

**Draft Minutes of the Meeting of Market Deeping Town Council
Held on Wednesday 15 January 2025 at 7.30pm
At the Town Hall, Market Deeping**

Present:	Cllr Dr Byrd Cllr Broughton Cllr Mr Piper Cllr Mrs Jones Cllr Mrs Sked Cllr Mr Guerge	Cllr Ms Reed Cllr Mrs Steel Cllr Mr Hughes Cllr Mr Wey Cllr Mr Hanson
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The Clerk and Deputy Clerk were also in attendance.

Cllr Dr Byrd opened the meeting at 7:30pm.

Cllr Dr Byrd, as SKDC councillor reported the following:

- SKDC are currently budget planning.
- Changing street lights to LED.
- Considering the devolution possibilities, would need one or more councils to join to form a Combined Authority.
- May county elections may be delayed; this is yet to be considered at Full Council.
- A number of large planning applications are expected.

Cllr Mrs Steel on behalf of a resident enquired about the weight limit in SKDC's car park on Halfleet.

Cllr Hanson thanked Cllr Broughton, Cllr Mrs Jones Cllr Dr Byrd and all those involved in the recent efforts to prevent the risk of flooding along the High Street.

There being no further business the public session was closed.

151. Chairman's Welcome & Introductions

Cllr Dr Byrd wished everyone a Happy New Year and welcomed members to the meeting at 7.40 pm.

152. To note apologies and accept valid reasons for absence

There were apologies for absence from Cllr Miss Collins and Cllr Neilson and these were accepted.

153. Declarations of Interest under the Localism Act 2011

There were none.

154. Acceptance of the minutes of a meeting held on 11 December 2024

Cllr Dr Byrd asked members if they were to accept the minutes of the meeting of 11 December 2024. It was **RESOLVED** unanimously to accept the notes of the meeting as a true and accurate record. The Chairman signed the minutes.

Cllr Hughes thanked the council for switching the Christmas lights on in the mornings as well in the evening.

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155. Reports: Including reports from Committees: Planning and Highways, Deeping Neighbourhood Plan (DNP), Amenities and Open Spaces, Finance & Personnel, Mayor's diary and the Clerk's report

Planning and Highways

Cllr Dr Byrd informed that there had not been many planning applications received over the last few months.

Cllr Hughes reported that £140 pounds had been collected from members of the public who had very kindly donated their surplus euros. Cllr Hughes has arranged for an article to be placed in I'd rather be in Deeping.

Deeping Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr Dr Byrd reported that the updated local plan is yet to be published by SKDC.

Amenities and Open Spaces

Cllr Broughton reported that the Committee took place this evening and minutes will be circulated in due course.

Finance and Personnel

The Committee had met this afternoon and had finalised the Precept. This is to be discussed at agenda item 9 later in the meeting.

Mayoral Diary

The Mayor attended the following:

13.12.24 - SKDC's Annual Christmas Lunch Bourne Corn Exchange

Clerk's Report – 15th January 2025

Precept planning for 2025/26 is being undertaken.
The transfer of Cherry Tree Park from SKDC is progressing. SKDC have advertised and entered a public consultation period.
The transfer from Persimmon is progressing.
There was an alert received on Monday 6 th January that Market Deeping was at high risk of flooding. Many bags of sand were issued to residents and Councillors visited businesses and residents to assess the situation. We worked with Deeping St James Councillors who were able to remove items from the weir which were stopping the flow of water at High Locks. Thankfully we were not flooded.

156. Correspondence to be noted and resolved upon

Correspondence to be Noted – Received up to 15 January 2025				
No.	Received from	Date Received	Subject	Committee Response

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1.	A Howell	09.01.25	Community Policing panel meeting 30 th January 2025	Noted
2.	Louth Town Council	09.1.25	Funeral of Councillor	Noted.
3.	SKDC	09.01.25	SKDC Funding workshop Stamford 23.1.25	Noted.
4.	LCC	14.01.25	Budget and Council Tax proposals 25/26	Noted.
Correspondence to be Acted Upon – Received up to 15 January 2025				
No.	Received from	Date Received	Subject	Committee Response
1.			There were no items to be acted upon.	

157. Council Finances

a) Income and expenditure by cost centre

Members had received a copy of the Council Finances and Omega report prior to the meeting. Cllr Dr Byrd asked if there were any questions. There were none.

b) Accounts to be paid January 2025

It was **RESOLVED** that the council pay its' bills for January 2025. See appendix A.

c) For members to review Council Finances to 31.12.24

It was **RESOLVED** unanimously to accept the report.

d) For members to review EMRs

It was **RESOLVED** unanimously to accept the EMRs at 31.12.24 as correct.

158. For members to consider defibrillator training

Cllr Piper reported that Cllr Broughton and himself had recently installed two defibrillators, a third one is yet to be installed but has been delayed until planning permission has been granted. Cllr Piper reported that whilst at the Christmas Market he had had a discussion with the LIVES volunteers and wondered if the council would consider holding a training session on how to use a defibrillator. This would be for members of the public. Cllr Ms Reed suggested that 6th form students should be invited to attend. The training could take place possibly on a Saturday morning at the community centre. The training could be filmed and placed on social media.

Cllr Wey left the meeting at 7.55 pm.

It was **RESOLVED** that Cllr Piper would liaise with LIVES and provide details and a possible date at a future meeting.

Cllr Hanson informed that he is currently being trained to be a trainer for defibrillator use. It was also agreed that bleed kit training would also be useful following the councils purchase of these kits which are now placed within the defibrillator case.

159. For members to consider ratification of Precept request for 2025/26 as agreed by Finance and Personnel committee at their meeting on 15th January 2025

A discussion took place regarding the revised grass cutting considerations. It was considered that as a result EMRs could be reduced in the 25/26 precept as below:

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EMR allocation for 25/26 agreed at Finance and Personnel meeting 15.1.25			
EMR ACCOUNT	NAME	allocated 25/26	To cost centre
323	TRACTOR	£5,000	4180/200 - Tractor purchase
324	TOWN HALL	£1,000	4290/200 - Self-storage
		£3,000	4325/310 - Xmas market
		£10,000	4341/300 - Grass cutting
		£6,000	4171/110 - Town Hall repairs
335	ALLOTMENTS	£3,000	4281/200 - Allotments
338	PLAY EQUIPMENT	£2,000	4262/200 - Play equipment repairs
347	DIGITAL COUNCIL	£20,000	4180/200 - Cherry Tree play equip
348	LEGAL FEES	£4,235	4061/100 - Legal fees
354	SUSTAINABLE TRAVEL	£20,000	4180/200 - Cherry Tree play equip
		£74,235	

EMR allocation for 25/26 amended at Full Council meeting 15.1.25 (due to revised grass cutting considerations)

EMR ACCOUNT	NAME	allocated 25/26	To cost centre
323	TRACTOR	£5,000	4180/200 - Tractor purchase
324	TOWN HALL	£1,000	4290/200 - Self-storage
		£3,000	4325/310 - Xmas market
		6,000	4171/110 - Town Hall repairs
335	ALLOTMENTS	£3,000	4281/200 - Allotments
338	PLAY EQUIPMENT	£2,000	4262/200 - Play equipment repairs
347	DIGITAL COUNCIL	£20,000	4180/200 - Cherry Tree play equip
348	LEGAL FEES	£4,235	4061/100 - Legal fees
354	SUSTAINABLE TRAVEL	£20,000	4180/200 - Cherry Tree play equip
		£64,235	

It was **RESOLVED** unanimously to accept the recommendations of Finance and Personnel Committee (after adjustment for EMRs as above) with regards to the budget and precept proposals for 2025/26 and instruct the Town Clerk & RFO to submit the Precept demand to South Kesteven District Council in the amount of £267,734.00. There is no increase in this year's Precept.

Market Deeping Town Council

<u>Precept Summary 2025/2026</u>		Funding Source	
	Total	Precept	EMR
Administration	£130,000.00	£125,765.00	£4,235.00
Amenities & Open Spaces Committee	£168,949.00	£114,949.00	£54,000.00
Cemetery Committee	£6,900.00	£6,900.00	
Planning & Highways Committee	£12,400.00	£12,400.00	
Town Hall Committee	£13,720.00	£7,720.00	£6,000.00
Precept 2025/2026 Total Cost	£331,969.00	£267,734.00	£64,235.00

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160. For members to ratify the statement to accompany Council tax bills for 2025/26

Members received a copy of the statement and it was **RESOLVED** unanimously to accept the council tax statement for 2025/26 as outlined below.

MARKET DEEPING TOWN COUNCIL									
PRECEPT INFORMATION 2025/26									
ESTIMATED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE									
ESTIMATE BASE 2024/25			PROJECTED OUTTURN 2024/25				ESTIMATE BASE 2025/26		
Overhead budget £000's	Income £000's	Net Exp £000's	Overhead Exp £000's	Income £000's	Net Exp £000's	SERVICES	Overhead Exp £000's	Income £000's	Net Exp £000's
25.5	15.0	10.5	25.2	20.0	5.2	Cemetery	£26,900.00	£20,000.00	£6,900.00
23.9	2.0	21.9	13.3	4.0	9.3	Planning & Highways	£16,400.00	£4,000.00	£12,400.00
129.9	3.3	126.6	143.1	33.3	109.8	Amenities and Open Spaces	£172,265.00	£3,316.00	£168,949.00
16.3	0.0	16.3	5.0	0.0	5.0	Town Hall	£13,720.00	£0.00	£13,720.00
128.2	7.0	121.2	127.9	284.6	-156.7	Administration	£137,500.00	£11,500.00	£126,000.00
0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	General Reserves	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
9.8	6.7	3.1	8.6	6.7	1.9	Public Toilet	£10,700.00	£6,700.00	£4,000.00
333.6	34.0	299.6	323.1	348.6	-25.5	TOTALS	£377,485.00	£45,516.00	£331,969.00
Financed from:							Financed from:		
Reserves		31.8					Reserves		64.2
Precept		267.8					Precept		267.8
NOTE	1.0	Major item of Expenditure for 2024/25 included:							
		Purchase of cemetery land					£4,500		
		Christmas Tree purchase and Christmas lights (lease)					£5,865		
		Deepings Library					£7,000		
		Deepings Youth Group					£6,000		
		Playscheme					£3,000		
		Citizen's Advice Bureau					£4,250		
		Play equipment and BMX track					£6,737		
NOTE	2.0	Major item of Expenditure for 2025/26 will include:							
		Grass cutting (tbc)							
		Purchase of cemetery land					£4,500		
		Christmas Tree purchase and Christmas lights (lease)					£7,000		
		Deepings Library					£8,500		
		Deepings Youth Group					£7,500		
		Playscheme					£3,000		
		Citizen's Advice Bureau					£4,750		

161. For members to consider approach from local charity

Cllr Ms Reed briefed members about the Soroptimist charity which is a global voice for women and asked if the council would like to invite them to speak at a future Full Council meeting and the Annual Town Meeting. It was agreed to invite the charity to attend a both. Cllr Reed would agree a date with the group.

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162. For members to receive update on emergency plan

Cllr Mrs Jones informed members that the emergency plan had been registered with the Local Resilience Forum. This now means that Market Deeping Town Council, Deeping St James Parish Council and Deeping Gate have access to a network of services that will be able to advice and offer support should there be flooding in the future. Cllr Mrs Jones had received notification at 8.50 pm on 6 January that there was a potential risk of flooding. Sandbags were supplied to residents and businesses that were at risk. A debrief will be taking place in a couple of weeks. The Town Council has recently acquired via the Levelling Up Grant, two 25ft water barriers which will hold back approximately 3ft of water. Training has been provided to staff and a number of councillors.

Cllr Jones left the meeting at 8.20pm.

163. For members to consider arrangements for forthcoming events: For members to consider Civic dinner – 28th March 2025, VE Day 8TH May 2025 – proposed volunteer and Celebration event, Funday Sunday 13th July and Air Ambulance Coffee morning

Civic dinner – Friday 28th March 2025, Black Horse, Baston – save the dates have been issued to neighbouring councils. Formal invitations will be issued shortly.

VE Day – Thursday 8th May 2025 – Cllrs to provide names of volunteers to the Clerks

Funday Sunday – 13th July – Cllrs agreed that this will go ahead

Air Ambulance coffee morning – Cllr Ms Reed would like to hold a coffee morning and suggests that this could be held the same time as the defibrillator training. It was **RESOLVED** unanimously to support this event.

164. For members to discuss and consider any points raised in the public session

There were no matters for discussion.

165. Personnel Matters: Consideration to go into Closed Session to discuss:

There were no matters to discuss.

166. To consider items for inclusion on the agenda items for next meeting of the Town Council, to be held at The Town Hall, Market Deeping on Wednesday 12 February 2025.

- Patient Participation Group (JR)

The Chairman thanked all members for attending and declared the meeting closed at 8.35 pm. The next scheduled meeting of the Full Council will be held on Wednesday 12 February 2025.

Chairman's signature.....

Date.....

Attachments: Appendix A