

proposed by Cllr P Smith and seconded by Cllr R Claydon and agreed by all that the Precept for next FY is set at £270,746 which is an increase of 2.4%. However it is also agreed that the Precept request form from SDC which asks for use of Reserves by each Parish Council is not to be filled in, proposed by Cllr P Smith and seconded Cllr T Luker and agreed by all.

T.4925 S106 Allocation – To discuss and approve S106 project list and to prioritise the top three projects. SDC have requested that the form be updated to allow them to more appropriately allocate funds towards Town Council requested projects which are deemed important in the community. The form provided by SDC was distributed and the top 3 projects chosen by this Town Council as warranting funding priority are Marchesi Walk upgrading of footpath (costings are needed for this), Rope Walk area toilets outside makeover, and Old Town Toilets improvements, the above was proposed by Cllr A Wilkinson seconded by Cllr T Luker and agreed 10 in favour 2 against, 1 abstention.

T.4926 Christmas Event – To consider whether to organise a Christmas Event in the town, spearheaded by the Council but working with various community organisations. The Clerk provided a detailed toolkit on the amount of preparation needed to stage such an event. A lot of complaints had been received from the public about the lack of any Christmas event in the town last month. Cllr A Wilkinson said that two Chamber of Trade members from the Market St hair salon had offered to organise such an event for this year and that this Council could work with them and provide assistance. It is also hoped that any new Councillors after the May election may wish to get involved.

T.4927 Land Behind the Fire Station – To consider whether to support ‘in principle’ the provision of a car park and a small amount of housing on land behind the Fire Station, but reserving judgement on detailed matters until a planning application has been submitted. There were many views on this subject and a heated debate ensued concerning the need for a car park in town but at what cost regarding the housing location, and the poor access route adjacent to the surgery and traffic problems in that location. It was proposed by Cllr P Smith and seconded by Cllr A Wilkinson that the Town Council supports this project in principle but reserves judgement on detailed matters until a planning application has been submitted, voted 8 in favour, 3 against, 1 abstention.

T.4928 Stream Bank at Marchesi Walk – To note erosion of stream bank at Marchesi Walk which is undercutting the pathway. A quote for £5000 gabion remedial works has been received but the problem has been referred to County Public Rights of Way for their assessment in the first instance; their officer has inspected and deemed it as not an immediate danger to the public. They are looking at involving the Cotswold Wardens in some repairs there possibly.

T.4929 Mobile Phone Coverage – To consider relevant issues with mobile phone coverage in the area for submission to the County’s Economic Growth Scrutiny Committee. It appears that different service providers offer different levels of connectivity in Wotton. EE and Three appear to offer better levels than O2 and Tesco, but it is largely subjective and County needs a large survey sent out to gauge any accurate level of response. A signal is usually easily obtainable but the strength of that signal is not consistent, also O2 and Tesco do not appear to have 3g or 4g in Wotton.

T.4930 Good Deeds Section; ‘Thanks to Volunteers’ – to acknowledge recent volunteer work for the benefit of the town/community. It was agreed to send a thank you card from the Mayor to Ian Pullen for all of his snow clearance contribution to the Town Of