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**Minutes of the Legal & Finance Committee** meeting held on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2023 at 2.00pm, in the Town Council Office, Lady Street, Dulverton.

**Present:** Chairman: Mrs Christine Dubery. Cllrs. Mr Nick Thwaites, Mr Alan Ottey and Mrs Margaret Rawle.

**Apologies:** Cllr. Mrs Louise Parrish

### Deferment of business for comment by the public. None

Declarations of Interest: None

#### Chairman's Comments & Meeting Management: None

#### Administration Budgetary Requirements - 2024/25

Members considered the anticipated administration costs for 2023/24 (Appendix D) and subsequently:

<u>RESOLVED</u>: To submit the proposals concerning the administrations costs as per for inclusion in the budgetary requirements for 2024/25. Proposed by Mrs Dubery, seconded by Mr Thwaites and carried.

#### Chairman's allowance 2024/25

<u>RESOLVED</u>: To approve Chairman's Expenses of £400.00. Proposed by Mr Thwaites, seconded Mr Ottey and carried.

#### **Recommended Budgetary Requirements and Precept – 2024/25**

Members reviewed the Grounds Committee (Appendix B) and Town Management Committee budget (Appendix C) recommendations and made amendments where they considered appropriate.

Members considered the budgetary requirements for Year Commencing  $1^{st}$  April 2023 and following lengthy discussion determined that it would likely be set somewhere between £89,000 and £92,200.

However, members were reluctant to make a recommendation to full council until details of the base rate had been provided by Somerset County.

# Appointment of Internal Auditor – Year Ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024

<u>RESOLVED</u>: To appoint Mr Paul Russell, Microshade VSM as the Internal Auditor for Year Ending  $31^{st}$  March 2024. Proposed by Mr Ottey, seconded by Mr Thwaites and carried.

## Correspondence: None

Urgent matters to be considered with permission of the Chairman: None

<u>Chairman</u>.....