



## BLYTH TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Governance Committee held at 6.30 pm on Tuesday 10 January 2023 in the Council Chamber, Arms Everytyn House, Blyth, NE24 2AS.**

**Present:**

**Councillors:** J R Potts (Chair), W Taylor (Vice-Chair), D Carr, A Cartie, G Davey, S Davey, C Jones, K Nisbet, J Reid, M Richardson, S Stanger, A Watson

**Also Present:** Councillor M Robson

**Officers:**

J Hughes, Town Clerk  
M Wilkinson, Deputy Town Clerk  
Maureen Hawthorne, Committee Clerk

**Other Attendees:** - 0

**Members of the Public – 0**

<b>Minute No</b>	
<b>1</b>	<b>Apologies for Absence</b>  Councillor B Erskine
<b>2</b>	<b>Disclosure Interests and Grant of Dispensations</b>  None
<b>3</b>	<b>Minutes of the Governance Committee held on Thursday 29 September 2022</b>  The minutes were noted as a true record.
<b>4</b>	<b>Actions arising from the Previous Minutes</b>  None.

5	<p><b>Budget Monitoring – All Committees</b></p> <p>Budget monitoring is included in the budget agenda item. There was a query about the cost of “Councillors emails”. The Town Clerk clarified that this is the cost incurred for the server and the set up of secure emails. Agreed to rename the budget head.</p>																																																
6	<p><b>Decision Report – Budget 2023/24</b></p> <p>Members were referred to the decision report and appendices which show the proposed expenditure of the three committees. The Chair moved a number of reductions in budgets as per the table below in order to meet the suggested £50,000 savings. Members unanimously agreed with the motion. There was a lot of discussion about events and how to generate income from them and it was agreed that Officers should explore this further. The Town Clerk reminded members that they will have the opportunity to discuss events in more detail at the Special Community Development Committee on Tuesday 17 January 2023.</p> <p>Members further agreed to a 3% increase in the council tax, from £130.19 to £134.10, this will an increase of less than 8 pence per week for band D properties.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="360 1167 1353 1957"> <thead> <tr> <th>Budget Heading £</th> <th>Original Committee Proposal £</th> <th>Governance Proposal £</th> <th>Saving £</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td colspan="4"><b>Governance Committee:</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Employee Contingencies</td> <td>2,000</td> <td>0</td> <td>2,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rent</td> <td>40,150</td> <td>35,350</td> <td>4,800</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Investment Income</td> <td>-20,000</td> <td>-21,000</td> <td>1,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4"><b>Community Development:</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Blyth Carnival</td> <td>18,000</td> <td>15,000</td> <td>3,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Christmas Festival</td> <td>22,500</td> <td>15,000</td> <td>7,500</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Festive Lighting</td> <td>44,000</td> <td>40,000</td> <td>4,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Blyth Live</td> <td>50,000</td> <td>49,000</td> <td>1,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Community Grants</td> <td>184,000</td> <td>157,300</td> <td>26,700</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>50,000</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Budget Heading £	Original Committee Proposal £	Governance Proposal £	Saving £	<b>Governance Committee:</b>				Employee Contingencies	2,000	0	2,000	Rent	40,150	35,350	4,800	Investment Income	-20,000	-21,000	1,000	<b>Community Development:</b>				Blyth Carnival	18,000	15,000	3,000	Christmas Festival	22,500	15,000	7,500	Festive Lighting	44,000	40,000	4,000	Blyth Live	50,000	49,000	1,000	Community Grants	184,000	157,300	26,700	Total			50,000
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<b>7</b>	<p><b>Any Other Business</b></p> <p>There was no other business to consider.</p>
<b>8</b>	<p><b>Date &amp; Time of Next Meeting</b></p> <p>The next meeting of the Governance Committee will be held on Thursday 27 April 2023 at 6.30 pm in the Council Chamber, Arms Everytne House.</p>
<b>9</b>	<p><b>Part II</b></p> <p>Pursuant to the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960; that in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public excluded, and they are instructed to withdraw.</p>

### **Members of the Governance Committee**

J R Potts (Chair)  
W Taylor (Vice Chair)  
D Carr  
A Cartie  
G Davey  
S Davey  
B Erskine  
C Jones  
K Nisbet  
J Reid  
M Richardson  
S Stanger  
A Watson