



**LAMPETER TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF A FULL COUNCIL BUDGET MEETING
THURSDAY 13th JANUARY 2011 AT 7.30PM
AT THE SHILOH CHAPEL VESTRY LAMPETER**

1. CHAIRPERSON'S WELCOME

The Mayor Cllr. Rob Phillips, extended a welcome to all present and stated that the purpose of the meeting was to gauge the level of the precept (local tax levied by the Town Council), for the next financial year (April 2011-March 2012).

PRESENT:

Mayor R. Phillips; Deputy-Mayor H. Harris;
Town Cllrs: C. Barton; M. Davies Evans; L. Mason-George; S. Walters;
K. Ramaya; C. Thomas D. Wilson & D. Williams.

2. APOLOGIES

An apology for absence was received from Cllr. J. Davies & A. Carter

3. DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL INTEREST

None.

4. THE PRECEPT FOR THE NEXT FINANCIAL YEAR

The Budget Report (attached) was discussed at length. It was unanimously agreed that the precept for the next financial year would remain at the same figure, as the previous year i.e. at £43,220. This represents a payment of £48.60 p.a. and 93 pence per week for the Band D Rate-Payer. Allowing for inflation (at 3%), this figure represents a decrease for the Lampeter rate-payer. The figure has remained the same, but the value, has decreased.

Members felt that running costs could be met within this budget. Additional payments could be met from reserves. The fact that the precept has remained the same (but a decrease in real terms), for the 7th year in succession, can be attributed to the prudent way in which the Town Council has handled its money. The reduction in CCTV payments has also played a significant role in enabling the TC to be effective stewards of the public purse.

The level of reserves was considered (projected figure at 31/03/2011, in the region of £140,000). It was reported that the Town Council could be facing financial challenges in the future, as Britain is facing severe public-spending cuts and is currently in recession.

The amount held in reserves could assist in delivering projects, which would involve additional expenditure to the amount raised, within the remit of the Precept.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

5.1 Temporary Road Closure: Mount Walk Lampeter: 17-21 January 2011: work undertaken by CCC.

5.2 CCC Inter Community Sports' Competition: for information.

6. PLANNING

6.1 Proposal: Proposed agricultural workers mobile home; Land at Lletywpa Farm, Llanfair Rd, Lampeter. Application No: A100559: **No objection by TC.**

6.2 Proposal: Internal refurbishment to HSBC current concept and removal of external night safe; HSBC Harford Square, Lampeter. Application No: A101007: **No objection by TC.**

6.3 Proposal: Replace existing signage with new window advertising: HSBC, Harford Square, Lampeter. Application NO: A101008AV. **No objection by TC.**

Cllr Dorothy Williams felt that some members were disadvantaged when some planning applications were viewed, commented upon and returned, to the CCC, between meetings, by a small party of the TC. This arrangement has been introduced by the TC, in order to comply with County Council's request that all planning applications should be returned within 14 days of the date, which is quoted on their Planning Application letter.

The members, who had not been instrumental in drafting a response, were not made aware of these planning applications until the following meeting.

6.4 Ceredigion CC's LDP: Consultation Process Deposit Local Development Plan (LDP) (2007-2022) – Deposit Consultation 2010 – responses to be submitted by the 17.02.2011.

The meeting ended at 8.55 pm.

**7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:
Thursday 27th January 2011 at 7.30pm at St Peter's Church Hall, Lampeter.**

(Signed: Chairman and date) _____