



# Cyngor Tref Abergele Town Council

## MINUTES

A meeting of the Estimates Sub-Committee was held on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2023 by remote attendance.

370/23 **Attendance Register**

The Mayor, Cllr. C. McCoubrey;  
Cllrs: D. Fetherstonhaugh; D. Green; A Hunter; T. Jones (non-member);  
P. Luckock; A. Wood;  
Mrs M. J. Evans (Town Clerk)

371/23 **Apologies for Absence**

None

372/23 **Declaration of Interest**

- Members were reminded that they must declare the **existence** and **nature** of any personal interests (using the form provided for this purpose).

None were declared

373/23 **Minutes**

**It was RESOLVED to Receive, Approve and Sign the Minutes of the Estimates Committee Meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2022.**

PROPOSED by Cllr. D. Fetherstonhaugh

SECONDED by Cllr. A. Hunter

374/23 **Annual Estimates 2024/25**

a) **Expenditure:**

- (i) It was NOTED that the Annual Grants for 2024/25 Grants will be received, considered and approved in the New Year
- (ii) The estimated expenditure of the Council for 2024/25 was CONSIDERED as detailed in the Revised Draft Estimates. Members requested that the following items were amended as NOTED:

4031 Light, Heat & Water	decreased from £32000 to £25000
4086 Elections	decreased from £8k to £5500
108 Christmas Decorations	decreased from £48k to £45k
Ward Allocation	decreased from £8k to £0
4115 CCTV	increased from £2940 to £3300
4117 Match funding for toilets	decreased from £20k to £10k

b) **Income:**

- (i) The estimated income for 2024/25, excluding the precept was CONSIDERED as detailed in the Draft Estimates provided by the Clerk. Members requested that the following is considered:



The inclusion of £25k for the VAT refund. The Clerk informed members that the VAT refund has never been included previously and is not included in the expenditure figures. It was RECOMMENDED to include the figure pending clarification by the Auditor.

- (i) The fees and charges applicable from April 2024 to March 2025 were RECEIVED, CONSIDERED and it was RECOMMENDED to increase the current charges for 2023/24 for Hall Hire by 5% rounded up due to the increase in heating/lighting and other costs.
  
- c) **Transfers to / from reserves:**
  - (i) The Council's policy regarding the level of reserves held and that the Council aims to continue to retain a minimum general reserve of a minimum of 25% and a maximum of 100% of the annual precept was NOTED. A copy of the Policy was RECEIVED.
  - (ii) The Annual Investment Strategy for 2024/25 was REVIEWED.
  
- d) **Precept**
  - (i) The recommended level of increase/decrease in the precept was REVIEWED. **It was RESOLVED to RECOMMEND to full Council that the precept for 2024/25 is set as £348,286 an increase of £15,734 from the 2023/24 precept of £332,552. This increase is to be able to continue to budget for future expenditure such as the running costs, Fireworks, Christmas Decorations and free Car Parking. The average 'Band D' will therefore increase from £66.29 to £68.29, and that the estimated shortfall of income to expenditure of £115,784 is taken from the Council's general reserve, pending clarification on the VAT refund. It was FURTHER RESOLVED to REFER the DRAFT ESTIMATES for 2024/25 to the full Council for approval.**

Meeting Closed at 8:20pm

Signed .....  
Chairman)