

MINUTES OF BUDGET WORKING GROUP MEETING

HELD 22 OCTOBER 2015

Present: Cllrs: Bibby, T Hill, Hirst (Chair), Hore and Thompson, Chief Executive, Director of Resources, Director of Community Services, Head of Financial Services.

1 Apologies

Cllrs: Knox and Rogerson

2 Minutes of meeting held on 10 September 2015

2.1 Members approved the minutes of the last meeting of the Budget Working Group.

3 Calculation of Council Tax Base 2016/17

3.1 The Director of Resources presented a report on the calculation of the council tax base for the financial year 2016/17.

3.2 The various elements of the calculation of the tax base were explained and also the flexibilities under the Local Government Finance Act 2012 were reviewed. There were no proposals to change the council's discounts for 2016/17.

3.3 The impact of Local Council Tax Support on the tax base was explained, together with details of the grant that was proposed to be passed on to parishes. The grant was reducing in recognition of the cut in the council's government funding. Overall, £5,750 would be distributed to parishes in 2016/17.

3.4 The provisional council tax base for 2016/17 was 22,024.

4 Overall Revenue Monitoring 2015/16

4.1 The Head of Financial Services took members through a report on overall revenue monitoring for the first 6 months of 2015/16. The report covered the main areas of employee costs, fees and charges, and interest.

4.2 Overall, the variances for the period up to the end of September were favourable, with a net saving/additional income of £294,700 based on the areas covered in the report.

4.3 The main reasons for the variance were increased income from planning fees and trade waste, together with staff savings experienced across a number of services.

5 DCLG Permanent Secretary's Newsletter – October 2015

5.1 A copy of the DCLG permanent secretary's newsletter had been circulated for information. There was a general discussion around its contents.

6 Any Other Business

6.1 The Chief Executive updated members on progress with the acquisition of a site for Industrial Development.

7 Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting was planned as:

- Thursday 26 November at 4.30pm – Committee Room 1