

REPORT FROM THE MAINTENANCE COUNCILLOR OF THE TOWN MEETING ON 31ST OCTOBER AND IMPLICATIONS FOR THE BUDGET.

1. THE TOWN MEETING:

The presentation that developed the idea that a radical new approach was required to preserve the valued social organisations received an empathetic response. 40 persons present supported a small increase (stated as maximum £20 per year) in the precept specifically to support those valued groups with 3 dissenting.

2. BROAD BRUSH INDICATIVE FINANCE PROPOSALS

2.1. HENLEY-IN-ARDEN WAR MEMORIAL TRUST

- 2.1.1. Existing regular grant funding to be transferred to a commissioning contract £5,000,
- 2.1.2. Contribution to contract maintenance of the Sports Field with funds provided by the fees paid by affiliated clubs £6,000.
- 2.1.3. Cost of employing a Chief Exec 12 hours per week £18.00 per hour plus on costs estimated at £12,500.
- 2.1.4. Estimated total of cost of a negotiated commission with the HWMT £23,500 pa over three years. This will be seen as the expression of the parish council that our citizens should be encouraged to engage in physical activities and their contribution towards ensuring good opportunities exist for all.

2.2 THE HUB@HENLEY COMMUNITY CENTRE CIO

- 2.2.1. £5,000 per year to support the daytime activities and youth work.
- 2.2.2. £10,600 would fund the salary of the centre manager 12 hours per week 52 weeks per year.

2.3. THE LIBRARY.

2.3.1. £12,000 per year would provide most of the funds to ensure that with the voluntary structure presently in place the library's future would be secure. This would leave a lower fundraising target for the library team.

2.4. HENLEY IN BLOOM

- 2.4.1.** Extra Costs to Maintenance Budget £3,000 per year
- 2.4.2. Three year annual capital programme £10,000 per year (auto watering systems to large groups of pots) and new pots.
- 2.4.3. Continue with £3500 per year towards plant costs.
- 2.4.4. The JPC could expect that the business sponsorship and residents' donations would match £6,500.

2.5. TOTAL IMPLICATIONS FOR THE BUDGET OF THESE PROPOSALS

- 2.5.1. £67500. Per year over the next three years. This figure is greater than the council should be allocating and would be reduced by discussion with the four organisations.
- 2.5.2. Funding could be met from the estimated savings to be made year on year by the council's estimated reduction in administration costs £22,500 savings per year over three years, £20,000 per year reduced grant fund, £25,000 per year over the next three years increase in precept.

3. COMMISSIONING.

The whole scheme would be governed by a consultative Commissioning Process resulting in a three year agreement where clear responsibilities were outlined, targets for performance agreed reviewed annually defined. Funding justified by the cost of the commission secured with inflation for at least three years. Essentially working together using the respective strengths of the social organisations and the JPC for maximum improvement in all the organisations. A commission from the JPC would authorise the commissioned organisation to carry out specific duties and activities on behalf of the council. Such duties and activities will be within the powers of the council. The cost of these measurable and clear objectives to be agreed with the social organisation selected to carry out the specified duties and activities.

4. Proposal:

It is resolved that a budget preparation group be formed consisting of the Chairman, Finance Councillor and one other Councillor to prepare detailed proposals for the four groups set out in this report, to calculate the effect on the total precept for 1917/18 taking account of the annual savings made by economies during this financial year and the reduction in requirement to provide grants for the aforesaid social organisations. They are further charged with ensuring that the activities to be commissioned are within the powers of the council. They are authorised to enter into discussions with each organisation to see if any reductions in the proposals can be found without adversely affecting the capacity of the organisation to deliver the demands of the commission from the council.