

## **FULL COUNCIL**

**WEDNESDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2019**

### **CHANGES TO ALLOWANCE PAID TO THE MACEBEARER**

#### **1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

1.1 To approve changes to the level of allowance paid to the Macebearer.

#### **2.0 BACKGROUND**

2.1 In 2018/19, the Macebearer was paid £1300 (through the payroll) honorarium. This amount had not been reviewed for many years and at Council in June 2019 it was resolved to revisit the level of honorarium.

#### **3.0 EVIDENCE FROM OTHER LOCAL COUNCILS**

3.1 The Town Clerk requested details from other larger local councils regarding whether they have a Macebearer and level of allowance.

3.2 Six of the Town Councils that responded have macebearers. The level of allowance (not honorarium) ranges from:

- £8.75 an hour up to 12 hours a year (max £105)
- £50 per event
- £100 a year

3.3 A couple of Councils have prepared a detailed role description with the others having more informal arrangements with the presence of the Macebearer expected at Civic occasions such as Remembrance Sunday and Civic Service.

#### **4.0 PROPOSED CHANGES**

4.1 Abergavenny Town Council is out of step with the level of allowance paid. It is therefore proposed that the Macebearer is offered £50 for attendance at an event whether that is a Civic function or supporting a Mayoral reception. The number of Civic events could be three, four or five – Civic Service, Mons Day, Remembrance Sunday with possibilities of Christmas Light Switch On and Annual Meeting. The number of Mayoral receptions will be reduced estimated at a maximum of six a year. The allowance would therefore be a max of £550 (5 Civic functions and 6 Mayoral receptions)

4.2 The Town Clerk has attempted to discuss these proposals with the current Macebearer but has been unable to do so. A message has been left on the answerphone and a letter delivered by hand setting out the proposals as it is

not desirable that the Macebearer hears about these proposals from a third party.

## **5.0 RECOMMENDATION**

- 5.1 To approve an allowance of £50 for each occasion attended by the Macebearer and that this commences 2020/21.