

**Lowestoft Town Council**  
**Meeting of the Budget and Loan Sub-Committee**  
**Via Video Meeting**  
**14:00 on 21 December 2020**

**MINUTES**

**Video meeting participants:** Cllrs Sue Barnard, Alan Green (Chair), Graham Parker and Andy Pearce

**Also participating:** Sarah Foote (Deputy Clerk), James Cox (Finance and Administration Assistant) and Lauren Elliott (Committee Clerk)

**101. Welcome**

Councillors and members of the public were reminded of the right to report and the application of the video meeting protocol, and the meeting was welcomed.

**102. Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr Neil Coleby. Cllr Pearce proposed acceptance of the apologies; seconded by Cllr Parker; all in favour.

**103. Declarations of Interests and dispensations**

There were none.

**104. Receipt of any comments and noting that the draft minutes of the meeting on 14 December 2020 will be considered at the next appropriate meeting**

The draft minutes were noted.

**105. Any advance comments from the public on any matters on this agenda**

There were no comments.

**106. The 2020 – 2021 Lowestoft Town Council Budget, including the following:**

106.1 The adequacy of the Repairs and Maintenance budget, including any additional repair costs (confidential) – To be discussed during the confidential session.

**107. The 2021 – 2022 Lowestoft Town Council Budget, including the following:**

107.1 The adequacy of the Repairs and Maintenance budget, including any additional repair costs (confidential) – To be discussed during the confidential session.

107.2 The budget structure and any further budget variations – This item required discussion as part of the confidential, as it referred to item 107.1 as well.

**108. Date of the next meeting**

Monday 4 January 2021 14:00 – It was queried whether a meeting is required on 4 January, as the Sub-Committee would be meeting on 11 January, prior to the Finance and Governance Committee, and on 18 and 25 January, prior to the Full Council meeting. This Sub-Committee has made a recommendation to Full Council of a 1.54% reduction in the Town Council's element of the Council Tax bill, compared to the 2020 – 2021 year, and it is unlikely this position will change, however this Sub-Committee would still like to finalise some of the detail, and the Council would also like to see a comparison with a 0% increase on the budget. It was therefore agreed to proceed with the meeting on 4 January.

**109. Items for the next Agenda and Close**

There were no requests for items to be added to the next agenda.

Cllr Pearce proposed moving the meeting into confidential session; seconded by Cllr Parker; all in favour. The Chair thanked those who had been viewing the meeting via live stream and the live stream was closed as the meeting went into confidential session. It was confirmed the meeting would end following the confidential session.

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**110. Resolution to close the meeting to the public**

*Cllr Barnard joined the meeting 14:09*

106.1 The adequacy of the Repairs and Maintenance budget, including any additional repair costs (confidential) – There was a confidential discussion regarding the cost of repair work to the Jubilee Bridge. There was a discussion as to where from the budget the funding contribution to Lowestoft Rising would be made.

107.1 The adequacy of the Repairs and Maintenance budget, including any additional repair costs (confidential) – It was agreed to discuss items 107.1 and 107.2 together. Full Council has approved the draft budget but still needs to sign off the finalised budget. The structure of the budget may change, but this is unlikely to have any impact on the overall figures and previous recommendation. Services have not been cut to decrease the figures, and several individual budgets, such as public conveniences and parks have actually increased. There were confidential discussions regarding the structure of the budget.

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