ABERGAVENNY TOWN COUNCIL

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY 17TH JANUARY 2024

PR06/24: DRFAT BUDGTE PROPOSALS 2024/25

1. PURPOSE
   1. To receive the draft budget proposals for 2024/25
2. BACKGROUND
   1. Over the last year the cost of living crisis is having more of an effect on services supported by Abergavenny Town Council.
   2. Organisations are having funding cut by other income streams, leading to requests being received for increased contributions from Abergavenny Town Council.
   3. Service agreements with various contractors will increase by up to 7.5%.
3. PROPOSALS
   1. Independent Remuneration Panel draft report has stated the Councillors allowance and expenses are to remain the same as 2023/24.
   2. Civic Event budget increase due to 125th Birthday celebrations.
   3. Removal of Sponsorship budget due to organisations now requesting Cooperation Agreements for long term funding.
   4. Large Grant budget reduced by half due to no requests being received in 2023/24.
   5. New code and budget proposed for Website and Social Media Management and support.
   6. Increase of £2000 proposed for Citizens Advice provision.
   7. Request received from MIND in Gwent for increase form £10,000 to £15,000 to match funding provision of Monmouth and Chepstow Twon Councils.
   8. New budget code required for Agreement for Black Mountain Jazz fro £4000 per annum for three years.
   9. New budget code required for Agreement for 7Corners for £10,000 per annum for three years.
   10. Abergavenny In Bloom increase for planting costs.
   11. Town Team provision increase confirmed by Monmouthshire County Council.
   12. Tourist Information Centre funding cut by Monmouthshire County Council. Increase of £5000 proposed to match provision from BBNPA with a commitment to work alongside team to increase retail offer to meet further £10,000 shortfall over next 12 months.
   13. Reduction of Christmas Light Budget to £18,000.
   14. Overall increase of £57,050 on 2023/24 budget. This equates to an 8.83% increase (£594,136 / Monmouthshire County Council Tax Base figure £5263.72 = £112.87 – last year’s increase of £102.90 = £9.97 = 19p per week)
4. RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 To consider the proposals and accept the draft budget as laid out in the spread sheet and detailed above, and send to Full Council for ratifying.