

**CRONTON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE**



Minutes of the meeting of the **Finance and Policy Committee** held remotely on **18 January 2021** at 8.12 pm.

**Present:** Councillors S Cooper (Chairman), D Bray, W Cook, J Foran, R Hayes, G McGann, D Rostance and D Thomas

**In attendance:** Ward Councillor R Gaffney (Cronton & Whiston)  
Vitti Osborne (The Clerk)  
Vincent Dooley (Vice-Chairman, Cronton Gala Committee)

29. **APOLOGIES**

All members were present.

30. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

It was reported that no declarations of interest were received.

31. **MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

**It was resolved** to accept the minutes of the Finance and Policy Committee remote meeting held on **14 December 2020** as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

32. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There were no matters raised by members of the public.

33. **PRECEPT 2021/22**

The draft precept was presented to the Committee for consideration. The Chairman went over each proposed items of expenditure for the next financial year. It was agreed to increase the budget for Website Maintenance to £600. The Clerk's salary (NJC scales) remained unchanged. The cost of the Pasture Maintenance for 2021/22 would be further considered.

According to DCLG – The Good Councillor's Guide to Finance and Transparency 2017, a council should typically hold between 3 and 12 months expenditure as a general reserve. The Council worked along this guideline.

The Tax Base for 2021/22 was 457 (10 more than 2020/21), therefore, the precept would be shared by a bigger number of Band-D equivalent properties.

Taking into account the inflation rate and the topping up of the General Reserves, it was recommended to increase the precept for 2021/22 by 2% to a total of £22,775 subject to the full Council's approval on 15 February 2021.

Based on the 2% increase, the parish precept per Band-D equivalent property would be slightly lower than 2020/21.

**The meeting closed at 8.38 pm.**

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date 1 March 2021