

CANNOCK CHASE COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING

WEDNESDAY, 12 FEBRUARY, 2014 AT 4.00 P.M.

COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC CENTRE, BEECROFT ROAD, CANNOCK

Notice is hereby given of the above mentioned meeting of the Council which you are summoned to attend for the purpose of transacting the business set out below:-

1. Apologies

2. Declarations of Interests of Members in Contracts and Other Matters and Restriction on Voting by Members

To declare any interests in accordance with the Code of Conduct.

Members should refer to the guidance included as part of this agenda.

3. Minutes

To confirm the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 15 January, 2014, Minute No's. 58 – 70 and 71; Page No's. 42 – 47 and 48.

4. The Chairman's Announcements and Correspondence

5. Questions in Accordance with Rule 8

No questions have been submitted in accordance with Rule 8.

6. Rent Restructuring

Joint Report of the Head of Housing & Waste Management and the Head of Finance (Item 6.1 – 6.5).

7. Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Budget 2013-14 to 2016-17: Cabinet Resolutions

Council is requested to consider recommendations referred from Cabinet held on 30 January, 2014, in respect of the Housing Revenue Account Budget:

- (i) HRA Budgets 2013-14 to 2016-17
- (ii) HRA Capital Programmes 2014-15 to 2016-17

Members are requested to bring to the meeting the agenda and reports circulated for the Cabinet meeting held on 30 January, 2014. The relevant Cabinet resolutions of that day, circulated as part of the Minutes of Cabinet, are attached as Appendices to this Agenda.

Copies are also available to view via the Members' Portal or the Council's website.

8. Budget Timetable – Procedural Issues

Joint Report of the Head of Finance and the Council Solicitor (Item 8.1 – 8.7)

9. Budget 2014-15 to 2016-17: Cabinet Resolutions

Council is requested to consider recommendations referred from Cabinet held on 30 January, 2014, in respect of the Budget 2014-15 to 2016-17:

- (i) General Fund Revenue Budget and Capital Programme 2014-15 to 2016-17.
- (ii) Treasury Management Strategy Statement

Members will note that the Council Tax Resolution and Budget Statement (Tables and supporting information) will be submitted to the 26 February, 2014 Council meeting following final agreement of the budget and receipt of all relevant Precepts.

In accordance with paragraph 2.3 of the Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules, (see Agenda Item 8: Budget Timetable – Procedural Issues), consideration will also be given to any valid alternative proposals presented by Political Groups and individual Council Members as a referral back to Cabinet.

The Chief Executive must be advised of the intent to submit alternative balanced budget proposals at least 5 working days before the Council meeting (i.e. by 4.00 pm on 4 February, 2014), and the Section 151 Officer has agreed to receive pre-advised proposals by no later than 6 February, 2014.

Any proposals received by the deadline will be circulated to Members prior to

the meeting.

Members are requested to bring to the meeting the agenda and reports circulated for the Cabinet meeting held on 30 January, 2014. The relevant Cabinet resolutions of that day, circulated as part of the Minutes of Cabinet, are attached as Appendices to this Agenda.)

Copies are also available to view via the Members' Portal or the Council's website.



S.G. Brown
Chief Executive

Civic Centre,
Beecroft Road,
Cannock.
WS11 1BG

4 February, 2014

GUIDANCE ON DECLARING PERSONAL, PECUNIARY AND DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS AT MEETINGS

DEFINITION OF WHAT IS A PERSONAL, PECUNIARY AND DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST

A PERSONAL INTEREST is one where your well-being or financial position, or those of a member of your family or any person with whom you have a close association would be affected to a greater extent than the majority of Council Tax payers, ratepayers, or inhabitants of the electoral ward(s) affected by the decision. You automatically have a personal interest if you have given notice in the Register of Members' Interests, e.g. if you are appointed to an outside body by the Council.

A PECUNIARY INTEREST is a personal interest where the matter

- a) affects your financial position or that of a member of your family or any person with whom you have a close association or a body in which you have registered in the Register of Members Interests or
- b) relates to the determining of any consent, licence, permission or registration in relation to you or any person with whom you have a close association or a body in which you have registered in the Register of Members Interests

and, in either case, where a member of the public knowing the facts would reasonably regard the interest as so significant it is likely to affect your judgement of the public interest

A DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST is an interest of yourself or your partner (which means spouse or civil partner, a person with whom you are living as husband or wife, or a person with whom you are living as if you are civil partners) in respect of employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried out for profit or gain; sponsorship; contracts; land; licences; corporate tenancies; or securities, as defined with the Localism Act, 2011.

PLEASE MAKE IT CLEAR WHETHER IT IS A PERSONAL, PECUNIARY OR DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST.

It would be helpful if, prior to the commencement of the meeting, Members informed the Monitoring Officer of any declarations of interest, of which you are aware. This will help in the recording of the declarations in the Minutes of the meeting.

DECLARING INTERESTS AT FULL COUNCIL

The Code of Conduct requires that personal interests where you have a personal interest in any business of the Council, and where you are aware or ought reasonably to be

aware of the existence of the personal interest, and you attend a meeting of the Council at which the business is considered, you must disclose to that meeting the existence and nature of that interest at the commencement of that consideration, or when the interest becomes apparent.

Some items will be mentioned in the papers for full Council but are not actually being considered by Full Council. In such circumstances the Monitoring Officer's advice to Members is that there is no need to declare an interest unless the particular matter is mentioned or discussed. As a general rule, Members only need to declare an interest at full Council in the following circumstances:

- Where a matter is before the Council for a decision and/or
- Where the matter in which the Member has an interest is specifically mentioned or discussed at the Council meeting.

CANNOCK CHASE COUNCIL

**EXTRACT FROM
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE**

CABINET

HELD ON THURSDAY, 30 JANUARY, 2014 AT 4:00 P.M.

IN THE CIVIC CENTRE, BEECROFT ROAD, CANNOCK

**IN RESPECT OF BUDGET RESOLUTIONS:
HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT AND GENERAL FUND**

PART 1

PRESENT: Councillors:

Adamson, G.	Leader of the Council
Holder, M.J.	Deputy Leader of the Council and Crime and Partnerships Portfolio Leader
Mitchell, Mrs C.	Culture & Sport Portfolio Leader
Alcott, G.	Economic Development and Planning Portfolio Leader
Bennett, C.	Environment Portfolio Leader
Davis, Mrs. M.A.	Health and Wellbeing Portfolio Leader
Allen, F.W.C.	Housing Portfolio Leader
Todd, Mrs. D.	Town Centre Regeneration Portfolio Leader

Apologies were received from Councillor A. Lovell, Corporate Improvement Portfolio Leader.

HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT

124. Housing Revenue Account Budgets 2013-14 to 2016-17

Consideration was given to the Joint Report of the Head of Housing and Waste Management and Head of Finance (Item 10.1 – 10.10 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

That

- (A) The revised position with regard to the estimated income and expenditure in respect of the 2013-14 and the proposed Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Budgets for the period 2014-15 to 2016-17, as summarised in Appendix 1 of the report, be noted.

- (B) Council on 12 February 2014 be recommended to:-
- (i) Determine a minimum level of working balances of £1,531,100 for 2014-15 and indicative working balances of £1,555,040 and £1,578,730 for 2015-16 and 2016-17 respectively.
 - (ii) Approve the Housing Revenue Account Revenue Budgets for 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 (and note the estimated outturn for 2013-14) as summarised in Appendix 1 of the report.

Reasons for Decisions

The report considered proposed three year HRA budgets for 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 which had been formulated within the framework provided by the revised HRA Business Plan considered by Cabinet on 21 November 2013.

A review of the 2013-14 HRA budget, together with proposed HRA budgets for the period 2014-15 to 2016-17 were attached as Appendix 1 to the report. The proposed budgets had been formulated in accordance with the assumptions set out in the HRA Business Plan, with projected levels of income and expenditure as summarised below:-

	<u>2014-15</u>	<u>2015-16</u>	<u>2016-17</u>
	£	£	£
Estimated Income	19,923,480	20,435,730	20,786,760
Estimated Expenditure	19,911,700	20,411,750	20,762,840
Transfer to working balances	11,780	23,980	23,920

The effect of the proposed budgets on the estimated level of working balances was set out as part of Appendix 1 of the report. In view of the risks associated with the management of the HRA under self-financing, minimum working balances of 10% of net operating expenditure had been assumed through the three year budget period.

125. Housing Revenue Account Capital Programmes 2014-15 to 2016-17

Consideration was given to the Joint Report of the Head of Housing and Waste Management and Head of Finance (Item 11.1 – 11.13 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

That

- (A) The estimated availability of Housing Revenue Account capital resources for the period 2014-15 to 2016-17 (as set out in Appendix 1 of the report), the base three year Housing Revenue Account Capital Programme for the period 2014-15 to 2016-17 (as set out in Appendix 2 of the report) and the

estimated additional expenditure capacity of £2.100 million during the three year period be noted.

- (B) Council on 12 February 2014 be recommended to:-
- (i) Agree the Housing Revenue Account Capital Programme enhancements as set out in Appendix 3 of the report.
 - (ii) Approve the Housing Revenue Account Capital Programme for the period 2014-15 to 2016-17 as summarised in Appendix 4 of the report.

Reasons for Decisions

The report considered the formulation of a proposed three year HRA Capital Programme for the period 2014-15 to 2016-17, within the financial framework provided by the revised HRA Business Plan.

Details of the estimated availability of HRA capital resources during the three year period were set out in Appendix 1 of the report, whilst a base three year HRA Capital Programme was set out in Appendix 2.

A comparison of estimated resource availability with the proposed HRA capital expenditure programmes is also set out below:-

	<u>2014-15</u> £000's	<u>2015-16</u> £000's	<u>2016-17</u> £000's
Resources Brought Forward	3,929	2,947	818
New Resources	12,617	8,735	8,881
Total Resources:	<u>16,546</u>	<u>11,682</u>	<u>9,699</u>
Less:			
(i) Proposed Expenditure Programme	(12,322)	(10,575)	(9,045)
(ii) Agreed resources carried forward to future years	<u>(2,947)</u>	<u>(818)</u>	<u>(120)</u>
Additional Expenditure Capacity	<u>1,277</u>	<u>289</u>	<u>534</u>

A total of £2.100 million was therefore potentially available to enhance the three year HRA Capital Programme and three potential enhancement options were set out in the report.

Following consultation with the Housing Portfolio Leader, it was proposed that a combination of the three options was adopted which would deliver:-

- (i) The completion of the double glazing and window refurbishment programme in five rather than seven years.
- (ii) The provision of six additional Council dwellings.
- (iii) A sum of £275,000 for currently unidentified enhancements, which Cabinet may wish to undertake in future years.

The financial impact of the above proposals was set in Appendix 3 of the report, whilst a proposed HRA Capital Programme for 2014-15 to 2016-17 was set out at Appendix 4.

GENERAL FUND

121. General Fund Revenue Budget and Capital Programme 2014-15 to 2016-17

Consideration was given to the Report of the Head of Finance (Item 7.1 – 7.75 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

That the following be recommended to Council as part of the formal budget setting process:-

- (A) The level of net spending for the General Fund Revenue Budget for 2014-15 be set at £12.987 million; with indicative net spending for 2015-16 and 2016-17 of £12.350 million and £12.584 million respectively;
- (B) The detailed portfolio budgets as set out in Appendix 2 of the report;
- (C) The forecast outturn net budget of £14.234 million including a Reserve Contribution to Capital Outlay of £1.5 million, funded from reserves be approved;
- (D) The use of Government Grants in 2014-15 of £1.428 million with indicative figures of £1.519 million and £1.669 million for 2015-16 and 2016-17 respectively;
- (E) The working balances be set at £0.716 million; £0.679 million and £0.692 million for 2014-15 to 2016-17 respectively;
- (F) A Council Tax freeze for 2014-15; with indicative increases of 2% to the level of Council Tax for 2015-16 and 2016-17;
- (G) The Council's Tax Base be set at 26,409.89.
- (H) The revised capital programme, including new schemes, as set out in Appendices 3 and 4 of the report.

Reason for Decisions

The report set out a draft standstill budget for 2014-15 as well as indicative budgets for 2015-16 and 2016-17 and associated issues and also included current indications of the impact this would have on Council Tax. It also set out the updated capital programme, and the capital resources available to the authority to finance the capital programme.

122. Treasury Management Strategy Statement

Consideration was given to the Report of the Head of Finance (Item 8.1 – 8.27 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

That Council be recommended to approve:-

- (A) The Prudential and Treasury Indicators;
- (B) The Minimum Revenue Position (MRP) Policy Statement;
- (C) The Treasury Management Policy;
- (D) The Annual Investment Strategy for 2014-15.

Reason for Decision

The CIPFA Treasury Management Code requires that the Council's Treasury Management Strategy be approved by Council in advance of each financial year.

The meeting closed at 4.45 pm

LEADER