



**292. INTERNAL AUDIT – QUARTER TWO REPORT**

Committee considered the Internal Audit report for the period ending 30 September 2015 and recommendations contained in the report:

**RESOLVED that:**

- i. The report of the Internal Auditor be noted;**
- ii. Recommendations 1,2 and 4 be brought to Committee for consideration in due course;**
- iii. Recommendation 3 be brought to Council at the next Annual Meeting; and,**
- iv. No further action was necessary for recommendation 5 and the Clerk's action to relocate staff payroll records with the secure personnel files be approved.**

**293. CYCLING ON THE PROM**

Committee considered the report on the matter of cycling on the prom.

Members agreed that the byelaw, where it prohibits to the riding of bicycles, should be reassessed as it was not likely to be enforced by District Council officers and instead created local confusion and concern.

However, Members did not consider that a dedicated cycle lane would provide an appropriate solution, believing that the siting of a cycle lane would be problematic and could cause conflict with other uses of prom.

Members agreed that safe and considerate cycling on the prom should be supported where possible and that anyone using a bicycle on the prom would be expected to cycle in a manner appropriate to the conditions.

Noting that the byelaw is only enforceable where Suffolk Coastal District Council have displayed notices in conspicuous positions along the promenade stating that the riding of bicycles is prohibited, Members suggested that the removal of these notices would effectively nullify the byelaw.

**Committee RESOLVED that the following recommendation be made to Council:**

**Felixstowe Town Council requests Suffolk Coastal District Council to consider the removal of notices prohibiting cycling on Felixstowe prom for a period of no less than 12 months; and, pending an assessment of the success of this initiative, consider permitting and promoting safe and considerate cycling on the prom on a permanent basis.**

**294. BUDGET 2016/17 (FIRST DRAFT)**

Committee considered the tabled paper showing a first draft full budget, including earmarked reserves requirements, for 2016/17. Members also considered comparisons against the current-year budget, actual expenditure and projected outturn for the full year 2015/16.

The Clerk advised that Suffolk Coastal District Council had confirmed Felixstowe Town Council's tax base for 2016/17 to be 7,978.43. 2016/17 would also be the final year for the Local Council Tax Scheme grant to be received. The amount due in 2016/17 being confirmed by Suffolk Coastal District Council at £19,363.90.

It was noted that the draft budget proposals for 2016/17 would require a precept of £537,347. Using the confirmed tax base this would equate to £67.35 per Council Tax Band D equivalent ratepayer. It was noted that the Band D equivalent in 2011/16 and 2014/15 had also been £67.35.

On the basis that the budget estimates 2016/17 would result in a 0% change/nil tax increase to local residents, Committee recommended that the budget be referred to Council for approval. Members recorded a vote of thanks to the Town Clerk and Finance Officer for their work on the budget estimates and presentation.

**RESOLVED that the first draft Budget 2016/17 proposals be presented to Council for approval.**

**295. CLOSURE**

The meeting was closed at 8.25pm. The next meeting was noted as being scheduled for 25 November 2015 at 7.30pm.

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Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Chairman: \_\_\_\_\_