



**Minutes of a Remote Meeting of Ecclesfield Parish Council held
on Monday 21 December 2020 via Zoom Video Conference**

The meeting Commenced: 6.30pm - Concluded: 7.43pm

Councillors Present. John Housley [Chairman], John Brownrigg [Vice-Chairman], Terence Bawden Victoria Bowden, Anthea Brownrigg, Paul Brunt, Kate Guest, Gary Lakin, Alan Hooper, Carol Levery and David Ogle.

Absent Councillors. Tracy Grantham.

Officer. Andrew Towleron – Parish Clerk/RFO [minute taker].

Members of the Public. Four members of the public.

Chairman's Announcement

The Chairman opened the meeting. He outlined the procedure to ensure that the meeting was effective and lawful. He explained that Clerk would be using external recording software to record the meeting for the purposes of aiding minute taking.

2020/101 (FC) Item 101: Apologies and Reasons for Absence

The Clerk stated that he had received an apology from Councillor Tracy Grantham for ill health reasons. The Clerk explained that he had received some comments from Councillor Tracy Grantham on some aspects of the budget.

Proposed by Councillor Terence Bawden and Seconded by Councillor Gary Lakin, and
RESOLVED: That the apology and reason given for Councillor Tracy Grantham is accepted.
(8 in favour)

2020/102 (FC) Item 102: Declarations of Interest

There were none.

2020/103 (FC) Item 103: Exclusion of Press and Public

The Clerk reported that there were no items on the agenda that would require the exclusion of the press and public.

2020/104 (FC) Item 104: Public Participation Session

A member of the public raised several points about the proposed budget for 2021/22 (see item 105i). These included the printing and stationery and Mortomley Park improvement budget heading as well as the proposed increase in the community hall refurbishment and the Chairman's allowance budget headings. The Chairman stated that he would strive to ensure

that these were covered when we came to this item later. She also congratulated the officers on the general quality and detail of the budget proposals and supporting papers.

**2020/105
(FC)**

Item 105. To consider and agree the

- I. **Budget for the financial year 2021/2022.**
- II. **Precept for the financial year 2021/2022**

(i) Budget for the financial year 2021/2022.

The Clerk provided a verbal and written report on the details of the budget setting for the financial year 2021/22, forecast budget outturn for 2020/2021 and recommended precept to cover the budget for the financial year 2021/22. He explained that he had sought to set a sensible and realistic budget adding that the COVID pandemic had complicated this.

The Council reviewed the recommended budget and precept in detail. Several issues in particular were raised.

The Clerk was asked about the £25K proposed increase in the budget for the community hall refurbishment. He explained that this was based on an initial indicative quote he had received but added the works had yet to be subject to a formal tendering process.

He also explained that Cllr Tracy Grantham had suggested that if every group who was eligible in principle for support through the proposed 'RBL, Schools and Bloom Groups' budget heading of £5,000 the proposed amount may not be sufficient to accommodate these. There may be a potential shortfall of about £250. The general view was that the proposed budget should be amended to reflect this.

Councillor Alan Hooper considered that the Council's contribution to the Thorncliffe Leisure Centre should not be shown under the grants subheading especially as the Council was contractually obliged to pay this. The general view was that it would be better if this was not included under this heading.

Reference was also made to the £10,000 it was proposed to be earmarked for the Mortomley Park Improvements (incl. MUGA) from the David Chadwick Memorial Fund. A question was raised whether £3,000 of this had already been drawn down. The Clerk said he would need to look into this.

The Clerk explained that the budget proposals did not include the Grenoside Exhibition Fund, which the Council managed in Trust. This would be the subject of a separate report which would come to the next Finance and Premises meeting and following Full Council meeting.

A question was raised about the Neighbourhood Plan budget on whether this should be lower to reflect the availability of Government and other grants. The Clerk explained that it had kept this figure the same as the previous year mainly to reflect uncertainty about the availability of the Government grants and the implications of COVID on the preparation of the Plan.

Several Councillors commended Council staff on the quality of the budget proposals and supporting evidence.

The general view was that the budget proposals were sound though members would welcome further clarification on the 'RBL, Schools and Bloom Groups' budget heading and £10,000 it was proposed to be earmarked for the Mortomley Park Improvements (incl. MUGA) from the David Chadwick Memorial Fund.

Proposed by Councillor David Ogle and Seconded by Councillor Anthea Brownrigg, and

RESOLVED: That the budget for the financial year 2021/22 shown as attachment 105a (i) be agreed in principle and would be considered further at the 14 January 2021 meeting and following clarification to the suggested RBL, Schools and Bloom Groups and Mortomley Park Improvements budget headings as discussed above.

(8 in favour)

(ii) Precept for the financial year 2021/2022

These was considered. The Clerk noted that the budget proposals discussed above were based on a 0% increase in the precept demand. This was subject to much debate.

Proposed by Councillor David Ogle and Seconded by Councillor John Brownrigg, and
RESOLVED: That there should be no change in the precept demand from Sheffield City Council for the financial year 2021/2022

A Councillor requested that the vote is recorded:

For	Against
Councillor Victoria Bowden	Councillor Terence Bawden
Councillor Anthea Brownrigg	Councillor Paul Brunt
Councillor John Brownrigg	Councillor Gary Lakin
Councillor Kate Guest	
Councillor Alan Hooper	
Councillor John Housley	
Councillor Carol Levery	
Councillor David Ogle	

2020/106
(FC)

Item 106: Date and time of future meeting

It was confirmed that the next Full Council meeting would be held on Thursday 14th January 2021 at 7.00 pm and a special Environmental Planning Committee meeting will be held immediately before it at 6.30 pm.

That the normal Environmental Planning Committee meeting should provisionally be held on 21 January 2021 at 6.30 pm. This would be followed by a meeting of the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group (time to be confirmed).

That a Finance and Premises Committee meeting will be held on Monday 25 January 2021 at 6.30pm.

The Clerk also outlined progress with the proposed meeting with representatives from the new local policing team (including the new sergeant) and Dr Alan Billings, the South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner.