



Chepstow Town Council

Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of **Chepstow Town Council**
held via Zoom remote meetings on
Wednesday, 6th January 2021 at 7.00pm

Present:

Chairman: Cllr Tom Kirton (Town Mayor)

Councillors: H Beach, M Brady, A Braund, J Becker, J Brews, C Duchet,
P Hobson, P Pavia, T Redhead, D Rooke, A Watts

Apologies: Y Havard, N Heywood

In Attendance: Lucy Allen (Town Clerk)
Karen Pearce (Administration Officer)

75. Declarations of Interest in items on the agenda.

None.

76. 2021 – 2022 Draft Budget

Members considered the draft revenue budget for 2021/2022 and received an overview from the Chair of the Finance, Policy and Audit Committee. Members noted that at the year-end 2020/2021 the general reserves balance will be predicted to be at 12 months of the gross expenditure spend which is in line with the advice given in the Practitioners Guide of holding between 3 and 12 months. Members discussed the extraordinary circumstance of the current virus on the community and considered how the Council might be able to provide further support through the earmarked emergency grant fund.

Resolved:

To adopt the draft budget recommended by the Finance, Policy and Audit Committee which freezes the budget at its existing level. This will enable the council to continue providing its current services but allow earmarked funds to support local clubs and organisations with Covid related activities in the coming months.

77. Emergency Funding

a. Members considered the report which detailed the background and process taken to date to allocate the emergency funding to support the community during and after the Covid-19 pandemic. Members considered the aims of the fund and the recommendations in the report.

Resolved:

To agree, in principle, to the following allocation of the spend:

£5,000 towards a marketing campaign which will bring together all available services in an online mapping tool;

£30,000 to the Chepstow Cluster of schools to assist with the provision of clothing, IT equipment, general equipment, room hire for Well-being meetings, internet safety campaign;

£20,000 to Churches Together for the provision of food, cookery classes etc;

£20,000 for a smaller emergency grant funding;

£5,000 MIND Monmouthshire for assistance with Covid specific counselling service.

In addition to look at ways of offering support in areas such as fuel poverty, broadband connections, social isolation and loneliness.

b. Members considered the Covid-19 Coronavirus Emergency Funding Application form

Resolved:

To adopt the Covid-19 Coronavirus Emergency Funding Application form.

78. Date of next meeting

To confirm that the next ordinary meeting will be held on **Wednesday 27th January 2021** at 7pm via Zoom online meetings.

CLOSE: This completed the business of the meeting at 8.00pm

SIGNED CHAIR PERSON: _____ DATE: _____