

Snodland Town Council – Full Council Minutes

11 January 2024

Councillors in attendance:	Cllrs Ms D King (C), Mrs S Bell (VC), Mrs J Ayers, Mrs V Barker, A Bennison, Mrs D Crook, P Hickmott, Miss V Lawrence, D Lettington, S Loader, W Mallard, G Miners, and D Morgan
Other Council Members in Attendance:	Mrs K Sowten (CEO)
Others in Attendance	County Cllr Mrs S Hohler
Councillors Absent with apologies:	Mrs K Mordecai-Woolf (DVC), Mrs N Misy, W Mallard
Councillors Absent without apologies:	
Other Apologies:	

The Chairman asked Cllr Hickmott to say a few words relating to one of the Councils retired Councillors, Julian Atkins who sadly passed away in December. A one minute silence was held in remembrance of the late retired Cllr Atkins

1.	<u>Apologies for absence</u> See above.
2.	<u>Declaration of interests</u>
3.	<u>Questions from the Public</u> Pursuant to Standing Order 3 e & g Members of the public may make representation, answer questions and give evidence at a meeting which they are entitled to attend in respect of the business on the agenda. A member of the public shall not speak for more than 3 minutes.
4.	<u>To consider the Final Budget for 2024/25 for approval</u> Cllr Ms Lawrence presented the final budget and advised that it had been amended following receipt of the precept tax base from TMBC. Changes reflected in the budget were explained and a full copy of the budget and notes are available on file. Following amendments this leads to an increase in the precept from £334255 to £344811. The level of band D equivalent during the current year 2023/24 is £84.70 with its tax base of 3946.34. The 2024/25 tax base has been confirmed by TMBC as 3959.82. $2023/24 \text{ } \pounds 334255 / 3946.34 = \pounds 84.70$ $2024/25 \text{ } \pounds 344811 / 3959.82 = \pounds 87.08$ - An increase on band D properties of £2.38. (2.8%) A question was raised regarding the level of reserves that are currently held by the council in the Earmarked and Capital Reserves, The CEO advised that as of 15 November 2023 Earmarked Reserves £228291 and Capital Reserves £302571. The CEO advised that a detailed report on the reserves would be provided at year end. The Chairman of Policy and Finance thanked the CEO for the detailed notes and explanations attached to the budget, and for the hard work taken to produce an extremely challenging budget.

