



**LAMPETER TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF A FULL COUNCIL BUDGET MEETING
THURSDAY 14th JANUARY 2010 AT 7.30PM
AT THE SHILOH CHAPEL VESTRY LAMPETER**

1. CHAIRPERSON'S WELCOME

The Mayor Cllr. Selwyn Walters, 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 2010-March 2011).

PRESENT:

Mayor S. Walters; Deputy-Mayor R. Phillips;
Town Cllrs: C. Barton, E.Dafis; H.Harris, K. Ramaya,
C, Thomas & D. Wilson.

2. APOLOGIES

An apology for absence was received from Cllr. J. Davies, A.Carter, G.Evans, M. Davies Evans, L. Mason-George & D.Williams.

3. DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL INTEREST

None.

4. THE PRECEPT FOR THE NEXT FINANCIAL YEAR

The Budget Report (attached) was discussed and it was resolved that the precept for the next financial year would remain the same as the previous year i.e. at £43,220. This represents a payment of £48.48 p.a. and 93 pence per week for the Band D Rate-Payer.

Members felt that running costs could be met within this budget. The fact that the precept has remained the same for the 6th 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 31/03/2010 £152,000 including the bequest of approximately £11,500). It was reported that the Town Council could encounter financial challenges in the future, as Britain is facing severe public-spending cuts and is currently in recession. Certain services could be withdrawn by the Ceredigion County Council. The money held in reserve, will enable the town council to manage projects eg the leasing of the Maesyderi Field and also, to meet capital items of expenditure.

It was resolved that:

1. A budget of £1,500 would be allocated to the Maesyderi Field Project for its day to day running, without seeking the permission of the full committee. Permission from the full council would be required for large outlays of expenditure.
2. The Mayor's Allowance will be increased automatically, every year in line with inflation.
3. The Clerk will receive a salary increment, every year.

The meeting ended at 8.50 pm.

- 8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Thursday 28th January 2010 at 7.30pm at St Peter's Church Hall, Lampeter.**

(Signed: Chairman and date) _____