

## **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF RINGWOOD TOWN COUNCIL**

Held on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2022 at 7.00pm at Ringwood Gateway, The Furlong, Ringwood.

PRESENT: Cllr Tony Ring, Town Mayor  
Cllr Andy Briers  
Cllr Philip Day  
Cllr Gareth Deboos  
Cllr Hilary Edge  
Cllr Rae Frederick  
Cllr John Haywood  
Cllr Jeremy Heron (*from 7.16pm*)  
Cllr Darren Loose (*until 7.11pm*)  
Cllr Gloria O'Reilly  
Cllr Derek Scott  
Cllr Glenys Turner

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr Chris Wilkins, Town Clerk  
Mrs Jo Hurd, Deputy Town Clerk  
Cllr Michael Thierry, Hampshire County Councillor

ABSENT: Cllr Peter Kelleher  
Cllr Steve Rippon-Swaine

### **C/6717 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There were no members of public present.

### **C/6718 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr Kelleher and Cllr Rippon-Swaine.

### **C/6719 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None were declared at this time.

*Agenda item 8 was taken next for the benefit of Cllr Loose who had to leave the meeting early.*

### **C/6720 SPORTS DEVELOPMENT PROJECT AT LONG LANE**

Members considered the Town Clerk's report (Annex A), which outlined a proposal from AFC Bournemouth Community Sports Trust (the Trust) to address a gap in funding, and suggested improved arrangements for oversight and governance of the project.

Members were requested to approve in principle the Council applying for a loan from Public Works Loan Board (PWLB), with the full cost of the repayments being met by the Trust, and for the Town Clerk to continue negotiations on the lease.

Due to the complexity and size of the project, the Town Clerk asked Members to consider appointing an informal panel to include the Finance Manager and additional councillors in order to improve oversight and governance.

**RESOLVED:**

- 1) That the proposal from AFC Bournemouth Community Sports Trust to fill the funding gap, as outlined in Annex A, be approved.
- 2) That an informal Scrutiny Panel be established and the Council's Finance Manager, Chairman of Policy & Finance Committee, Cllr Haywood and Cllr Turner be appointed to it.

*Cllr Loose left the meeting at 7.11pm.*

**C/6721  
POLICE REPORT**

In attendance were Luke Stubbs, Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) for Hampshire; Chief Inspector Helen Andrews; and Inspector Darren Ord.

The Deputy PCC outlined the role of the PCC and the priorities set out in the Police and Crime Plan (<https://www.hampshire-pcc.gov.uk/commissioner/police-crime-plan>), which include increasing the number of police officers and improving police visibility by bringing policing to the community.

*Cllr Heron joined the meeting at 7.16pm.*

There was a lengthy discussion on many different policing issues, including the following:

A publicly accessible police base in the town, where crime could be reported in person, would be welcomed, and would provide much reassurance to local people. The absence of such a base gives the impression that there is little police presence and there is a reluctance to arrest. The offer of use of Gateway for police surgeries was made again, and agreed that this would be discussed further.

It was acknowledged that improvements were needed to the 101 system, particularly in relation to triage and feedback after crimes have been reported. Reporting of all crime was encouraged in order that resources could be directed to where they were needed. It was noted that the triage hub and resolution centre keep police on the street as there are a number of incidents reported that don't warrant officer attendance. All reports are reviewed by the neighbourhood team for follow up if appropriate, although it was acknowledged that there would always be occasions when things didn't go right.

The current Ringwood & Neighbourhood Team was made up of a Sergeant, 8 PCs and 4 PCSOs, and across the Forest there were about 50 officers in total in neighbourhood teams. They could also call on the resources of Response and Patrol teams operating 24-7, as well as traffic, dogs, armed response and helicopter teams. Borderless policing was in operation, meaning that teams from Dorset or Wiltshire could be utilised if necessary.

In response to concerns about speeding, a Speed Watch initiative has been established with councillors and members of the public participating supported by police. Drivers doing excessive speeds were contacted by the police and warned about future prosecution, and all data is recorded with the expectation that enforcement action would be taken in areas where high speeds were frequently recorded. However, it was noted that camera vans are deployed to those areas where there have been serious incidents or fatalities



It was noted that reporting systems had recently changed, and crime statistics had improved. These were reviewed on a weekly basis and ongoing/recurring issues dealt with accordingly. It was hoped that the police could re-establish quarterly reporting to the Council with meaningful data so that Members could get a better understanding of crime in the area, as well as outcomes.

**C/6722**

**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2022 be approved and signed as a correct record.

**C/67223**

**RECREATION, LEISURE AND OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE**

Cllr Briers presented the minutes of the Recreation, Leisure and Open Spaces Committee meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the Recreation, Leisure and Open Spaces Committee meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> January 2022 be received.

**C/6724**

**PLANNING, TOWN & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

Cllr Day presented the minutes of the Planning, Town & Environment Committee meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

P/5943 – Cllr Haywood clarified the position with regards to the Neighbourhood Plan Housing work stream, and confirmed that it was on track against the agreed Action Plan. Cllr Day was delighted to report that Mary Deboos has taken on the unpaid role of Project Manager.

P/5944 – It was noted that surfacing of the Castleman Trailway east of the railway bridge was due to be completed by Easter. Planning application 21/11723 had now been submitted for land off Moortown Lane, and the Deputy Town Clerk was liaising with NFDC on arrangements for the application to be considered by the Town Council.

P/5947 - Regular monthly meeting would now take place with National Highways and HCC for the duration of the A31 improvement scheme. Members were invited to report any issues of concern for discussion at these meetings.

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the Planning, Town and Environment Committee meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> January 2022 be received.

**C/6725**

**POLICY & FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Cllr Heron presented the minutes of the Policy & Finance Committee meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the Policy & Finance Committee meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2022 be received, with the exception of F/5997.

**C/6726**

**COUNCIL BUDGET 2022/23**

Members considered a recommendation from Policy & Finance Committee to approve the final budget and Precept for 2022/23 (*F/5997 refers*).

The Town Clerk clarified funding for the REAL Working Party and confirmed that a budget bid of £1,000 had been factored into calculations for the 2022/23 budget. This would have no impact on the level of Precept, but might affect the level of General Reserve at the end of next year.

**RESOLVED:**

- 1) That the budget for 2022/23, set out in *Annex B*, be approved; and
- 2) That a Precept of £553,949 be approved, resulting in a Council Tax of £101.36 for a Band D dwelling equivalent to an increase of 3% or £2.95 per annum.

**ACTION R Fitzgerald**

**C/6727  
COMMUNICATIONS TO BE RECEIVED**

The Town Mayor reported:

- i) He had attended an NFDC briefing on use of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL);
- ii) Winners of the Christmas Window Display Competition had been announced;
- iii) He was in discussion with the Post Office regarding bringing mobile facilities to Ringwood on Market days; and
- iv) The Community Awards scheme would be considered at Full Council in February and he would be recommending recipients were given a permanent memento.

**C/6728  
REPORTS FROM TOWN COUNCILLORS**

There were no reports.

**C/6729  
REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

County Councillor Thierry presented a written report (*Annex C*). Cllr Day thanked him for his donation to the Queen’s Jubilee event.

District Councillor Heron reported that NFDC Cabinet would take place on 2<sup>nd</sup> February.

**C/6730  
FORTHCOMING MEETINGS**

Recreation, Leisure & Open Spaces	7.00pm	Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> February 2022
Planning, Town & Environment	10.00am	Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> February 2022
Policy & Finance	7.00pm	Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> February 2022
Full Council	7.00pm	Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February 2022

*Cllr Deboos briefly left the meeting at 9.00pm.*

*In accordance with the Council’s Standing Orders, Members agreed to extend the meeting beyond two hours.*

**C/6731  
EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

**RESOLVED:** That, in accordance with section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public were excluded because publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature

**C/6732  
BICKERLEY LEGAL MATTER**

The Town Clerk reported that Cllr Day had declared a disclosable pecuniary interest as he is a partner in the firm that had given legal advice to the Council on this matter. He had applied for a dispensation to enable him to participate and vote for the remainder of his term of office. The Town Clerk had granted such dispensation on the grounds that his interest is relatively trivial in size and is directly against his known position, and his position as a solicitor would give a useful perspective on the matter.

*Cllr Deboos re-joined the meeting.*

Members considered the Town Clerk’s report (*Confidential Annex D*) and debated and voted on the matter.

**RESOLVED:** That the Council maintain its objection to the application to remove part of its land from the Land Registry title for Bickerley Common.

At the request of Cllr Day, this vote was recorded, as follows:  
For: Cllrs Briers, Deboos, Frederick, Heron, Haywood, O’Reilly, Ring, Scott and Turner  
Against: Cllrs Day and Edge

<b>ACTION C Wilkins</b>
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There being no further business, the Town Mayor closed the meeting at 9.30pm.

APPROVED  
23<sup>rd</sup> February 2022

TOWN MAYOR

26<sup>th</sup> January 2022

## Report on Football Development Project

### 1. Introduction and reason for report

- 1.1 Work on this project to date has been focused on “de-risking” it – that is, conducting site investigations, obtaining planning permission, tendering the construction contracts and identifying the professional support needed and obtaining fee estimates. The aim of this is to reduce or eliminate uncertainty about costs and ensure that the project partners can provide or obtain the funding it needs without impairing their operational and financial viability.
- 1.2 This report presents a summary of this work, explains the provisional conclusions reached, sets out the implications for the business arrangements and seeks member decisions on some key details.

### 2. Background information

- 2.1 Various physical and ecological investigations and surveys have been carried out on site (at significant expense, which has been met, in the first instance, by AFC Bournemouth Community Sports Trust – “the Trust”). None of these has thrown up any unexpected problems and they provide some assurance against unpleasant surprises when work starts.
- 2.2 Planning permission has been applied for and granted, subject to conditions. Some particulars and conditions (especially those relating to parking provision and highways requirements) have quite a significant effect on cost and discussions are continuing on how the planning objectives can be met without incurring unnecessary cost.
- 2.3 The contract for construction of the artificial turf pitch (ATP) has been awarded to Tiger Turf and Knights Brown has been appointed principal contractor for all the other works, based on the tenders they submitted. We are now able to work with both to agree how they will work together to deliver the project and how costs can be reduced.
- 2.4 Since this Council will be acting as the lead client in the project, a VAT consultant and a solicitor have been appointed to provide the specialist advice needed. Fee estimates have been agreed with each. Consultants are also assisting Ringwood Town F.C. and other project partners to pursue every source of grants and other forms of funding for the project.
- 2.5 At previous meetings members were advised that construction costs have risen significantly over recent months and these were likely to affect the cost of the project. More accurate information is now available and it is clear that the overall cost will be close to £3,000,000. This is significantly more than was expected when the budget was first prepared in the spring of 2021. Football Foundation has indicated a willingness to provide substantial additional grant support over and above that originally envisaged and normal for projects of this type. Furthermore, it is realistic to expect some success in outstanding funding applications and continuing “value-engineering” of the contracts. However, the best current estimate is that this will leave the project about £500,000 short of the capital funding it needs.
- 2.6 Every option for meeting this funding gap has been considered and explored thoroughly and for want of any realistic alternative, the Trust has proposed that this Council apply to Public Works Loan Board for a loan of £500,000 repayable over 40 years on the following conditions:

- 2.6.1 That the Trust will cover the full cost of the loan repayments for the full term of the loan;
- 2.6.2 That the term of the proposed lease to the Trust (previously agreed in principle as 40 years) be increased to 50 years;
- 2.6.3 That the loan repayments take the place of any other rent payable by the trust, initially at least; and
- 2.6.4 That the Town Council continue to provide grass-pitch maintenance as now and without any separate charge for this.

There would still need to be a new lease. This would still provide for the rent to be reviewed every three years. If, at any review, the financial situation of the Trust had altered to the point of making additional rent affordable then this would be payable from that time.

- 2.7 The proposal from the Trust would result in a net loss of income to this Council when compared with what had previously seemed possible. The Council currently receives a ground rent of £2,360 a year from the Club plus booking fees for the grass pitches (which has been highly variable over the last few years since it depends on usage but is typically a few thousand pounds a year). Agreeing to the Trust's proposal would mean (initially, at least) forgoing the rental income and put the booking fee income at risk along with any expectation of payment for the grass-pitch maintenance (which is currently done at the Council's expense anyway). Because this income reduction is highly uncertain (as to both the amount and when it would happen) at present, it was not possible to allow for it in the preparation of the 2022-23 budget but it may have some effect on the out-turn against that budget. Fuller information is expected before later budgets have to be planned.
- 2.8 Options are limited. As stated, no other means of filling the funding gap appear available at present. Accordingly, if the Council doesn't accept the Trust's proposal there is a significant risk that the project may have to be cancelled at this stage. This would entail the loss of any realistic prospect of securing an ATP for Ringwood in the foreseeable future (and without that it is hard to see how the Club could expand and diversify participation in football on the site). Moreover, it would leave the Club and the Council having to address the problems with the existing clubhouse without the assurance of any funding from Football Foundation, the Trust or the District Council.
- 2.9 This moment is also an opportunity to review the oversight and governance of this project. It is unusual (unprecedented even) for this Council to assume a leading role on a project of this complexity and size. The risks (especially financial risks to public funds) are significant and should be properly monitored. Is it entirely fair or safe to expect a single councillor and the Town Clerk to bear as much responsibility as they do at present?

### 3. Issues for decision

- 3.1 **Should the proposal from the Trust for filling the funding gap be agreed in principle?**
- 3.2 **Should any changes be made to the oversight and governance arrangements for the project?**

For further information, contact:

Chris Wilkins, Town Clerk  
 Direct Dial: 01425 484720  
 Email: [chris.wilkins@ringwood.gov.uk](mailto:chris.wilkins@ringwood.gov.uk)

Cllr. Darren Loose  
 Email: [darrenloose@me.com](mailto:darrenloose@me.com)

**TOWN COUNCIL – 26<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2022**  
**BUDGET 2022/2023**

**1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1** Policy & Finance Committee members considered a draft budget for 2022/23 at their meetings in December and January. These meetings of the Policy & Finance Committee recommended several changes which have been incorporated into this draft budget. This report sets out the revised proposals for the 2022/23 budget and consequent Precept and Council Tax for approval by Full Council.
- 1.2** This report also includes an update to the revised budget for 2021/22.

**2. REVISED BUDGET 2021/22**

- 2.1** Attached for the Committee's consideration are the following documents:-
- Appendix A – Draft summary Council budget, including actual spend 2019/20, and 2020/21, original and revised budgets 2021/22 and revised draft proposals for 2022/23.
- Appendix B – Provisions at 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021, and estimated balances at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022 and 2023, based on the revised budget 2021/22 and the updated proposals for 2022/23.
- Appendix C – Summary of budget preparation assumptions, movements and balances.
- 2.2** In December, it was reported that there is likely to be a modest net underspend in 2021/22. Expenditure is likely to fall below that predicted in the revised budget, but almost all of that reduction would otherwise have been funded from reserves and so the net revenue budget outturn remains broadly on track.
- 2.3** The forecast outturn is for a net surplus on the revenue account of around £9,000. However, this is predicated on a transfer from the General Reserve of £3,000 so the net transfer to the General Reserve is now predicted to be around £6,000.
- 2.4** Reserves at the start of the year amounted to £579,996. (£292,545 General reserve plus £287,451 earmarked reserves and deposits). The transfer to the General Fund together with the net transfer from earmarked reserves of around £30,000 will reduce the total value of reserves to £556,000. Note that the actual outturn will depend on the performance of a number of projects which are being funded from reserves, such as the Columbarium project.
- 2.5** Planned and predicted movements on reserves are detailed in Appendix B.

**3. DRAFT BUDGET 2022/23**

- 3.1** As in previous years, the draft budget has been prepared on an incremental basis. The original budget for 2021/22 has been adjusted for known and unavoidable changes, one off items approved for the current year have been removed and a modest range of estimates for inflation have been applied together with a Council Tax increase of 3%. This increase, taken with the increase in the Council Tax Base, will generate a Town Council Precept of £553,949. The draft budget was discussed at the December meeting at which time it was noted that, based on the assumptions applied, a net transfer from the General Reserve of £7,000 would be required.



- 3.2** Some small adjustments were discussed and during the intervening period further scrutiny of budgets has been undertaken in attempt to reduce the required transfer from the General Fund. In particular, remaining budget provisions for unpredictable or reactive spend, such as vandalism repairs, have been removed on the assumption that, should expenditure be necessary, costs will be met from reserves. This has reduced the budget requirement but does increase the risk of unplanned expenditure. These adjustments have reduced the projected budget shortfall by £1,450.
- 3.3** However, it has also been announced that we will no longer be able to use red diesel from April 2022. We currently use around 6,000 litres of diesel per annum, of which a third is red diesel. At the margins we achieved during 2021/22, the difference in price was around 35 pence per litre. At the same time, diesel prices have risen from £1.15 per litre to £1.30 per litre. These two factors will add around £1,500 per year to fuel costs.
- 3.4** The budget inflation assumptions are included in Appendix C.
- 3.5** The proposed base budget, after allowing for adjustments and unavoidable inflation, is therefore £532,103. Net transfers to reserves increase the budget requirement to £ 558,030 before any new bids are considered.
- 3.6** Proposals for new growth or additional spend of £17,700 have been approved, of which £14,600 will be funded from reserves. The other committees have considered their budgets and all new bids which they put forward were considered at the December meeting of this committee. It was agreed that the following proposals be taken forward and included in the budget for 2022/23:

**Policy & Finance:**

1. Carvers Clubhouse replacement benches	£1,600
2. Buildings Surveys	£2,000

**Recreation & Leisure:**

1. Carvers Playpark picnic bench	£1,000
2. Memorial Tree and bench	£2,100
3. Carvers Strategic plan	£10,000

**Planning, Town & Environment:**

1. Support for REAL working Group	£1,000
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Total cost of new bids: £17,700

Earmarked reserves will fund £14,600 of this leaving a balance of £3,100 to be funded from the revenue Account.

- 3.7** the base budget of £558,030 will therefore increase to £561,130. The anticipated precept, noted above is £553,949, a shortfall of £7,181. Members might consider applying all or some of the remaining balance of the Covid relief grant of £2,917 received last year from NFDC, to reduce this shortfall.
- 3.8** Reserves movements are summarised in appendix B. The opening balance on earmarked reserves is expected to be £242,562 whilst budgeted transfers to reserves will increase this by £38,400. Transfers to the revenue budget from reserves amount to £12,472 whilst a further £14,600 will be used to support growth projects during the year. This means that the predicted balance of earmarked reserves at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022 will be £253,890. The budget proposals set out here would therefore result in a net increase in total reserves of £4,147 in 2022/23, before any irregular expenditure that may necessitate an additional transfer from reserves. At this stage it is impossible to predict the level of CIL

receipts that might be expected, but these too will be added to earmarked reserves. These plans include a draw on the General reserve of £7,141 which will reduce that reserve to £291,185 by year end.

- 3.9 The proposed budget will result in an increase in the precept of £22,093 or 4.15%. However, the increase in the Council Tax base will limit the increase in Council tax to 3.0% resulting in a band D equivalent council Tax of £101.36. This represents an increase of £2.95 per annum.

## 4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The proposed budget, including the new bids, requires an increase in the Council tax of 3.0% together with a transfer from the general Reserve of £7,181 in order to achieve a balanced budget.
- 4.2 Many of the individual budgets have been shaved, frozen or cut for the last few years and there is consequently an increasing risk that the overall budget is vulnerable to any unexpected pressures. This may result in an increased reliance on the General Reserve to meet unexpected costs or cost increases.
- 4.3 Similarly, the transfer of "irregular" spend from the budget will also place a greater reliance on Earmarked Reserves to meet unplanned expenditure such as building repairs, vandalism and so on. Consideration should be given to whether the current approach to building and maintaining earmarked reserves is sufficient to meet this additional burden.

## 5. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 Subject to any amendments made at this meeting, **it is recommended that:-**
- 5.2 Members approve the draft budget.
- 5.3 Members approve a precept of £553,949 and consequent 3.0% increase in the Council Tax which will take the Band D equivalent Council Tax contribution for the Town Council to £101.36.

For any further information, please contact:

Rory Fitzgerald  
Finance Officer  
Tele: 01425 484723

or Chris Wilkins  
Town Clerk  
Tele: 01425 484720

RINGWOOD TOWN COUNCIL  
BUDGET AND REVISED BUDGET 2021/22 AND  
DRAFT BUDGET 2022/23

Appendix A

B

1	2	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	Committee	Actual 19/20 £	Actual 20/21 £	Budget 21/22 £	Revised Budget 21/22 £	Inflation £	Known Changes* £	Draft 22/23 £
	<b>Policy &amp; Finance</b>							
	Expenditure	442,866	397,503	442,395	441,275	12,949	-2,283	453,151
	Income	-156,471	-127,112	-145,140	-162,430	-4,976	-4,830	-154,945
	<b>Net Expenditure</b>	<b>286,395</b>	<b>270,391</b>	<b>297,255</b>	<b>278,845</b>	<b>7,974</b>	<b>-7,113</b>	<b>298,205</b>
	Transfers to Reserves	29,792	16,500	16,500	16,500	0	0	16,500
	Transfers from Reserves	-26,168	-8,172	-1,000	-3,780	0	-8,242	-9,242
	Growth bids and adjustments (net of transfers from reserves and income)							0
	<b>Committee net expenditure</b>	<b>290,019</b>	<b>278,719</b>	<b>312,755</b>	<b>291,565</b>	<b>7,974</b>	<b>-15,355</b>	<b>305,463</b>
	<b>Recreation &amp; Leisure</b>							
	Expenditure	223,763	219,923	258,003	277,114	6,220	-55,476	207,997
	Income	-34,273	-33,984	-31,657	-30,636	-950	100	-32,507
	<b>Net Expenditure</b>	<b>189,490</b>	<b>185,939</b>	<b>226,346</b>	<b>246,478</b>	<b>5,270</b>	<b>-55,376</b>	<b>175,490</b>
	Transfers to Reserves	19,900	17,900	17,900	17,900	0	0	17,900
	Transfers from Reserves	-35,500	-14,654	-54,500	-65,393	0	54,500	0
	Growth bids and adjustments (net of transfers from reserves and income)							2,100
	<b>Committee net expenditure</b>	<b>173,890</b>	<b>189,185</b>	<b>189,746</b>	<b>198,985</b>	<b>5,270</b>	<b>-876</b>	<b>195,490</b>
	<b>Cemeteries</b>							
	Expenditure	43,687	42,913	46,733	52,993	1,660	10,612	59,005
	Income	-34,073	-36,240	-46,031	-40,945	-1,341	6,836	-40,550
	<b>Net Expenditure</b>	<b>9,614</b>	<b>6,673</b>	<b>702</b>	<b>12,048</b>	<b>319</b>	<b>17,448</b>	<b>18,454</b>
	Transfers to Reserves	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	0	0	4,000
	Transfers from Reserves	-230	-230	-230	-5,156	0	0	-230
	Growth bids and adjustments (net of transfers from reserves and income)							0
	<b>Committee net expenditure</b>	<b>13,384</b>	<b>10,443</b>	<b>4,472</b>	<b>10,892</b>	<b>319</b>	<b>17,448</b>	<b>22,224</b>
	<b>Allotments</b>							
	Expenditure	11,782	11,725	12,667	12,838	426	5,365	18,458
	Income	-5,209	-5,374	-5,306	-5,500	-159	0	-5,465
	<b>Net Expenditure</b>	<b>6,573</b>	<b>6,351</b>	<b>7,361</b>	<b>7,338</b>	<b>267</b>	<b>5,365</b>	<b>12,993</b>
	Transfers to Reserves	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Transfers from Reserves	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Growth bids and adjustments (net of transfers from reserves and income)							0
	<b>Committee net expenditure</b>	<b>6,573</b>	<b>6,351</b>	<b>7,361</b>	<b>7,338</b>	<b>267</b>	<b>5,365</b>	<b>12,993</b>
	<b>Planning, Town &amp; Environment</b>							
	Expenditure	20,985	25,600	41,243	39,763	619	-3,802	37,060
	Income	-1,100	-9,225	-15,650	-19,350	0	5,550	-10,100
	<b>Net Expenditure</b>	<b>19,885</b>	<b>16,375</b>	<b>25,593</b>	<b>20,413</b>	<b>619</b>	<b>1,748</b>	<b>26,960</b>
	Transfers to Reserves	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Transfers from Reserves	-5,170	-1,120	-4,000	-2,167	0	1,000	-3,000
	Growth bids and adjustments (net of transfers from reserves and income)							1,000
	<b>Committee net expenditure</b>	<b>14,715</b>	<b>15,255</b>	<b>21,593</b>	<b>18,246</b>	<b>619</b>	<b>2,748</b>	<b>24,960</b>
	Total Base Expenditure	743,083	697,664	801,040	823,983			775,671
	Total Income	-231,126	-211,935	-243,784	-258,861			-243,568
	Total transfer to reserves	53,692	38,400	38,400	38,400			38,400
	Total Transfer from reserves	-67,068	-24,176	-59,730	-76,496			-12,472
	Total New Bids							17,700
	Less funded from earmarked reserves							-14,600
	<b>Total Budget Requirement</b>	<b>498,581</b>	<b>499,953</b>	<b>535,927</b>	<b>527,026</b>			<b>561,130</b>
	Precept	497,549	519,907	531,856	531,856			553,949
	Covid Relief grant			4,071	4,071			0
	Transfer to/-from General Reserve	-1,032	19,954	0	8,901			-7,181

RINGWOOD TOWN COUNCIL  
BUDGET AND REVISED BUDGET 2021/22 AND  
DRAFT BUDGET 2022/23

Appendix A

B

1	2	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	Description	Actual 19/20 £	Actual 20/21 £	Budget 21/22 £	Revised Budget 21/22 £	Inflation £	Known Changes* £	Draft 22/23 £
<b>Expenditure:</b>								
	Policy & Finance	442,866	397,503	442,395	441,275	12,949	-2,283	453,151
	Recreation & Leisure	223,763	219,923	258,003	277,114	6,220	-55,476	207,997
	Cemeteries	43,687	42,913	46,733	52,993	1,660	10,612	59,005
	Allotments	11,782	11,725	12,667	12,838	426	5,365	18,458
	Planning, Town & Environment	20,985	25,600	41,243	39,763	619	-3,802	37,060
	<b>Council Total Expenditure</b>	<b>743,083</b>	<b>697,664</b>	<b>801,040</b>	<b>823,983</b>	<b>21,874</b>	<b>-45,584</b>	<b>775,671</b>
<b>Income:</b>								
	Policy & Finance	-156,471	-127,112	-145,140	-162,430	-4,976	-4,830	-154,945
	Recreation & Leisure	-34,273	-33,984	-31,657	-30,636	-950	100	-32,507
	Cemeteries	-34,073	-36,240	-46,031	-40,945	-1,341	6,836	-40,550
	Allotments	-5,209	-5,374	-5,306	-5,500	-159	0	-5,465
	Planning, Town & Environment	-1,100	-9,225	-15,650	-19,350	0	5,550	-10,100
	<b>Council Total Income</b>	<b>-231,126</b>	<b>-211,935</b>	<b>-243,784</b>	<b>-258,861</b>	<b>-7,426</b>	<b>7,656</b>	<b>-243,568</b>
	<b>Council Net Expenditure before transfers</b>	<b>511,957</b>	<b>485,729</b>	<b>557,257</b>	<b>565,122</b>	<b>14,449</b>	<b>-37,928</b>	<b>532,102</b>
<b>Add Transfers to Provisions</b>								
	Policy & Finance	29,792	16,500	16,500	16,500			16,500
	Recreation & Leisure	19,900	17,900	17,900	17,900			17,900
	Cemeteries	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000			4,000
	Allotments	0	0	0	0			0
	Planning, Town & Environment	0	0	0	0			0
	<b>Total transfers to provisions</b>	<b>53,692</b>	<b>38,400</b>	<b>38,400</b>	<b>38,400</b>			<b>38,400</b>
<b>Less Transfers from Provisions</b>								
	Policy & Finance	-26,168	-8,172	-1,000	-3,780			-9,242
	Recreation & Leisure	-35,500	-14,654	-54,500	-65,393			0
	Cemeteries	-230	-230	-230	-5,156			-230
	Allotments	0	0	0	0			0
	Planning, Town & Environment	-5,170	-1,120	-4,000	-2,167			-3,000
	<b>Total transfers from Provisions</b>	<b>-67,068</b>	<b>-24,176</b>	<b>-59,730</b>	<b>-76,496</b>			<b>-12,472</b>
	<b>Total Budget Requirement before new bids</b>	<b>498,581</b>	<b>499,953</b>	<b>535,927</b>	<b>527,026</b>	<b>14,449</b>	<b>-37,928</b>	<b>558,030</b>
<b>New Bids 2021/22 (net of income)</b>								
	Policy & Finance							3,600
	Recreation & Leisure							13,100
	Cemeteries							0
	Allotments							0
	Planning, Town & Environment							1,000
	<b>Less Funded from Provisions</b>							<b>-14,600</b>
	<b>Council's Net Budget</b>	<b>498,581</b>	<b>499,953</b>	<b>535,927</b>	<b>527,026</b>			<b>561,130</b>
	<b>Transfers from( - ) or to General Reserve</b>	<b>-1,032</b>	<b>19,954</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8,901</b>			<b>-7,181</b>
	<b>Covid Relief Grant</b>			<b>-4071</b>	<b>-4071</b>			<b>0</b>
	<b>Council Precept (to be met by Council Tax Payers)</b>	<b>497,549</b>	<b>519,907</b>	<b>531,856</b>	<b>531,856</b>			<b>553,949</b>
	<b>Council Tax Base</b>	<b>5285.2</b>	<b>5362</b>	<b>5404.3</b>	<b>5404.3</b>			<b>5,465.0</b>
	<b>Council Tax</b>	<b>94.14</b>	<b>96.96</b>	<b>98.41</b>	<b>98.41</b>			<b>101.36</b>

B

## RESERVES AND PROVISIONS - MOVEMENT &amp; ESTIMATED BALANCES

1st April 2021 to 31st March 2023

	Actual Balance 01/04/21 £	Planned Transfers 2021/22 (revised):				Estimated Balance 01/04/22 £	Planned and Proposed Movements 2022/23:					Estimated Balance 31/03/23 £
		from Revenue £	to Revenue £	Cash Receipts £	between provisions £		from Revenue £	to revenue		Capital & Other Receipts £	between provisions £	
								base budget £	Growth £			
<b><u>EARMARKED PROVISIONS</u></b>												
I.T. & Equipment	13,900	4,500				18,400	4,500		0			22,900
Gateway	25,000	0				25,000	0		0			25,000
Cemetery	18,000	4,000	-22,000		3,000	3,000	4,000		0			7,000
Buildings Reserve	28,567	5,000				33,567	5,000	-200	-2,000			36,367
Election	11,274	1,500				12,774	1,500		0			14,274
Vehicle & Machinery	16,365	11,000	-4,793			22,572	11,000		0			33,572
Play Equipment	15,258	6,900	-19,500		500	3,158	6,900		-1,000			9,058
Memorials	3,000				-3,000	0			0			0
Christmas Lights	0					0			0			0
Carvers Clubhouse	27,025	2,500	-1,200			28,325	2,500	-1,042	-1,600			28,183
Ringwood Events	8,828					8,828		-8,000	0			828
Memorial Lantern	1,354					1,354			0			1,354
Carvers Grounds	11,300		-10,000			1,300			0			1,300
Infrastructure & Open Spaces	19,343	3,000	-6,026			16,317	3,000		-10,000			9,317
Neighbourhood Plan	3,000		-1,000			2,000		-2,000	0			0
<b>Total Provisions</b>	<b>202,215</b>	<b>38,400</b>	<b>-64,519</b>		<b>500</b>	<b>176,596</b>	<b>38,400</b>	<b>-11,242</b>	<b>-14,600</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>189,154</b>
<b><u>RESERVES</u></b>												
Earmarked Reserves:												
Dev Contribs	3,663		-1,000			2,663		-1,000	0			1,663
Cem Maint	1,210		-230			980		-230	0			750
Dev Cons(CIL)	45,635		-8,167	5,814		43,282			0	0		43,282
Capital Receipts	13,125			3,000		16,125			0	0		16,125
Grants Unapplied	6,988		-4,071			2,917		0	0	0		2,917
Loans Unapplied	0					0			0	0		0
<b>Total Earmarked Reserves and Provisions</b>	<b>272,835</b>	<b>38,400</b>	<b>-77,987</b>	<b>8,814</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>242,562</b>	<b>38,400</b>	<b>-12,472</b>	<b>-14,600</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>253,890</b>
<b>General Reserve</b>	<b>292,545</b>	<b>8,901</b>	<b>-2,580</b>		<b>-500</b>	<b>298,366</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-7,181</b>			<b>0</b>	<b>291,185</b>
<b>Total Reserves</b>	<b>565,380</b>	<b>47,301</b>	<b>-80,567</b>	<b>8,814</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>540,928</b>	<b>38,400</b>	<b>-19,653</b>	<b>-14,600</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>545,075</b>

**BUDGET ASSUMPTIONS 2022/23**

**B**

Inflation (RPI) is currently running at 7.5% (for the year to December 2021). CPIH is 4.8% for the same period whilst the CPI is 5.4%.  
 Note that some costs and expenditure are linked to inflation, whereas some "non contractual" expenditure is more discretionary and inflationary cost increases may be absorbed by reducing spend, although this may not be without consequence. Other expenditure may be fixed with no inflationary adjustment required. Each expenditure component in the budget has been allocated an inflation type (1-6) which may be modelled on this page.

**ASSUMPTIONS:**

	%	Type
<b>1 Inflation</b>		
- Pay	3.5%	1
- Utilities	5.0%	2
- Other Expenditure	4.0%	3
- Non contractual expenditure	0.0%	4
- Income	3.0%	5
- Fixed expenditure (i.e. no inflation)	0.0%	6

<b>2 Council Tax Base increase</b>	1.12%
Note, the Council Tax base for 2021/22 is	5,404.3

<b>3 Use of General Reserve</b>	£ 7,181
Use of Covid relief grant	0

The Band D equivalent Council Tax for 2021/22 is: **98.41**

A target Council Tax increase of : **3.0%**  
 would increase the Council Tax to: **101.36**

And require an additional transfer from reserves of: **£0**  
 which would reduce total reserves to £ 545,075 by March 2023  
 (given the assumptions in 1 - 3 on the left)

An increase of 1.12% (assumption 2) will increase the Council Tax base to: **5,465.0**

The General Reserve is expected to be £298,366 at April 1st 2022. This transfer will reduce it to £291,185 by March 2023  
 The balance of this grant at 1st April 2022 is expected to be £2,917

**Net Budget Requirement and consequent Band D equivalent Council Tax**

Based on the above assumptions together with any proposed new bids and adjustments:

	£
Base Budget 2022/2023	532,102
Net transfers to/from earmarked reserves	25,928
Growth Bids & Adjustments	17,700
- Less funded from earmarked reserves (inc. borrowing)	-14,600
- Less additional income generated	0
Net Budget requirement	561,130
Less funded from general reserve/Covid relief Grant	-7,181
Sum to be funded from Council Tax Payers (Precept)	553,949

**Band D equivalent Council Tax 2022/23** **101.36**

The Council Tax for 2021/22 is £98.41 per Band D Equivalent

**The budget requirement and resulting precept, as modelled, represents an increase of 3.00 % in the Council Tax**

**Summary movement on reserves:**

	£
Opening reserves 1/4/2022:	
General Reserve	298,366
Earmarked Reserves & Provisions	242,562
<b>Total Reserves 1/4/2022</b>	<b>540,928</b>
Planned transfers in	38,400
Planned transfers out	-12,472
Plus Capital Receipts 22/23	0
Less Funding for growth	-14,600
Less use of general reserve	-7,181

**Predicted reserves 31/3/2023**

General Reserve	291,185
Earmarked Reserves	253,890
<b>Predicted Reserves 31/3/2023</b>	<b>545,075</b>

**An increase of one percent on the Council Tax will generate an increased precept of : £5,378  
 For each increase of £1,000 in the precept requirement, a further £0.183 will be added to the Band D Council Tax**

# County Council January 2022 Report

Councillor Michael Thierry - Ringwood Division

## County Council Councillors' Grants.

Applications have been registered and processed for three local projects.

- i) - Funding, supporting the Ringwood Community Fridge. £800.00.
- ii) - A grant to the Rotary Club of Ringwood to purchase two 'industrial.' Gazebos for community use. £2,300.00.
- iii) - County Grant in support of the Platinum Jubilee of Elizabeth II Ringwood Event. £5,000.

## New Forest National Park Authority.

**On Tuesday I will attend a meeting of the National Park Authority**

**Last week I attended a meeting National Park Authority Planning Committee**

## Crow Lane, Ringwood - 13/11450 and 18/11648 - Footpaths.

**Ringwood Deputy Town Clerk emailed the Countryside Planning Officer on 11th January**

Are you able to give me an update please on the two outstanding footpath issues relating to this scheme? Councillors have asked for an update on the footpaths?

**Countryside Planning Officer Tina Cuss replied on 12th January**

Thank you for your email.

I can confirm that our Countryside Services Project Team have now scheduled in the works to extend the Castleman Trail to Crow Arch Lane Bridge for early spring and, subject to approval by Highway Engineers, they should be completed by Easter 2022.

We're grateful for your support and the vegetation clearance of the Castleman Trail that the Town Council undertake on behalf of the Access Team South. I'm pleased to advise that their new Area Countryside Access Manager Andy Aitken moved across into the team last week, and that they hope to be back to full complement of Access Rangers soon.

## Monthly Councillors' Surgery.

The January MP and Councillor surgery was held. Sir Desmond, Cllr Annie Bellow (Fordingbridge) and myself in attendance,

A Ringwood gentleman inquired how his proposal for Careers receiving special recognition, perhaps a medal or a certificate at Government level, was progressing.

A number of personal issues were addressed.

**I have no further comment to make.**

Cllr Michael Thierry - 01425 479095