

## **RAYNE PARISH COUNCIL**

Clerk to the Council: Mrs Hazel Godfrey Community Information Point, Gore Road, Rayne, Braintree, Essex CM77 6TX Tel: 01376 552489

E: rpc@rayne-essex.gov.uk

W: www.rayne-essex.gov.uk

Minutes of the **Budget & Precept** meeting of Rayne Parish Council held on **Monday 25**<sup>th</sup> **November 2024** at **7.30pm** in the Old School Rooms, Shalford Road for the purpose of

Members present: Cllr M Eldred (Chair) Cllr J Rickwood

Cllr A Hooks (Vice Chair)

Cllr H Lugger

Cllr J Richards

Cllr C Murton

Cllr T Rippingale

Cllr J Nicholls

Members of the Public: 3

transacting the following business:

| MINUTE<br>NUMBER | BUSINESS  |
|------------------|---|
| 24/150           | APOLOGIES   |
|                  | Apologies were noted from Cllr Agutter  |
|                  |   |
| 24/151           | DECLARATION OF INTEREST   |
|                  | Cllr Rippingale declared a non-pecuniary interest as Manager of the Groundsmen.                   |
|                  |   |
| 24/152           | PUBLIC FORUM  |
|                  | There were 3 members of the public present who wanted to put a case forward for grants            |
|                  | in the 2025 budget.   |
|                  |   |
| 24/153           | GRANT APPLICATIONS  |
| 24/153           | To consider the applications for Precept Grants for 2025/26 as follows:                           |
| 24/153.1         | Parochial Church Council of All Saints Rayne – Application for Focus Magazine £1,200              |
|                  | Councillors all agreed to this application  |
| 24/153.2         | Rayne Village Hall – Application for Defibrillator Management £81.00                              |
|                  | Councillors all agreed to this application  |
| 24/153.3         | Rayne Village Hall – Application for CIP Toilets Opening £1,161                                   |
|                  | Councillors all agreed to this application.   |
|                  |   |
| 24/154           | CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGET AND PRECEPT 2025/26  |
| 24/154.1         | To consider and agree the Budget for 2025/26  |
|                  | The budget details were discussed and all Councillors agreed with the final figures.  All agreed. |

| 24/154.2 | To consider and agree the Precept Demand for 2025/26                                    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|----------|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
|          | This was discussed in detail and the rise in percentage of precept was kept as low as   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|          | possible. The PCC income had not yet been finalised or agreed so was not included in    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|          | the figures presented. It was agreed by all Councillors that the precept demand will be |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|          | no more than £63,907.   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 24/155   | REQUIREMENTS OF THE AUDIT REGULATIONS   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 24/155.1 | Appointment of the Responsible Financial Officer (RFO)                                  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 24/133.1 | It was proposed and agreed by all Councillors that the Clerk continues in their role as |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|          | the RFO.  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 24/155.2 | Appointment of the RFO Auditor  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ,        | It was proposed and agreed by all Councillors that Cllr Richards would continue as RFO  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|          | Auditor.  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 24/155.3 | Agreement of Bad Debt Policy  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|          | There were no changes required so all Councillors agreed the existing policy. An up to  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|          | date copy was signed and will be published on the website in due course.                |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 24/155.4 | Agreement of Financial Regulations  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|          | The Model Financial Regulations template produced by the National Association of        |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|          | Local Councils (NALC) in April 2024 were reviewed, amended and circulated prior to the  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|          | meeting. It was agreed by all Councillors that these would now be adopted.              |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 24/155.5 | Agreement of Financial Standing Orders  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|          | There were no changes to the Financial Standing Orders so all Councillors agreed to     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|          | renew the existing orders.  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 24/156   | INTERNAL AUDITOR  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 24/156.1 | To receive the Year End report from Jan Stobart   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 24/130.1 | This was received on the May agenda and no issues were raised. All Councillors          |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|          | agreed to accept the report.  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 24/156.2 | To confirm the appointment letter for Jan Stobart                                       |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 24/130.2 | All Councillors agreed to appoint Mrs Jan Stobart as the internal auditor for 2024/2025 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|          | and she has agreed to audit the accounts.   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|          |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 24/157   | DATE OF NEXT MEETING  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| -        | The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December 2024.   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|          |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 24/158   | CLOSURE   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|          | All business having been transacted the meeting closed at 20.05.                        |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|          |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

| Signed: | : . |     |     |   |    |    |     |    |    |    |    |
|---------|-----|-----|-----|---|----|----|-----|----|----|----|----|
|         | D   | ate | ed: | 2 | nd | De | cei | mb | er | 20 | 24 |