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**LEWES
TOWN
COUNCIL**

To: **Cllrs Chartier; Daly; Dean; Eiloart; Murray (S); O'Keeffe; Rudkin; Turner**

A Meeting of the **Finance Working Party**, to consider the Council's budget and Council Tax precept for 2014/15, will be held on **Tuesday 10th December 2013**, in the **Yarrow Room, Town Hall, Lewes** at **3:30pm** which you are requested to attend.

S Brigden, Town Clerk
28th November 2013

AGENDA

1. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME*

To consider any questions received regarding items on the agenda for this meeting.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

To receive apologies from members of the Working-party who are unable to attend.

3. MEMBER'S DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

To note declarations of any personal or prejudicial interests in matters on this agenda.

4. MATTERS WITHIN THE REMIT OF THE WORKING-PARTY

To note the remit of the working party :

The working party is asked to examine the detail of estimated expenditure and income for the Council's operations, and to agree a budget and level of Council Tax precept for the 2014/15 year, for recommendation to Council.

Further: the Working Party is asked to make appropriate provision for items identified as the Council Plan for 2014/15 (*see overleaf*).

5. DRAFT BUDGET and COUNCIL TAX PRECEPT 2014/15

To consider draft budget information and all relevant background data**

**** working papers and background material are provided for members of the Working Party only, and will also be available on computer at the meeting for live analysis and modelling.**

***NB: POTENTIAL EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

As this Working Party is likely to discuss low-level detail of the Council's finances, it is possible that, during the meeting, personal details related to past and present employees, and proposed expenditure on contracts for supply of goods and services (potentially commercially-sensitive) may be disclosed.

Should these circumstances arise; the chairman will be obliged to move:

"That in view of the confidential nature (*specified*) of the business to be transacted during the remainder of the meeting, pursuant to the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960; any members of the press or public present be excluded and instructed to withdraw"

For further information about items on this agenda please contact the Town Clerk at the above address.



PUBLIC ATTENDANCE: Members of the public have the right, and are welcome, to attend meetings of the Council – questions regarding items on this agenda may be heard at the start of each meeting with the Chairman's consent, and subject to time available. Questions or requests to address the Council should, whenever possible, be submitted in writing to the Town Clerk at least 24 hours in advance. **PLEASE NOTE:** As space is limited we would appreciate advanced warning if you plan to attend in a group; perhaps with neighbours, or to bring a party of student observers. We may be able to arrange for the meeting to be held in an alternative room. General questions can be raised at our offices between 9am-5pm Mon-Thurs; 9am-4pm on Fridays – our staff will be pleased to assist.

Distribution: Cllrs Chartier; Daly; Dean; Eiloart; Murray (S); O'Keeffe; Rudkin; Turner (*all Cllrs: for information*)
Copies for information: T/hall; LTC website; Lewes Library, Sx. Express, E.Argus, Mayor's Chaplain, Sx. Police, N Baker MP, LDC, ESCC, Fr'ids of Lewes

COUNCIL PLAN 2014/15

Agreed 7th November 2013 – Council resolution FC2013/66.1 refers



Status update at: 27th November 2013

Lewes Town Council proposes to initiate and complete (where possible and practical), or continue, the following major areas of work in the year 1st April 2014 to 31st March 2015. These are in addition to various projects and initiatives itemised in the Council's budgets and accounts, and represent larger-scale activities deserving special attention.

The plan will be updated in course of time, to show budget estimates, timetables and key events, and progress towards completion, as appropriate.

Town Hall repairs & conservation

Major refurbishment of South (High Street) elevation

All Saints Centre lighting upgrade

Replacement(update) of stage lighting and sound equipment

Pells Lake ecology project

Reinstatement of safe habitats for fish fry and invertebrates

Improvements to water quality

Introduction of aquatic plants

Pells Recreation Ground and kiosk/café development (with Santon Group and others)

Engagement with Santon Group and others to improve the "urban realm" in the area as an integral component of necessary flood-defence works; taking the opportunity to replace children's play equipment and introduce equipment for a wider age-range, and to provide an enhanced café facility for the swimming pool, recreation ground, and surrounding parkland.

Malling (Bridgeview) Community Centre refurbishment

To carry out a comprehensive refurbishment of the community centre, with modern heating and lighting, with improved facilities for community use, including more flexible interior spaces and better integration of the sports changing-rooms with the adjoining sports pitches and recreation ground.

Commemorations:

To engage with, and inspire, appropriate community recognition of

The Battle of Lewes (750th anniversary 2104)

National commemoration of the Centenary of the outbreak of the first World War (2014)

National commemoration of the signing of Magna Carta (2015)

Neighbourhood Plan (with Community partners)

Development of a Neighbourhood Plan for Lewes under provisions of the Localism Act 2011

Continuing programme of environmental enhancements and specific site improvements

Engage with appropriate projects arising from third-party initiatives (*eg* highway safety/traffic management). Continuing improvements to own assets (*eg* allotment sites)

Devolution of assets & services

Provide for transfer of ownership of various assets/services from Lewes District Council. (currently subject to ongoing negotiation)