**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BAWTRY TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE NEW HALL ON TUESDAY 24th JANUARY 2017 AT 7.00PM**

**Present:** Cllrs: S. Young, D. Cartwright, G. Scott, G Budgen, A. Claypole, A Cropley,

P. Holland; D. Kirkham. C Lukey; A.West.

Mrs. A Harrison - Clerk

In Attendance:2 members of the public

Public Discussion Period

Matters raised included cemetery safety issues and car parking trial costs.

**16/17/241** Receive Apologies and Approve Reasons for Absence

J. Linsley (other commitment), S. Womack (away), R Dickenson (other commitment)

**16/17/242** Receive Declarations of Interest (other than standing interests**).**

None

**16/17/243** Audit Monitoring Report

Members reviewed the audit monitoring report provided by Cllr Cartwright from April-September

**16/17/244** Internal Audit Review

Consideration was given to the following Regulations:

Regulation 4: Requires the findings of the review of the system of internal control to be considered by a committee of the relevant body, or by members of the body meeting as a whole.

That following consideration of the review of the system of internal control the Council noted that there were no outstanding matters that required immediate attention. The Council risk assessment would however be reviewed and Cllr Cartwright would continue to undertake internal reviews during the year

Regulation 6: Requires bodies to review the effectiveness of the system of internal audit once a year, and for the findings of the review to be considered by a committee of the body, or by the body as a whole, as part of the consideration of the system of internal control referred to in Regulation 4.

**Resolved**: That the current internal auditor was independent and suitably qualified and therefore be appointed for another year. (2016-17 audit).

**16/17/245** Consider Revenue Budget for 2017-18 and set the Precept

The Clerk provided members with a preliminary set of budget proposals and her report.

Members discussed contractual costs, the timing of BARS contributions and the need for a feasibility study. In assessing the level of precept, members also considered existing revenue balances, the potential financial impact of reduced parking fees and costs generally. The nature of future projects and improvements were also discussed together with the impact of any future application of referendum principles.

Members voted on a proposal that the precept should not be increased.

4 Councillors in support (Cllr Cartwright, Claypole, Scott & Lukey), 6 against.

Further votes on proposals to increase the precept by 20% and 15% were defeated. Members therefore voted on a proposal to increase the precept by 10%.

**Resolved:** That the precept for 2017/18 be set at £27,061.00 excluding the council tax support grant. (Cllrs Cartwright, Budgen & Scott against).

The proposed increase would amount to an increase of approximately £1.65 per year for a Band D property with a slightly increased tax base for 2017.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 8.45pm

**Chair: ……………………………………………. Dated…………………………………………**