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Minutes of the Legal & Finance Committee meeting held on Tuesday 21st 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 31st 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>.....