

**Minutes of the Dersingham Parish Council Budget Setting meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2025 at 7.00pm in the Dersingham Village Centre**

**Councillors present:** Coral Shepherd (Chairman), Brian Anderson, Nigel Barker, Tony Bubb, Martin Noble, Mike Shepherd, Jordan Stokes, Brett Thomas, Mark Ward, Ann Watkins, Sarah Whitehead, and Dennis Wright.

**Also present:** *KAREN ORGILL (BUSINESS MANAGER - BM)*  
Geraldine Scanlon (Assistant Business Manager - ABM – Minute taker)

The Chairman advised she had received confirmation that Norfolk and Waveney Hospitals have approval to proceed in the new hospital programme. The two hospitals concerned are the Queen Elizabeth Hospital King's Lynn NHS Trust and the James Paget University Hospitals.

- 1 **Apologies for absence** – Councillors Valerie Brundle, and John Houston. *Robert Frost*
- 2 **Declarations of interest and request dispensations by Councillors in any of the agenda items listed**  
None received
- 3 **Public participation**  
None present
- 4 **To review and set the budget for 2025/26.**  
Cllr M Shepherd advised he had placed the financial comparison report showing the draft budget and his budget setting report on SharePoint. These had been discussed with the Responsible Financial Officer. The Precept figures were yet added to the report. Councillors discussed the proposed budgets, which consists of some carry forwards.

The proposed fixed carry overs for 2025/26 financial year are:

**Council**

|                                       |            |
|---------------------------------------|------------|
| 1155 – QE II Jubilee Hall Contingency | £12,000.00 |
| 1170 – Service Improvements           | £3,500.00  |

**Communications**

|               |         |
|---------------|---------|
| 6035 – Events | £900.00 |
|---------------|---------|

**Recreation**

|                                      |           |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|
| 5065 – Recreation Ground 5-year plan | £2,000.00 |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|

In addition, there are three proposed requests to carry forward balances unspent at the end of this financial year. The estimated values are:

**Council**

|                                      |           |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|
| 1065 – Legal Fees/Land Registration  | £1,400.00 |
| 1140 – IT Support & Maintenance      | £2,000.00 |
| 1145 – New & Replacement It Hardware | £1,400.00 |

Cllr C Shepherd proposed the following recommendations by the F & A Committee be approved.

- 1 **The 2025/26 budget be adopted as presented.**

2 That any remaining funds against expenditure codes 1065, 1140 and 1145 on 31/03/2025 be carried forward and the approved budget for 2025/26 be revised accordingly.

3 Council agrees in principle to set the Parish Council Precept for 2025/26 such that bills for standard council tax paying households will remain at the current level, and to fund the resulting budget shortfall from the accrued savings.

4 Council agrees in principle to use accrued savings in the General Fund on the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025 to top up the earmarked reserves as and when necessary.

**It was resolved to approve the proposals.**

**5 Items for inclusion on be next agenda**

Cllr C Shepherd asked Councillors to notify the BM of any agenda items by 10am Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2025.

**6 Date of next meeting –**

Full council and Precept Setting Monday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2025 at 7pm in the Garden Room

With no further business the meeting was closed at 7.20pm