

MINUTES of the SPECIAL MEETING of the SWANSCOMBE & GREENHITHE TOWN COUNCIL  
held at THE COUNCIL OFFICES, THE GROVE, SWANSCOMBE on THURSDAY 11 JANUARY  
2018 at 7.30PM

**PRESENT:** Councillor Ms L M Cross – Town Mayor  
Councillor Mrs A E D Barham – Deputy Town Mayor  
Councillor K G Basson  
Councillor Mrs S P Butterfill  
Councillor P C Harris  
Councillor Ms L C Howes  
Councillor R J Lees  
Councillor Mrs L Manchester  
Councillor D J Mote  
Councillor S J Ryan

**ALSO PRESENT:** Graham Blew - Town Clerk  
Martin Harding – Assistant Town Clerk/RFO

**ABSENT:** Councillor K M Kelly  
Councillor Mrs M B Kelly  
Councillor B R Parry

**406/17-18. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors' Ms L M Hall, Dr J M Harman, P M Harman, J A Hayes, A S Reach, B E Read and Mrs I A Read.

An apology for lateness was submitted by Councillor D J Mote.

**407/17-18. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA.**

There were none.

***The Chairman gave the opportunity for the meeting to be adjourned at this point to accept questions from the public.***

**408/17-18. ANNUAL ESTIMATES FOR 2018 – 2019.**

Further to minutes 306/17-18 (*FGP 2 November 2017*) and 369/17-18, 370/17-18 (*full Council 14 December 2017*) members considered the proposed Annual Estimates for 2018 – 2019.

Members acknowledged that the Estimates were the result of a number of years work by the Town Council to have its finances in order and to take into account the increasing negative effect of outside pressures on the Councils funds. Members were pleased that the Town Council were able to have Estimates that included many additional projects for the forthcoming year, with no extra financial burden to the Towns residents, and were also able to reduce the Town Councils element of the Council Tax Bill by 5.5%.

MOVED BY Councillor S J Ryan, seconded by Councillor R J Lees and unanimously agreed;

RESOLVED:

That the proposed Annual Estimates for 2018– 2019 and subsequent proposed Council Tax Base (Band D) be approved.

**409/17-18. COUNCIL TAX BASE 2018 – 2019.**

Members were asked to set the Council Tax Base for Band D properties 2018 - 2019.

Members were pleased to note that, despite a potential reduction in Section 136 and Central Government Grant funding of 43%, the Town Councils' proposed Council Tax Base for Band D properties had been reduced by 5.5% following the previous year's having been frozen.

MOVED BY Councillor S J Ryan, seconded by Councillor P C Harris and unanimously agreed;

RESOLVED:

That the Council Tax Base for Band D properties 2018 – 2019 be set at £96.46 and the precept be set at £494,139.00.

**410/17-18. DRAFT BUDGET STATEMENT 2018 – 2019.**

Members received the Draft Budget Statement and commended the officers on its style and presentation.

After discussion Members suggested some minor amendments and it was unanimously agreed:

RESOLVED:

That the Budget Statement 2018 – 2019, including the minor amendments suggested by Members, be finalised and produced and distributed in the same manner and timescale as in the previous year.

There being no further business to transact the Meeting closed at 7.35 pm.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Chairman)