

**MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF LOUTH TOWN COUNCIL
HELD IN THE OLD COURT ROOM, THE SESSIONS HOUSE, LOUTH
ON TUESDAY 12th FEBRUARY 2019**

Present The Mayor, Councillor G.E. Horton, (GEH) (in the chair).

Councillors: Mrs. E. Ballard (EB), Mrs. D. Blakey (DB), Mrs. S. Crew (SC), J. Garrett (JG), D.J.E. Hall (DJEH), D. Hobson (DH), Mrs. L. Harrison-Wiseman (LHW), R. Jackson (RJ), A. Leonard (AL), M. Locking (ML), Mrs. S.E. Locking (SEL), Mrs. J. Makinson-Sanders (JMS), Mrs. M. Ottaway (MO), F.W.P. Treanor (FWPT), Mrs. P.F. Watson (PFW) and D.E. Wing (DEW).

Councillors not present: D. Ford (DF), C. Green (CG), L.M. Stephenson (LMS) and D. Turner (DT).

The Town Clerk, Mrs. L.M. Phillips and the Town Clerk's Assistant, Mrs. M.C. Vincent were also present.

330. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors: DF, LMS and DT.

331. Declarations of Interest / Dispensations

Councillor AL declared an interest in agenda item 3 as a member of Hubbard's Hills Trust. Councillors Mrs. JMS, Mrs. PFW, RJ, GEH and FWPT declared an interest in item 3 as members of ELDC (the Council Tax collecting authority).

332. Closed Session Item

Following a proposal by Cllr. Mrs. EB seconded by Cllr. Mrs. JMS it was **RESOLVED** to move into closed session in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 due to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed in relation to the following:

a. 2019/20 Precept Application

Cllr. GEH reported that further to precept discussions on 15th January 2019, three Louth Town Councillors had written to the Town Clerk requesting that the precept application be reconsidered by Louth Town Council. The Clerk drew Councillors attention to a tabled document which detailed budget options for 2019/20. The Council proceeded the lengthy process of analysing the options line by line and finally following a proposal by Cllr. AL seconded by Cllr. DEW it was **RESOLVED** to approve a precept request for 2019/20 of £318,524.50. This was a recorded vote and was unanimously agreed by all Councillors present. Further:

- i) Following a proposal by Cllr. Mrs. SC seconded by Cllr. Mrs. JMS it was **RESOLVED** to carry forward all unspent 2018/19 EMR budgets at the end of the year.
- ii) Following a proposal by Cllr. Mrs. SC seconded by Cllr. Mrs. JMS it was **RESOLVED** to vire any remaining balance at year end in the 2018/19 Day to Day Street Furniture budget to the EMR Street Furniture budget.
- iii) Following a proposal by Cllr. Mrs. SC seconded by Cllr. Mrs. JMS it was **RESOLVED** to vire any balance remaining at year end in Day to Day Vehicle Running Costs to EMR Vehicle Replacement budget.
- iv) Following a proposal by Cllr. Mrs. EB seconded by Cllr. AL it was **RESOLVED** to agree that Councillors would receive their summons, agenda, relevant documents and minutes by email as from April 2019.
- v) Following a proposal by Cllr. Mrs. SC seconded by Cllr. Mrs. SEL it was **RESOLVED** to approve the contents of a press release as follows:

Following written requests from three members of the Council, Louth Town Councillors were called to an extraordinary meeting on Tuesday evening to reconsider their previous resolution regarding the precept.

Councillors were keen to have the opportunity to review their previous decision and are pleased to announce that they have now agreed to lower the precept request, meaning that the cost for a Band D property will now be £63.79, which is an annual increase of £9.21 and equates to a weekly increase of just under 18p, compared to last year.

- vi) Following a proposal by Cllr. Mrs. SC, seconded by Cllr. DEW it was **RESOLVED** that the meeting should move back into open session.

333. Next Meeting

Cllr. GEH thanked Councillors for their attendance and the Council noted that the next scheduled meeting of Louth Town Council would take place on 19th February 2019.

The Meeting Closed at 8.53pm.

Signed _____ (Chairman)

Dated _____