

THRAPSTON TOWN COUNCIL

Mayor: Cllr Karen Draycott

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**Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance & Devolution Committee
held on Tuesday 19th November 2019 at 7.15pm at the Town Council Office**

**Present: Cllr Strode-Willis (Chairman), Cllr Cribb, Cllr Draycott,
Cllr Wilcox, Cllr Winter**

In attendance: Linda Marshall (Clerk)

No.	Item	Action	By Whom
1.	Apologies for absence Cllr Wheeler tendered his apologies so he could continue working on the computer systems following the cyber-attack. He would however brief the meeting on Agenda Item 7. Cllr Wheeler's apologies were accepted. No further apologies were received		
2.	Declaration of Interest None.		
3.	Public Open Time None.		
4.	To approve the Minutes of the Finance & Devolution Committee meeting dated 15th October 2019 Resolved that the Minutes of the Finance & Devolution Committee meeting dated 15 th October 2019 be confirmed as a true record.		
5.	To receive, review and approve the Financial Reports for October 2019 Questions were answered. Resolved that the Financial Reports for October be accepted, as attached at Appendix 1.		
6.	To receive and authorise the payments due in November 2019 Resolved that the list of payments for November 2019 be approved, as attached at Appendix 2.		
7.	To receive a proposal from Board Effect regarding paperless meetings using a board management platform. To consider the proposal and agree action The proposal to move to a board management platform was discussed - it was noted that this would remove the need for meeting papers to be stored on the server, thus removing the		

	connection problems members had been experiencing. Instead it would be cloud based. The proposal with the minutes package at £9,000 per annum was considered high. Discussions took place on the benefits to the staff and the benefits to the councillors. It was resolved to defer any consideration to change to a different system for the short to medium term.		
8.	<p>Budget Planning 2020/21: To review the amended budget and consider the points raised by NCALC in terms of devolved services and an LGR fund. To agree any further amendments to be made to the budget, taking into account the figure for Band D equivalent properties in Thrapston, with a view to the final budget being presented to Full Council at its meeting on the 10th December for approval</p> <p>Following the adjustments made at last month's meeting the revised budget was reviewed. Taking into account the advice from NCALC to have a fund for LGR (Local Government Reorganisation) and devolved services (given that it was uncertain what services might be lost in our area that we may wish to pick up) it was resolved to include a sum of £18,000 in the budget – approximately 5%. The figure for Band D equivalent properties in Thrapston was noted at 2423, an increase on last year of 179. From calculations undertaken, it was noted that despite an overall increase in budget of approx. 10.11% it would show as an increase to residents of 1.97% on their Council Tax bill. The final budget was agreed to take to Full Council on the 10th December for approval.</p>	Update budget. Agenda FTC 10/12/19	Clerk
9.	<p>To review the amended earmarked funds, agree any final changes to be made with a view to the final document being presented to Full Council at its meeting on the 10th December for approval</p> <p>It was noted that a further £585 was being taken from reserves as approved by the Planning Committee to cover the cost of the foundation works for the new shed at the cemetery. It was further noted that an adjustment was needed against the cost of the Mayor and Deputy Mayor's Chains of Office – this was to be adjusted against the IT figure. With the amendments above the final version of the earmarked funds was agreed for presenting to Full Council on the 10th December.</p>	Update earmarked funds. Agenda FTC 10/12/19	Clerk
10.	<p>To receive the Internal Auditor's Interim Report and note the comments</p> <p>Members were pleased to note there were no issues arising.</p>		
11.	<p>Clerk's report (for noting)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To note the next meeting of the Committee will be held on Tuesday 17th December 2019 at 6.15pm ahead of the Personnel Committee meeting at 7.15pm. 		
15.	<p>Chairman's comments</p> <p>The Chairman thanked everyone for looking at the budget in detail.</p>		
	There being no further business the meeting closed at 20:10.		

Signed

Dated

Appendix 1

Appendix 2