



Meeting	Winchester Town Forum
Date and Time	Thursday, 17th January, 2019 at 6.30 pm.
Venue	Walton Suite, Guildhall, Winchester

AGENDA

Procedural Items

1. **Apologies**
To record the names of apologies given
2. **Disclosures of Interests**
To receive any disclosure of interests from Members and Officers in matters to be discussed.
Note: Councillors are reminded of their obligations to declare disclosable pecuniary interests, personal and/or prejudicial interests in accordance with legislation and the Council's Code of Conduct.

If you require advice, please contact the appropriate Democratic Services Officer, prior to the meeting.

3. **Chairman's Announcements**
4. **Minutes** (Pages 5 - 10)
Minutes of the previous meeting held on 14 November 2018

Business Items

5. **Public Participation**
To receive and note the questions asked and statements made from members of the public on issues relating to the responsibility of this Forum.
6. **Town Account Budget for 2019/20** (Pages 11 - 22)
(WTF267)



Members of the public are able to easily access all of the papers for this meeting by opening the QR Code reader on your phone or tablet. Hold your device over the QR Code below so that it's clearly visible within your screen and you will be redirected to the agenda pack.



9 January 2019

Agenda Contact: Matthew Watson, Democratic Services Officer
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**With the exception of exempt items, Agenda, reports and previous minutes are available on the Council's Website www.winchester.gov.uk*

MEMBERSHIP

Chairman: Weir (Liberal Democrats)

Vice-Chairman: Scott (Conservative)

Liberal Democrats

Becker
Green
Hiscock
Hutchison
Learney
Murphy
Thompson
Tod

Conservatives

Ashton
Berry
Burns
Mather

Quorum = 4 members

The two Country Council Members representing the Winchester Town area are invited as observers.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A public question and comment session is available at 6.30pm for a 15 minute period. There are a few limitations on the questions you can ask. These mainly relate to current applications (including grants), personal cases and confidential matters. Please contact the Democratic Services Officer in advance of the meeting for further details. If there are no members of the public present at 6.30pm who wish to ask questions or make statements, then the meeting will commence.

Voting:

- apart from the Chairman, every Member has one vote when a matter before the meeting requires a decision.
- in the event of an equality of votes, the Chairman may exercise a casting vote and that vote may be exercised in any way seen fit.
- a Member may abstain from voting, or vote differently from how they may have indicated during the debate, without further explanation.

the way each Member voted will not be recorded in the minutes, unless a motion to have a Recorded Vote has been passed.

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WINCHESTER TOWN FORUM

Wednesday, 14 November 2018

Attendance:

Councillors

Weir (Chairman)

Ashton
Becker
Berry
Green
Hiscock
Hutchison

Learney
Mather
Murphy
Thompson
Tod

Others in attendance who addressed the meeting:

Councillor Humby, Portfolio Holder for Business Partnerships

Officers in attendance

Richard Botham, Strategic Director: Services (Interim)

Apologies for Absence:

Councillors Scott and Burns

1. **DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS**

Councillor Hiscock declared a personal (but not prejudicial) interest in relation to item 6 due to his role as County Councillor and some of his divisional area being subject to discussion.

The Chairman advised that members' interests in respect of item 7 would be taken under the relevant item below.

2. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman updated the Forum following the recent meeting of the Town Forum Engagement Informal Group. The group had met to discuss several issues concerning the funding of the evening bus service. Further work and dialogue with Stagecoach was to take place, and an update would be provided to the Forum in due course.

The Chairman advised that at the January 2019 meeting of the Forum, a separate session would be held for members to receive a briefing and discussion

concerning the Local Plan refresh.

3. **MINUTES**

The Forum were advised that a constructive meeting had taken place earlier today regarding St Maurice's Covert, and it was hoped that tenders would be ready to issue shortly.

In response to questions concerning the High Street Task Force Forum previously mentioned at Council, the Strategic Director: Services (Interim) clarified that work had begun on drafting Terms of Reference for this Forum.

Regarding the item on the previous minutes concerning the Environmental Services contract, the Chairman advised that a follow-up meeting was planned for the new year. The Strategic Director: Services (Interim) confirmed that member briefings would take place before the end of the year with dates to be advised.

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the previous meeting held on the 12 September 2018 be approved and adopted.

4. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Janet Berry (on behalf of Highcliffe Community Forum for Action) addressed the Forum in respect of Item 6 below (Annual Update on Play Area Improvements).

In summary, she made particular reference to the KGV Play area and Skate Park. She was pleased to see the site within the council's programme but was concerned about the potential lack of funding. She considered that the facilities were well used, valued and respected. She also believed the wider area was in need of improved facilities. She suggested that refurbishment of the site would help the Council achieve several of its own objectives in relation to Play, Obesity and Wellbeing. She acknowledged that the potential cost of refurbishment was a significant sum but sought support from the Forum for these improvements.

The Chairman thanked Janet Berry for her contribution and advised that her points would be reflected upon during the discussion of that report later on the agenda.

5. **WINCHESTER TOWN ACCOUNT MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL POSITION**

Report WTF266 refers.

The Committee considered the report of the Finance Manager (Strategic Finance) which provided the Forum with an update on the current budget setting options/considerations for 2019/20 and the medium term plans and projections. It was noted that the Forum's Town Account Informal Group had met during October 2018 to discuss an early draft of this report. The key points highlighted

were:

It is expected that the overall referendum limit for the Council in 2019/20 will remain at either 3% or £5. The decision on the level of council tax for 2019/20 would be taken at Council in February.

In terms of the budget review for 2019/20, several issues detailed within paragraphs 11.11 through to 11.17 of the report were highlighted, including:

- the grants process,
- the environmental services contract,
- the maintenance costs for King George V playing fields,
- the play improvements capital budget,
- the night bus services,
- maintenance of public conveniences

In response to questions from Members, officers confirmed that:

- approximately 17% of the Town Funding was from Fees & Charges.
- that the income received through Sports pitch bookings was around £26,000.
- sports pitches, whilst generating income, carry a significant cost of approximately £240,000.
- following a review and benchmarking a report would be brought back to the Forum in 2019 detailing several options on this.

The Committee discussed the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) section of the report. The Finance Manager (Strategic Finance) advised that the total billed Town contributions amounted to £638,000. A one-off budget of £100,000 was available in 2018/19 and £50,000 budget was proposed for 2019/20. The Strategic Director: Services (Interim) informed the Forum that a recruitment exercise was underway for a CIL Implementation Officer and he would update members at the next meeting regarding this.

During debate Members sought clarity regarding the “special expenses” issue, particularly in relation to the Forums current, £80,000 annual grant budget. Councillor Learney informed the Forum that she had recently written to the Monitoring Officer concerning this issue and asked at this meeting for the following to be recorded: “I’d like to ask the Town Forum to ask the Cabinet to consider the nature of the Town Forum precept as being a special expense and to think about whether all the articles within the budget actually fall within the legislation regarding such expenses”

RESOLVED:

1. That the report be noted; and
2. That the issues set out above, be considered by Cabinet in relation to the wider budget consultation.

6. ANNUAL UPDATE ON PLAY AREA IMPROVEMENTS

Report WTF265 refers.

The Forum received a presentation (available on the council's website) from the Head of Landscapes and Open Spaces which provided members with an update on four play area sites: Winnall Manor Road, Marnhull Rise, Taplings Road and Gordon Avenue. Each site was described and an update on its current status and future plans was provided, as set out in paragraphs 11.2 through to 11.5 of the report.

The Head of Landscapes and Open Spaces advised that, from next year it is planned to improve the reporting and updating process back to the Forum. Annually a report would come to the Town Forum for approval which would include updates on the projects in the programme due for delivery in the current financial year. In addition, a 5-year rolling programme identifying the planned works including proposed costings and funding options would be presented.

The Forum received an update regarding the programme of works. It was explained that the long-term plan was indicative only and there was always movement on delivery due to a range of factors including priorities, costs and a need for flexibility. A revised, 5-year programme would be brought back to Town Forum in 12 months time.

During debate, Members raised several matters, set out below:

- At the consultation event for Taplings Road all options looked fantastic
- There was general support from the Forum to the importance of and refurbishment at KGV
- Specific issues relating to Priory Gardens and Winnall Manor Rd were raised which officers would review.
- In relation to North Walls Recreation Ground, the Head of Landscapes and Open Spaces advised that the Council was very keen to move forward on this development once the wider development work was understood.

In summary, Officers were thanked for their work, the Forum considered that the process was identifying the right priorities, the refurbishments were excellent and the outcomes were having the desired effect.

RESOLVED:

1. That the progress on the play area improvement programme be noted; and
2. That the comments of the Forum be fed into the future programme of works.

7. COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTARY SECTOR GRANTS REVIEW

The following personal (but not prejudicial) interests were declared by members before consideration of this item:

- Councillor Berry as a member of the Town Forum (Town Account Grants) Informal Group.
- Councillor Mather as a member of the Trinity Advisory Committee
- Councillor Tod as a volunteer at the Night Shelter and due to his role as Hampshire County Councillor and his provision of community grants
- Councillor Murphy as a volunteer for Home-Start
- Councillor Green due to his involvement with the Rainbow Club
- Councillor Weir as a Trustee with WinACC
- Councillor Hiscock as a member of Hyde 900 and as a fundraiser for Trinity

The Committee considered the report of the Corporate Head of Engagement which proposed changes to the current funding programme, which, if agreed will be introduced in 2019/20. The Grant Review, which started in June 2018, was instigated due to three key issues: the need to meet the financial challenges facing the Council; to work with partners on service provision that meet the needs of residents, businesses and visitors; and to simplify the various funding streams for different organisations.

The recommendations had been arrived at following extensive analysis, internal review and external benchmarking. A full programme of consultation and engagement with members, currently funded organisations and other interested parties was undertaken and the report was considered by The Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 15 October 2018. Details and results of the full engagement programme were included in the report, as set out from paragraph 11.16 and in Appendices 1 and 2.

The key findings from the engagement showed that organisations value the partnership of the Council, that processes need to be simpler and that organisations valued having a relationship with a lead officer within the Council. In addition, it was noted that there was a range of financial support that the Council made available to organisations. The revised new programme would comprise five elements; a strategic fund, a priority outcomes fund, small local grants, crowdfunding and a flexible grant pot. The Corporate Head of Engagement outlined each element of the framework and advised that further work was being undertaken on the processes that support these proposals.

Members of the Forum raised questions on a range of issues which were responded to as summarised below:

It was clarified that an online survey had been issued previously to all Ward Councillors and Parish Councils and that following the discussion at The Overview & Scrutiny Committee on the 15 October 2018, several issues were being worked on.

Following concerns that organisations may see large, sudden reductions in

funding, it was clarified that, where possible, step reductions in funding would be made. Where this happens, this would run in parallel to the Council supporting and advising organisations on how to seek funding from other sources.

Several questions were asked regarding the crowdfunding element of the scheme. The Forum was advised that organisations would place the project on the online platform to attract funding and that the City Council could match fund it within certain limits. If the purpose of the crowdfunding grant was not connected with any existing grant, then it should not affect an organisation's current grant.

In response to a question concerning funding to support organisations or projects involved with supporting mental health, the Corporate Head of Engagement confirmed that this would be a priority area.

The Forum debated at some length the issues connected to how funds from the Town Forum can be accountable and separate from District funding and also how the priorities of the Town Forum could best be reflected in the process. These issues had previously been raised by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Forum was advised that the matter had been highlighted formally with the Monitoring Officer and a response was awaited. Two potential proposals discussed could be to capture information from the grant application that would show the numbers and locations of residents to benefit from the grant. In addition, it could be possible for Town Forum members to be part of the decision-making process. The Corporate Head of Engagement advised that officers were working on the issues raised and that this issue would form part of the final report taken to Cabinet.

Councillor Humby provided an update regarding several points that had been raised and assured members that officers were working through the comments from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the feedback from the Forum. He stated that he understood the points raised and advised that the intention of the review was to provide a transparent, fair and equitable process that helped partners deliver on their objectives. He stated that all comments would be fed back into the preparation of the final report to be considered by Cabinet.

In conclusion, the Forum welcomed the clarity and consistency set out in the report.

RESOLVED:

That the views of the Town Forum set out above be taken to Cabinet for consideration.

The meeting commenced at 6.30 pm and concluded at 8.05 pm

Chairman

REPORT TITLE: TOWN ACCOUNT BUDGET FOR 2019/20

17 JANUARY 2019

REPORT OF FINANCE MANAGER (STRATEGIC FINANCE)

Contact Officer: Darren Kennedy Tel No: 01962 848464 Email
dkennedy@winchester.gov.uk

WARD(S): ALL TOWN WARDS

PURPOSE

This report presents the current financial projections for the Town Account for the period 2018/19 to 2026/27 and financial sensitivities, in order that recommendations can be made to the Cabinet on the budget to be set within the Winchester Town area for 2019/20.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Town Forum:

1. considers the draft budget for 2019/20 and the indicative projections for the strategy period;
2. considers the Council Tax precept for the Town area which it wishes to recommend to Cabinet, noting the requirement for the Council to keep within overall referendum constraints;
3. approves, in principle, CIL funds of up to £50,000 for road widening works at Weeke Community Centre;
4. approves the financial strategy, and
5. makes recommendations to Cabinet on the budget to be set for the Winchester Town area for 2019/20.

IMPLICATIONS:

1 COUNCIL STRATEGY OUTCOME

- 1.1 The budget consultation process is carried out with consideration of the council strategy outcomes.

2 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 2.1 As detailed in the report.

3 LEGAL AND PROCUREMENT IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 None

4 WORKFORCE IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 None directly from this paper.

5 PROPERTY AND ASSET IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The Town Account manages a number of the Council's assets including: cemeteries, bus shelters, footway lighting, bridges, and open spaces including play and sport equipment and changing pavilions.
- 5.2 The five year play refurbishment plan 2015 – 2020 (WTF237 refers) identifies the requirements to support the delivery of the Town play Outcomes up until 2020 and indicative requirements up until 2025.

6 CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

- 6.1 This report has been discussed with the Town Account Informal group, relevant staff and advisors.

7 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 7.1 Environmental considerations will be part of the business case supporting any budget proposals.

8 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSEMENT

- 8.1 None

9 DATA PROTECTION IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 9.1 None required

10 RISK MANAGEMENT

Risk	Mitigation	Opportunities
<i>Asset Management Plans (for example Play Areas / Sports Pavilions etc) are not kept up-to-date or are not funded</i>	<i>Regular updates to the asset management plans, and medium term financial forecasts in order for funding plans to be developed</i>	<i>Improvements to assets in order to meet the outcomes of the Council</i>
<i>Economic uncertainty leads to increased costs specifically from contractual inflation</i>	<i>The financial strategy sets a target earmarked reserve balance of 10% of net expenditure in order to meet unexpected costs</i>	
<i>Adverse weather causes damage to town assets including open spaces</i>	<i>Ensure the Council's insurance policy is kept fit for purpose</i> <i>The Winchester Town earmarked reserve balance</i>	

11 SUPPORTING INFORMATION:

Introduction

- 11.1 The Government has now announced the provisional finance settlement for 2019/20. As expected there are not any significant implications for the town account which raises all of its funding locally through the town precept and fees and charges. The council tax referendum rules were as expected and are detailed in 11.9 below.
- 11.2 The final Budget proposals for Winchester City Council will be considered by the Cabinet on 13 February 2019. The Forum is reminded that the Winchester Town budget is set by the Council and therefore any recommendations from the Forum are subject to approval by Cabinet and full Council in February 2019.
- 11.3 This report presents the current financial projections for the Town Account and financial sensitivities, in order that recommendations can be made to the Cabinet on the budget to be set for the Winchester Town area for 2019/20.
- 11.4 The work undertaken by the Informal Budget Review Group is reflected in this report.

Projections

- 11.5 In order that the Winchester Town Forum can consider specifically the implications for the Winchester Town Area, updated projections for the financial strategy period are included at Appendix 1, together with the key assumptions and sensitivity analysis.
- 11.6 The following assumptions have been used in the financial forecast shown in Appendix 1:
- An annual inflation allowance of 2.5% per annum for contractual inflation in 2019/20, and 2% thereafter. A 5% per annum allowance for utility costs.
 - Interest receivable on Winchester Town average earmarked reserve balances of 1%.
 - Income – Sports hire and cemetery fees and charges are forecast to increase by inflation at 2.4%. This will generate additional income of c£4k per annum.
 - The Council Tax Base is uplifted each year, from 2020/21, by an average of 1.2% per annum (which equates to 168 properties in 2020/21, generating an additional c£12k of income).
 - The Town precept increases by 3% in 2019/20.

Taxation

- 11.7 The final Council Tax Base for the Winchester Town area is now reflected in the estimates at 13,980.82 for 2019/20 (an increase of 169.08 / 1.2% properties on 2018/19 and equating to an additional c£12k of income).
- 11.8 The current Winchester Town Precept is £67.17 (per band D equivalent). A 3% increase will increase this by £2.02 to £69.19, generating approximately £28k of additional income per annum.
- 11.9 If the town and district taxes were both to increase by the maximum allowed for 2019/20 (under the £5 referendum limit), this would equate to just over 3%. If the district tax is not increased then the maximum town increase would be over 20%.
- 11.10 The proposed 3% increase and budget estimates are forecast to result in a 2019/20 closing earmarked reserve balance of £131k, which is in line with the financial strategy target of £91k (10% of net baseline revenue expenditure).

Grants

- 11.11 Further planned progression of the grant review programme has highlighted that expected grant applications for the priority fund are unlikely to be considered as town account special expenses.
- 11.12 The budget of £60k per annum was previously forecast to roll forward as a maximum town grant budget. It is now recommended that a maximum budget

of £27k per annum be made available towards the Citizens Advice Bureau and small grants programme, a reduction of £33k compared to the existing budget.

- 11.13 It is anticipated that the new crowd funding process could more readily identify specific projects, rather than services, that the town may wish to support. The town forum could decide to recommend a maximum budget towards this process and projects would only be allocated to the town if they met the special expenses requirements.

Capital and one-off revenue expenditure

- 11.14 The following one-off budgets are contained within revenue and the capital programme:
- i. Handlebar Café – £25k in 2018/19
 - ii. Chesil Theatre Grant – £30k in 2019/20
 - iii. Changing Pavilions North Walls – £44k in 2019/20 (£256k funded by S106 receipts, giving a total budget of £300k)
 - iv. Town reserve funded play area refurbishments – £789k to 2022/23
 - v. Community Infrastructure Levy - £100k in 2018/19 and £50k in 2019/20
 - vi. St Maurice's Covert - £22k in 2018/19 and £22k in 2019/20
- 11.15 Report WTF265 Annual Update on Play Area Improvements identified an additional requirement of £200k in 2020/21 for KGV play area and skate park works. These works are currently unfunded but a review of all play area improvements and timings will take place in 2019 with the aim of identifying funding for this scheme. This could be achieved either through re-profiling the timings of the programme or through the identification of additional funding.

Medium Term Financial Strategy Planning

- 11.16 Play area refurbishments – report WTF265 confirmed that an annual report will be produced from 2019/20 with a rolling five year works programme. This will ensure that the town can plan ahead sufficiently to ensure that resources are identified in order to fund the programme over the medium term.
- 11.17 Town precept – the medium term financial projections shown in Appendix A include estimated annual inflationary increases to the town precept in order to fund the medium term budget requirements and keep within the strategic target of a minimum reserve balance of at least 10% of net baseline expenditure.
- 11.18 The budget projections are based on inflationary increases in fees and charges as highlighted in 11.6 above. A strategic review of cemetery and open spaces fees & charges due to take place in 2019 which will include benchmarking with other local authorities and a full review of usage and

existing charges to ensure that charges are fair and consistent and with consideration to the current net cost of these services.

11.19 Based on current budget planning and the assumptions in 11.6 above the Winchester town earmarked reserve is forecast to achieve its target 10% balance over the medium term, as described in 11.14 above.

11.20 Special expenses are explained and detailed in appendix B.

12 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

12.1 None other than detailed in the report.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:-

Previous Committee Reports:-

Medium Term Financial Planning – CAB3103 – December 2018

Winchester Town Account Medium Term Financial Position - WTF266 - November 2018

Other Background Documents:-

None

APPENDICES:

Appendix A: Medium Term Financial Projections to 2026/27

Appendix B: Winchester Town Account Special Expenses

Appendix C: Community Infrastructure Levy bid updates

WINCHESTER TOWN ACCOUNT - Financial Projections

	2018/2019 Forecast	2019/2020 Forecast	2020/2021 Forecast	2021/2022 Forecast	2022/2023 Forecast	2023/2024 Forecast	2024/2025 Forecast	2025/2026 Forecast	2026/2027 Forecast
Assumptions:									
Contract inflation		2.5%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%
Utilities		5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%
Percentage increase in tax		3%	2%	2%	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Tax Base	13,812	13,981	14,149	14,318	14,490	14,664	14,840	15,018	15,198
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Cost of Services									
Recurring Budgets:									
Allotments	(1,864)	(1,864)	(1,864)	(1,864)	(1,864)	(1,864)	(1,864)	(1,864)	(1,864)
Bus Shelter Cleaning / Maintenance / New Provision	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
Cemeteries	34,565	33,406	35,447	37,537	39,679	41,874	44,122	46,426	48,786
Christmas Lights	8,740	8,946	9,115	9,287	9,463	9,642	9,825	10,012	10,202
Community Speed Watch	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Community Wardens (Contribution)	45,000	45,000	45,000	45,000	45,000	45,000	45,000	45,000	45,000
Footway Lighting	20,370	20,642	20,927	21,226	21,540	21,870	22,216	22,580	22,962
Grants	60,000	27,000	27,000	27,000	27,000	27,000	27,000	27,000	27,000
- Theatre Royal (Contribution)	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
Support Costs for Grant Scheme	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
Grit Bins	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Maintenance Work to Council Owned Bridges	5,500	5,500	5,500	5,500	5,500	5,500	5,500	5,500	5,500
Night Bus Contribution	12,714	13,545	13,816	14,092	14,374	14,661	14,954	15,254	15,559
Public Conveniences (Contribution)	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
Recreation Grounds & Open Spaces	603,459	634,453	643,364	652,474	661,789	671,312	681,051	691,009	701,194
Town Forum Support	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Total Recurring Budgets	877,485	875,628	887,304	899,253	911,481	923,995	936,805	949,916	963,338
One-off Budgets:									
St Maurice's Covert	22,095	22,095							
Community Infrastructure	100,000	50,000							
Historic Environment Projects Officer	1,799								
Green Infrastructure									
Total One-off Budgets	123,894	72,095							
Total Cost of Services	1,001,379	947,723	887,304	899,253	911,481	923,995	936,805	949,916	963,338

	2018/2019 Forecast	2019/2020 Forecast	2020/2021 Forecast	2021/2022 Forecast	2022/2023 Forecast	2023/2024 Forecast	2024/2025 Forecast	2025/2026 Forecast	2026/2027 Forecast
Taxation and Non-specific grant income									
Council Tax Income	(927,735)	(967,333)	(998,466)	(1,030,636)	(1,063,870)	(1,076,636)	(1,089,556)	(1,102,631)	(1,115,862)
Interest on Balances	(5,264)	(1,590)	(1,312)	(1,537)	(1,666)	(1,406)	(1,847)	(2,293)	(2,343)
Total Taxation and Non-specific grant income	(932,999)	(968,923)	(999,778)	(1,032,173)	(1,065,536)	(1,078,043)	(1,091,403)	(1,104,924)	(1,118,205)
Transfers to/(from) Earmarked reserves									
(Surplus added to Reserves) / Deficit taken from Reserves	68,380	(21,200)	(112,474)	(132,920)	(154,055)	(154,047)	(154,598)	(155,007)	(154,867)
Capital Expenditure funded by Town Reserve	399,000	99,000	90,000	120,000	180,000	110,000	110,000	150,000	150,000
Release from Town Community Infrastructure Levy Reserve	(100,000)	(50,000)							
Opening Reserve Balance (at 1st April)	(526,361)	(158,980)	(131,180)	(153,654)	(166,575)	(140,630)	(184,677)	(229,275)	(234,283)
Closing Reserve Balance (carried forward)	(158,980)	(131,180)	(153,654)	(166,575)	(140,630)	(184,677)	(229,275)	(234,283)	(239,149)
Closing Reserves forecast as % of net expenditure (Target = 10%)	16%	14%	17%	19%	15%	20%	24%	25%	25%
TAX									
Tax at Band D	£67.17	£69.19	£70.57	£71.98	£73.42	£73.42	£73.42	£73.42	£73.42
Increase over previous year (£)	£0.00	£2.02	£1.38	£1.41	£1.44	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Recurring Expenditure	877,485	875,628	887,304	899,253	911,481	923,995	936,805	949,916	963,338
Less: Income	(932,999)	(968,923)	(999,778)	(1,032,173)	(1,065,536)	(1,078,043)	(1,091,403)	(1,104,924)	(1,118,205)
(Surplus) / Deficit	(55,514)	(93,295)	(112,474)	(132,920)	(154,055)	(154,047)	(154,598)	(155,007)	(154,867)
Capital Expenditure									
Handlebar Café	25,000								
Chesil Theatre Grant		30,000							
Changing Pavilions - North Walls		44,000							
Changing Pavilions - King George V	0								
Play Area Refurbishment	374,000	25,000	90,000	120,000	180,000	110,000	110,000	150,000	150,000
	399,000	99,000	90,000	120,000	180,000	110,000	110,000	150,000	150,000

THE WINCHESTER TOWN ACCOUNT

In accordance with Section 35 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 the Council has taken the decision in previous years to treat all expenses of the Council as general expenses other than those identified as special expenses.

Special expenses are costs incurred for the provision of an amenity or service that is primarily for the benefit of one locality. In the Winchester District, these expenses are levied by the Council to cover the costs of local services in the Winchester town area which elsewhere would be dealt with by parish councils. Under the current policy, the following expenditure is charged to the Winchester Town account:

1. Magdalen Hill and West Hill Cemeteries

The costs relate to maintenance of the cemeteries at Magdalen Hill and West Hill. West Hill is now rarely used for burials and has been landscaped over several years, making it open and easier to maintain.

2. Allotments in the Town

The Council owns approximately 21 acres of allotment land in the Town area, most of which is leased to the Winchester New Allotment Holders Society Ltd. There is a net credit relating to rental income after charging a small management charge.

3. The “parish” element of grants for community facilities in the Town

Grants for revenue and capital purposes are awarded to community and arts projects and are allocated annually by Members.

4. Recreation Grounds and Open Spaces

All parks and playing fields in the Town (except Abbey Gardens, Riverside Walk, the Weirs Gardens, and St Giles Hill which are treated as a district expense) e.g. North Walls and King George V recreation grounds are regarded as being for Town residents.

5. Neighbourhood Services

Five Neighbourhood officers provide a patrol service to the Town Forum area. In addition they deliver specialist expertise to both the forum area and the wider district by working in partnership with ward members, local police teams, community groups and internal and external officers. Accredited by the police chief constable and utilising specific powers within legislation the team can deliver against their specialist roles e.g. ASB, Fly Tip, Trade Waste, Begging and other social issues that impact on others. They provide a first response service to other services within the city council.

6. Footway lighting in the Town

This covers electricity and maintenance and capital charges for the provision of new or replacement lights in the Town area.

7. Bus shelter cleaning and maintenance in the Town.

8. Christmas lights in the Town

These costs represent a 50:50 Town / General Fund share of the costs of providing festive lights in the Town over the Christmas period.

9. Town Forum Support

This is the cost of servicing Forum meetings and includes a proportion of a Committee Administrator's salary, hire of meeting rooms, printing etc.

10. Public Conveniences

50 per cent local revenue funding of public conveniences by Parish Councils and Town Account.

11. Bridge Maintenance

General repairs to WCC owned bridges in the Winchester Town Area

12. Grit Bins

Revenue budget to provide for maintenance of grit bins in the town area.

13. Night Bus Contribution

A recurring revenue budget contribution to support the operation of a night bus.

14. Community Speed Watch

An annual recurring budget to cover any costs associated with the Community Speed Watch scheme.

15. One-off capital and revenue budgets as detailed in the report.

16. Interest on Balances

Interest is credited to the account annually based on the average balance for the year 31st March.

Net expenditure on other facilities located in the Town area is currently charged to the whole District. These facilities include the River Park Leisure Centre, the Guildhall, Abbey House, the City Museum and the four parks and playing fields listed above at 4. Income from car parks and town centre property is credited to the whole District.

Town Improvement Programme (CIL Funding Applications)

- 1) Applicant: Weeke Community Centre
Purpose: Widen access road to Community Centre
Amount sought: £38,000

Update: The existing driveway is on HRA land over which the Community Centre have right of way and it's considered likely that the most cost-effective way of supporting the scheme would be for WCC to commission and manage the project with WTF CIL funding. Engineering & Transport are sense checking the plans and estimate. Providing the proposal is feasible they would be able to manage the project in 2019/20 including the appointment of a contractor to carry out the works. Their initial assessment is that the cost is likely to be in the region of £50,000.

Recommendation: Support the allocation of funds of up to £50,000 in principle as the proposal is consistent with the criteria for Town Forum funding from CIL receipts. Further detail will be brought back to the Town Forum for final consideration

- 2) Applicant: Winchester Lido Sports Association
Purpose: External repairs to WLSA building
Amount sought: £16,500

Update: This proposal is part of a wider repair and refurbishment project (estimated cost £125,700) by the association.

Recommendation: Not support the allocation of funds at this point in time. The funding sought by the Association is primarily maintenance of existing facilities. Although the neighbourhood proportion of CIL receipts a can be used for "... (a) the provision, improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure ..." it's considered that to fund a part of the scheme that is solely maintenance would not be the best use of CIL funds and would be inconsistent with the agreed Forum protocol for prioritising the allocation of funds which deliver improvements to local facilities. However, further engagement is proposed with the applicant to determine whether an eligible bid can be made.

- 3) Applicant: Live Theatre Winchester Trust
Purpose: Contribution towards the public realm works that are part of phase 1 of the Theatre's redevelopment project
Amount sought: £48,000

Update: This proposal is part of a wider project by the Theatre Trust (estimated cost £894,000).

Recommendation: Not support the allocation of funds at the present time. Whilst the Trust have sought funding from a number of sources towards the overall scheme totalling almost £0.9m it is understood that the project is not fully funded at the moment. Furthermore, the application as put forward for the Town

CIL funding does not provide enough detail on public realm and other improvements which would deliver the type of benefits necessary to be satisfied that the scheme meets the Town CIL protocol. This should be clarified with the Theatre in order to enable a new application to be made, if appropriate, and progress on this this may also be dependent on other funding being secured