

HORDEN PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of Meeting held 21st November 2019

Present: Councillor I Roberts (Chairman)
 Councillors C Cain, E Connor, F Leadbitter, I Mclean, D Tait, L Williams.
Staff: K Wilkinson (Clerk to the Council), G Rowe (Deputy Clerk/RFO).

HPC **Apologies for Absence.**
19/20/092 **RESOLVED:** Apologies RECEIVED and APPROVED for Councillors J Clark, W Morrow.

HPC **Declarations of Interest.**
19/20/093 There were no declarations of interest.

HPC **Exclusion of Press and Public.**
19/20/094 **RESOLVED:** that in accordance with Section 2(1) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act, 1960, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve information prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

HPC **NJC Pay Rates 2020/21.**
19/20/095 a) **Joint Trade Union Side to the Local Government Association 2020/21 Pay Claim.**
 Members considered the details of the 2020/21 Claim.
RESOLVED: That the information be NOTED.

At 6:12pm Cllr A Turner entered the Meeting.

b) **Horden Parish Council's 2020/21 Proposed Pay Scales.**
 The Deputy Clerk/RFO advised Members that because the NJC Pay Claim for 2020/21 is still ongoing, and it is highly unlikely a settlement will be reached prior to 2020/21 budget setting, an estimated increase should be factored into the 2020/21 budget.

She further advised that Durham County Council's Employers Pension Contribution Rates are also yet to be agreed and therefore an estimated increase needs to be factored into the 2020/21 budget.

The Deputy Clerk/RFO advised that the exercise was solely for budget setting purposes with pay rates ultimately dependent upon the NJC Pay Claim settlement.

It was RESOLVED:

- i. For budgeting purposes only, a 3% increase on salary grades 2 and over is factored into the 2020/21 Budget.
- ii. For budgeting purposes only, a minimum £10 per hour for Grade 1 is factored into the 2020/21 Budget.
- iii. For budgeting purposes only, Durham County Council's Employers Pension Contribution Rate is estimated at 19.8%.

HPC **Horden Parish Council Medium Term Financial Strategy 2020 to 2025.**
19/20/096 Members discussed their long-term priorities in detail. Using the Medium Term Financial Strategy as a basis for setting the 2020/21 Budget.

It was **RESOLVED:**

- i. From 2020 the annual Teddy Bears Picnic is held on a Saturday to reduce staff costs.
- ii. From January 2020, each Council Agenda includes a standing 'Transformation Agenda' item in order for the Clerk to provide an update.
- iii. The Deputy Clerk/RFO update the 2020/21 Budget to include the confirmation of the LCTRS Grant amount and present Members with three budget options at the next Meeting of the Council.

Meeting concluded at 7:55pm