CRONTON PARISH COUNCIL





Minutes of the meeting of the **Finance and Policy Committee** held on **20 January 2020** at the Parish Council Office, 7 Hampton Drive, Cronton, commencing at 8.11 pm.

Present: Councillors Will Cook (Chairman), D Bray, S Cooper, J Foran, G McGann, G Pentin, D Rostance and D Thomas

In attendance: Vitti Osborne (The Clerk)

1 member of the public

25. APOLOGIES

All members were present.

26. <u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u>

It was reported that no declarations of interest were received.

27. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

It was resolved to accept the minutes of the Finance and Policy Committee meeting held on **9 December 2019** as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

28. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no matters raised by the member of the public.

29. PRECEPT 2020/21

A draft precept 2020/21 incorporating the following recommendations by the Working Group was presented to members for consideration.

- Clerk's salary budget increased by 2% (to be confirmed by NJC)
- Office cleaning national living wage £8.72/hr
- Council insurance increased to £1,510 (insurance claim 2019/20 and excess)
- Audit fees increased to £400 (annual return subject to internal and external audit)
- Mobile phone reduced to £20 (changed from contract to PAYG)
- Website budget to be adjusted (website review in 2020)
- Replacement photocopier new budget item or photocopying budget to be adjusted
- Christmas increased to £600 (new tree lights)

Tax Base (band-D equivalent properties) for 2020/21 = 447

A Council website review would take place in 2020 for the purpose of updating it to meet current requirements. The 17 year-old photocopier could no longer be serviced for years and the quality of the printouts was poor, it therefore needed to be replaced. A discussion took place on how to finance the budget increases which were necessary for the Council to continue to serve the Parish effectively and efficiently in 2020/21. The final precept would be further discussed and approved at the next Council Meeting on 17 February 2020.

The meeting closed at 8.24 pm.

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Signed	Date	2 March 2020