

WEST MERSEA TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A PLANNING & FINANCE MEETING

HELD ON THURSDAY 14 JANUARY 2016

PRESENT: Councillors: Peter Clements (Deputy Mayor)
David Bragg
Robert Jenkins
Carl Powling
Eric Straughan

West Mersea
Tennis Club: C Humphries and S Wargent

Town Clerk: David Tucker

6209 APOLOGIES

Apologies received from Councillors May, Mogridge and Weaver.

6210 WEST MERSEA TENNIS CLUB

Ms Humphries, Secretary to West Mersea Tennis Club explained that they had little knowledge of the arrangements regarding the funding of the installation of floodlights planned for the hard tennis courts.

Additionally the club had little or no control over the use of the tennis pavilion by non-members, such as the 'Boxercise' organisation, but they, and the tennis club committee wanted the use of the pavilion restricted to tennis club members only.

Following discussion it was agreed (Proposed: Councillor Powling, Seconded: Councillor Straughan), that West Mersea Town Council would pay for the cost of the floodlight installation, up to a total of £1,700. It was also agreed that the Clerk would write to the Tennis Club advising them that the lease would have to be redrafted to prohibit sub-letting of the pavilion and other facilities. It was suggested that the Clerk should also redraft the lease, but the Clerk advised that this should be drafted by our solicitors.

It was also suggested that the Tennis Club should be advised to consider raising membership fees to ensure future costs to the club could be met by the club.

6211 TO CONSIDER THE BUDGET FOR 2016/17 AND TO SET THE 2016/17 PRECEPT

The schedule setting out the proposed budget and resulting precept was considered and discussed in detail (copy attached). It was agreed that the S.137 provision should be raised from £1,500 to £2,500 to include a pledge of £1,800 to Mersea Harbour Trust.

The precept of £197,162, down from £223,777 the previous year, was agreed as presented (after amending the S.137 payments to reflect the £1,000 increase).
(Proposed: Councillor Powling, Seconded: Councillor Straughan).

The Clerk advised that the precept would be reduced by a further £14k due to the grant to be received from Colchester Borough Council.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 11.30am.

Action