

# **FARINGDON TOWN COUNCIL**

The Corn Exchange, FARINGDON, Oxfordshire, SN7 7JA

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[www.faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk)

Clerk: Sally Thurston



## **Minutes of a Town Council meeting**

**held on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2016 at 7.15pm pm in the Jubilee Room, the Pump House, Faringdon.**

**PRESENT: Cllrs.**

**Dr Mike Wise (Chairman and Town Mayor)**  
**David Barron**  
**Jane Boulton**  
**Al Cane**  
**James Famakin**  
**Julie Farmer**  
**Angela Finn**  
**Mark Greenwood**  
**Steve Leniec**  
**Andrew Marsden**  
**Patrick Middleton**  
**David Price**

**In Attendance: Sally Thurston, Town Clerk**

**1/2/16 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Cllrs. Alex Meredith and Ian Bell  
D/Cllr. Roger Cox. C/Cllr. Judith Heathcoat

**2/2/16 Minutes of last meeting: Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2016.**

The minutes were signed as a correct record of the meeting.

**3/2/16 Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of interest were made at this time.

**4/2/16 Public Question Time**

None

**5/2/16 Public Speaking Time**

None

**6/2/16 Precept 2016/17**

The Council received the recommended budget and precept requirement of £339,496 which equated to a 2% rise from the Finance and Audit Committee meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2016. A suggestion had been put forward of a further 1% rise to fund a member of staff one day per week to achieve a tidier Faringdon, which could include weeding pavements and sign cleaning. Cllrs Leniec and Wise had canvassed opinion on this proposal in the Town Centre on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> January and the overwhelming response from residents had been in favour, provided it made a difference to the way Faringdon looked. The Town Meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> January also

voted in favour of the further 1% rise. This would result in a precept request of £342,996, equivalent to a rise of 3%.

Cllr. Price expressed concerns that the levels of reserves held by the council had not been reviewed following a change in legislation. He asked that this take place in the next financial year using cash flow forecasts and a risk assessment. This was AGREED.

Cllr Greenwood expressed concern about the cumulative increase in Council Tax and the additive burden on the residents of Faringdon.

Cllr. Leniec PROPOSED that the Council approve the 2016 / 2017 budget and the amended precept request of £342,996, £128.34 per band D Household.

This was SECONDED by Cllr. Marsden and CARRIED.

**7/2/16**

### **Calendar of Meetings**

Members received the DRAFT the calendar of meetings for April 2016 to March 2017. It was PROPOSED that this be approved. This was SECONDED and CARRIED.