

CANNOCK CHASE COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
HELD IN THE CIVIC CENTRE, BEECROFT ROAD, CANNOCK
AT 4.00 P.M., WEDNESDAY, 8 FEBRUARY, 2017
PART 1

PRESENT: Councillors:

Stretton, Mrs. P.Z., M.B.E. (Chairman)
Dudson, A. (Vice Chairman)

Adamson, G.	Hoare, M.W.A.
Alcott, G.	Johnson, J.P.
Allen, F.W.C.	Johnson, T.B.
Allt, Mrs. A.	Kraujalis, J.T.
Bennett, C.	Lea, C.I.
Burnett, G.	Martin, Mrs. C.E.
Buttery, M.S.	Mitchell, Mrs. C.
Cartwright, Mrs. S.M.	Pearson, A.R.
Cooper, Miss J.	Preece, J.P.T.L.
Davis, Mrs. M.A.	Snape, D.J.
Dean, A.	Snape, P.A.
Dudson, Miss M.J.	Sutherland, M.
Foley, D.	Todd, Mrs. D.M.
Freeman, Miss M.A.	Witton, P.T.
Grice, Mrs. D.	Woodhead, P.E.

77. Apologies

Apologies for absence were submitted for Councillors J.L. Bowater; Miss J. Christian; M.R. Grocott; W.T.A. Hardman; G.N. Molineux; Mrs. C.L. Peake; C.D. Smith; Mrs. H.M. Sutton; and Miss S. Whitehouse.

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

No other Declarations of Interests were made in addition to those already confirmed by Members in the Register of Members' Interests.

79. Minutes

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 11 January, 2017, be approved as a correct record and signed.

80. The Chairman's Announcements and Correspondence

(i) Chairman's Charity Valentine Dinner

The Chairman reminded Members that she would be hosting a Valentine's Charity Dinner on Saturday, 18 February, 2017 at The Park Gate Inn Rugeley. Some tickets were still available at a cost of £25.00 each.

(ii) Chairman's Charity Collection Box

The Chairman advised that a collection box was circulating for Members to donate to her fundraising. At the meeting held on 11 January, 2017 a total of £41.57 was received, and she thanked all Members for their donations.

81. Question(s) in Accordance with Rule 8

No Questions had been submitted in accordance with Rule 8.

82. Motion(s) Received under Rule 6

No Motions had been submitted in accordance with Rule 6.

83. Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Budget 2017-18 to 2019-20: Cabinet Resolutions

The Leader introduced the Housing Revenue Account Budget 2017-18 to 2019-20 and consideration was given to the recommendations referred from Cabinet held on 19 January, 2017, in respect of:

(i) HRA Budgets 2016-17 to 2019-20

(ii) HRA Capital Programme 2016-17 to 2019-20

RESOLVED:

That, in respect of:

(A) HRA Budgets 2016-17 to 2019-20

(i) A minimum level of working balances of £1.706 million for 2017-18, and indicative working balances of £1.730 million and £1.750 million for 2018-19 and 2019-20, respectively, be determined.

(ii) The further 1% reduction in rents in 2017-18 in accordance with the Government's Social Rent Policy be noted.

(iii) The Housing Revenue Account Revenue Budgets for 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20, as summarised in Appendix 1 of the 19 January, 2017, Cabinet report be approved, and the estimated outturn for 2016-17 be noted.

(B) HRA Capital Programme 2016-17 to 2019-20

- (i) The three-year Housing Revenue Account Capital Programme for the period 2017-18 to 2019-20, as set out in Appendix 2 of the 19 January, 2017, Cabinet report, be approved.

84. Budget Timetable – Procedural Issues

Consideration was given to the Joint Report of the Head of Finance and Council Solicitor (Item 8.1 to 8.6 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

That:

- (A) The overall timetable for the setting of the budget for 2017-18 be noted.
- (B) The overall level of Council Tax be set at the Council meeting to be held on 22 February, 2017, following determination of Cannock Chase Council's Council Tax requirement in accordance with the procedure rules attached at Appendix A to this report.

85. Proposal to Change the Senior Management Structure of the Council

Consideration was given to the Report of the Leader of the Council (Item 9.1 to 9.16 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

That:

- (A) The deletion of posts set out in Part 1 of the Confidential Appendix 1 of this report be approved with effect from 31 March, 2017.
- (B) The deletion of the post set out in Part 2 of the Confidential Appendix 1 of this report be approved on the retirement of the current post-holder during 2017.
- (C) Subject to the above, it be noted that the full year budget savings of £158,070 arising from the proposed change to the Senior Management Restructure forms part of the overall Budget recommended to Council, as part of the 2017-18 to 2019-20 General Fund Revenue Budget report (included elsewhere on the Agenda).
- (D) The Head of Human Resources finalise all contractual matters linked to the redundancy of two officers.
- (E) On implementation of the proposal, the revised Management Structure Chart attached as Appendix 2 to this report be added to the Council's Constitution to replace the existing chart.

86. Budget 2017-18 to 2019-20: Cabinet Resolutions

The Leader introduced the Budget 2017-18 to 2019-20, which was seconded, and consideration was given to the recommendations referred from Cabinet held on 19 January, 2017, in respect of:

- (i) General Fund Revenue Budget and Capital Programme 2017-18 to 2019-20.
- (ii) Treasury Management Strategy, Minimum Revenue Provision Policy and Annual Investment Strategy 2017-18.

Conservative Group Alternative Budget Proposals

The Leader of the Conservative Group introduced the Group's Alternative Budget proposals for 2017-18 to 2019-20.

The Leader of the Conservative Group then moved the Alternative Budget proposals as a referral back to Cabinet, which was seconded.

Members then debated the Conservative Group's Alternative Budget proposals, which were moved to a vote and not carried.

The Cabinet's Budget recommendations were then moved to a vote:

RESOLVED:

That, in respect of:

- (A) General Fund Revenue Budget and Capital Programme 2017-18 to 2019-20
 - (i) The level of net spending for the General Fund Revenue Budget for 2017-18 be set at £11.056 million, with indicative net spending for 2018-19 and 2019-20 of £11.524 million and £11.607 million, respectively.
 - (ii) The detailed portfolio budgets as set out in Appendix 2 of the 19 January, 2017, Cabinet report be approved.
 - (iii) The forecast outturn net budget of £11.423 million including a Revenue Contribution to Capital Outlay of £0.350 million be approved.
 - (iv) The use of Government Grants in 2017-18 of £1.015 million, with indicative figures of £1.000 million and £1.083 million for 2018-19 and 2019-20, respectively, be approved.
 - (v) The working balances be set at £0.615 million, £0.633 million and £0.856 million for 2017-18 to 2019-20, respectively.
 - (vi) A Council Tax of £208.87 be approved for 2017-18, with indicative increases of 1.95% to the level of Council Tax for 2018-19 and 2019-20.
 - (vii) The Council's Tax base be set at 27,571.88.
 - (viii) No changes be made to the current Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme.
 - (ix) The revised capital programme, including new schemes, as set out Appendices 3 and 4 of the 19 January, 2017, Cabinet report be approved.

- (B) Treasury Management Strategy, Minimum Revenue Provision Policy and Annual Investment Strategy 2017-18
- (i) The Prudential and Treasury Indicators be approved.
 - (ii) The Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Policy Statement be approved.
 - (iii) The Treasury Management Strategy be approved.
 - (iv) The Annual Investment Strategy for 2017-18 be approved.

The meeting closed at 6:30 p.m.

CHAIRMAN