.00		£464.00	
Interment - adult	£343.00	0	£343.00		£353.00		£353.00	
Interment - child	£0.00	0	£0.00		£0.00		£0.00	
Interment - ashes	£181.00	0	£181.00		£186.00		£186.00	
Concrete chamber **	£680.00	0	£680.00		£720.00		£720.00	
Additional Saturday fee	£280.00	0	£280.00		£288.00		£288.00	
Memorial permit - adult	£206.00	0	£206.00		£212.00		£212.00	
Memorial permit - child	£101.00	0	£101.00		£104.00		£104.00	
Memorial permit - ashes	£101.00	0	£101.00		£104.00		£104.00	
Right to erect Kerb/Headstone - Adult	£206.00	0	£206.00		£212.00		£212.00	
Right to erect Kerb/Headstone - Child	£101.00	0	£101.00		£104.00		£104.00	
Right to erect vase/tablet - ashes	£101.00	0	£101.00		£104.00		£104.00	
Right to add inscription after first	£39.00	0	£39.00		£40.00		£40.00	
Transfer of Rights	£26.00	0	£26.00		£27.00		£27.00	
Certified Copy of records	£26.00	0	£26.00		£27.00		£27.00	
Replacement Deed	£26.00	0	£26.00		£27.00		£27.00	
Grave maintenance - annual	£55.00	0	£55.00		£57.00		£57.00	
Rights transfer/record copies	£26.00	0	£26.00		£27.00		£27.00	
Interment - extra large coffin/casket	£159.00	0	£159.00		£164.00		£164.00	
Grave reservation - booking fee	£237.00	0	£237.00		£244.00		£244.00	
Grave reservation - annual charge	£184.00	0	£184.00		£190.00		£190.00	

<sup>\*\*</sup> To recover cost of 100 concrete chambers which cost £72,000

