

CANNOCK CHASE COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

HELD IN THE CIVIC CENTRE, BEECROFT ROAD, CANNOCK

AT 4.00 P.M., WEDNESDAY 25 FEBRUARY, 2009

PART 1

PRESENT: Councillors

Ansell, Mrs. P.A. (Chairman)

Beddows, J. (Vice-Chairman)

Alcott, G.	Holder, M.J.
Allen, F.W.C.	Jillings, J.F.
Ball, G.D.	Jones, R.
Bennett, Mrs. D.J.	Kraujalis, J.T.
Bennett, K.L.	Mawle, D.L.
Bernard, Mrs. A.F.	Mitchell, C.
Bernard, J.	Molineux, G.N.
Bullock, L.W.	Morgan, C.W.J.
Burnett, G.	Pearce, Mrs. L.J.
Burnett, J.	Stanley, N.K.
Davies, D.N.	Stretton, Mrs. P.Z.
Davis, Mrs. M.A.	Sutton, Mrs. H.M.
Dixon, D.I.	Thomas, D.
Easton, Mrs. D.M.	Todd, Mrs. D.M.
Easton, R.	Williams, A.
Freeman, M.P.	Williams, B.
Green, M.R.	Williams, Mrs. P.
Grice, Mrs. D.	Yates, Ms. W.
Grocott, M.R.	

(Apologies for absence were received from Councillors I.R. Carr and R.G. Meaden).

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

<u>Member</u>	<u>Nature of Interest</u>	<u>Type</u>
Bullock, L.W.	Street Cleansing	Personal
Bullock, L.W.	Trustee of South Staffs Relate	Personal

91. **Minutes**

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 21 January 2009 be approved as a correct record.

## 92. The Chairman's Announcements and Correspondence

### (i) Chairman's Charity Collection Box

The Chairman reported that her charity collection box was circulating for Members to make a donation to her chosen charities.

At the meeting held on 21 January 2009 a total of £45.00 was donated.

### (ii) Mr. Phillip Lloyd-Williams

The Chairman reported that Mr. Phillip Lloyd-Williams had left the Council in February 2009 to take up his new role as Director of Governance at Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council, but was attending the meeting to assist the Council in its determination of the budget.

On behalf of the Council, the Chairman expressed her thanks to Mr. Lloyd-Williams for all his hard work and assistance during his time at Cannock and wished him all the best in his new role.

### (iii) Councillor R.G. Meaden

The Chairman advised Members that Councillor R.G. Meaden had recently been unwell and was recovering in hospital. Members forwarded their best wishes for a speedy recovery.

### (iii) Councillor Mrs. H.M. Sutton

The Chairman welcomed Councillor Mrs. H.M. Sutton who had recently been elected to the Council.

## 93. Question in Accordance with Rule 8

Councillor C.W.J. Morgan asked the following question of the Environment Leader, Councillor A. Williams, in accordance with Rule 8:

"Would the Environment Leader please give the actual income and expenditure figures for allotments for the financial year 2007-08? Would he also give a breakdown of these figures?"

The Environment Leader, Councillor A. Williams, provided the following response:

"In response to Councillor Morgan's question, I can confirm that I have ascertained information from Council officers on the actual income and expenditure figures for allotments for the financial year 2007 - 08 together with a breakdown of these figures.

The expenditure on allotments by this Council for the financial year 2007-08 amounted

to £7433.14; the aggregate of all income receipts from allotments for the same period totalled £1910.90.

A breakdown of these figures has been prepared and I would ask that the Council's Democratic Services officer provides Cllr Morgan with a copy of the figures requested and to also distribute copies of the breakdown to any other Member who would like one."

**94. Notice of Motion Under Rule 6**

It was noted that Councillor J.T. Kraujalis had agreed to withdraw his motion deferred from the meeting held on 21 January 2009 following advice received from the Section 151 Officer in relation to the requirements of the Policy and Budget Framework.

The subject matter of the motion was instead dealt with as part of the alternative budget proposal put forward by the Labour Group in relation to the General Fund Revenue Budget 2009-10 to 2011-12 referred to in Minute 95.

**95. General Fund Revenue Budget 2009-10 to 2011-12**

Prior to consideration of the item, Mr. Phillip Lloyd-Williams explained the procedure for dealing with the matter and a copy of the procedure was circulated at the meeting.

The Leader of the Council, Councillor N.K. Stanley, presented the recommendations referred from Cabinet held on 12 February 2009 in respect of the General Fund Revenue Budget 2009-10 to 2011-12.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 10(4) the Chairman waived the ten-minute rule in relation to the length of speeches for the Leader of the Council.

The Leader of the Opposition, Councillor D. Thomas, then moved the alternative budget proposal put forward by the Labour Group as a referral back to Cabinet, which was seconded.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 10(4) the Chairman waived the ten-minute rule in relation to the length of speeches for the Leader of the Opposition.

Members then debated both the recommendations referred from Cabinet and the alternative budget proposal. During the debate, Councillor J. Burnett moved that the meeting be adjourned in order that Members of the Conservative Group could consider the alternative budget put forward by the Labour Group. This was seconded. Following a vote, the motion was lost.

At the end of the debate, the Chairman called for a vote on the alternative budget put forward by the Labour Group as a referral back to Cabinet. Following a vote, the referral back was lost.

The Leader of the Council, Councillor N.K. Stanley, then moved the recommendations referred from Cabinet held on 12 February 2009 in respect of the General Fund Revenue Budget 2009-10 to 2011-12, which was seconded. Following a vote, the motion was carried.

RESOLVED:

- (A) That in respect of the Housing Revenue Account Capital Programme 2009-10 to 2010-11, approval be given to the available HRA Capital Resources and the two year HRA Capital Programme as set out in Tables 10 and 11 of the Leader's Budget Statement 2009-10.
- (B) That in respect of the Housing Revenue Account Budget 2009-10 and 2010-11, the Council:
- (i) Determines a minimum level of working balances of £875,000 throughout the two year budget period.
  - (ii) Approves the following revenue contributions to capital programme:  
  
2009-10 £1,360,000  
2010-11 £ 806,000
  - (iii) In all other respects, approves the HRA budget for 2009-10 and 2010-11 as set out in Table 5 of the Leader's Budget Statement 2009-10.
  - (iv) Approves the relevant Prudential Indicators for HRA capital financing as set out in Table 18 of the Leader's Budget Statement 2009-10.
- (C) That in respect of the General Fund Capital Programme 2008-09 and Resources 2009-10 to 2011-12, approval be given to the available General Fund Resources and the existing commitments against these sums, as summarised in Tables 6 to 7 of the Leader's Budget Statement 2009-10.
- (D) That in respect of the proposed Section 106 Capital Programme, approval be given to the Section 106 Scheme Programme for 2009-10 to 2011-12 as set out in Tables 8 and 9 of the Leader's Budget Statement 2009-10.
- (E) That in respect of the General Fund Reserves and Balances:
- (i) Approval be given to a minimum level of working balances for the budget of £806,000 for 2009-10 with indicative levels of £809,000 and £826,000 for subsequent years.
  - (ii) It be noted that the Head of Financial Management, as Section 151 Officer, considered that the level of Working Balances, as reflected in Table 1, and the General Fund Specified Reserves, Table 17, remained adequate based upon the stated General Fund Budget and the circumstances in place at the time of preparing it.
- (F) That In respect of the General Fund Revenue Budget 2009-10 to 2011-12, the Council:
- (i) Sets a 2009-10 Council Tax for District Council purposes of £191.64 for a Band D property, an increase of £7.20 (3.9%) over the current year.

- (ii) Approves indicative Council Tax increases of 4.9% in 2010-11 and 4.9% in 2011-12.
  - (iii) Supports the proposals for savings set out at Table 2 of the Leader's Budget Statement 2009-10.
  - (iv) Supports the creation of an Economic, Cultural and Leisure Regeneration / Invest to Save Reserve utilising the LABGI windfall monies now available to the Council.
  - (v) Supports the use of Section 106 Funds for Economic Development purposes as set out at Table 3 in the Leader's Budget Statement 2009-10.
  - (vi) Supports the use of Planning Delivery Grant as set out at Table 4 in the Leader's Budget Statement 2009-10.
  - (vii) Approves the outturn budget for 2008-09 and the three year budget for 2009-10 to 2011-12 as set out at Table 1 in the Leader's Budget Statement 2009-10.
  - (viii) Approves the relevant Prudential Indicators for General Fund capital financing as set out in Table 18 of the Leader's Budget Statement 2009-10.
  - (ix) Notes that the Head of Financial Management, as Section 151 Officer, considered that the Budget as proposed in Table 1, based upon the recommended level of Working Balances (as referred in (E)(i) above) was sufficiently robust for approval by Council.
- (G) That it be noted that at its meeting on 10 December 2008, the Council agreed the following amounts for the year 2009-10 in accordance with regulations made under Section 33(5) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992:
- (i) 30,079.98 (equivalent Band D properties) being the amount calculated by the Council, in accordance with regulation 3 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 1992, as its council tax base for the year.
  - (ii) Part of the Council's Area
 

Parish of Brereton & Ravenhill	1,971.21
Parish of Bridgtown	307.70
Parish of Brindley Heath	252.28
Parish of Cannock Wood	407.23
Parish of Heath Hayes & Wimblebury	4,275.08
Parish of Norton Canes	2,309.13
Parish of Rugeley	5,601.63
Parish of Hednesford	5,141.54

being the amounts (equivalent Band D properties) calculated by the Council, in accordance with regulation 6 of the Regulations, as the amounts of its council tax base for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or

more special items relate.

- (H) That the following amounts be calculated by the Council for the year 2009-10 in accordance with Sections 32 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 :-
- (i) £54,015,818 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for items set out in Section 32(2) (a) to (e) and 32 (6) (a) of the Act.
  - (ii) £39,222,620 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for items set out in Section 32(3) (a) to (c) of the Act.
  - (iii) £14,793,198 being the amount by which the aggregate at (H)(i) above exceeds the aggregate at (H)(ii) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 32(4) of the Act, as its budget requirement for the year.
  - (iv) £8,464,885 being the aggregate of the sums which the Council estimates will be payable for the year into its General Fund in respect of redistributed non-domestic rates and revenue support grant, reduced by the amount of the sum which the Council estimates will be transferred in the year from its Collection Fund to its General Fund in accordance with Section 97(4) of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 and increased by the amount of the sum which the Council estimates will be transferred from its Collection Fund to its General Fund pursuant to the Collection Fund (Community Charges) directions under Section 98(4) of the Local Government Finance Act 1988, both estimates having been made on 15 January 2009.
  - (v) £210.38 being the amount at (H)(iii) above less the amount at (H)(iv) above, all divided by the amount at (G)(i) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 33(1) of the Act, as the basic amount of its council tax for the year.
  - (vi) £563,786 being the aggregate amount of all special items referred to in section 34(1) of the Act.
  - (vii) £191.64 being the amount at (H)(v) above less the result given by dividing the amount at (H)(vi) above by the amount at (G)(i) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act, as the basic amount of its council tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no special item relates.

(viii)	Part of the Council's Area:	£. p.
	Parish of Brereton & Ravenhill	218.03
	Parish of Bridgtown	214.39
	Parish of Brindley Heath	199.57
	Parish of Cannock Wood	211.87
	Parish of Heath Hayes & Wimblebury	205.30
	Parish of Norton Canes	212.86
	Parish of Rugeley	237.54
	Parish of Hednesford	216.92

being the amounts given by adding to the amount at (H)(viii) above the amounts of the special item or items relating to dwellings in those parts of the Council's area mentioned above divided in each case by the amount at (G)(ii) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(3) of the Act, as the basic amount of its council tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate.

(ix) Part of the Council's area:

	Valuation Bands								
	A (disabled)	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
	£. P	£. p	£. p	£. p	£. p	£. p	£. P	£. p	£. p
Brereton & Ravenhill	121.13	145.35	169.58	193.80	218.03	266.48	314.93	363.38	436.06
Bridgtown	119.11	142.93	166.75	190.57	214.39	262.03	309.67	357.32	428.78
Brindley Heath	110.87	133.05	155.22	177.40	199.57	243.92	288.27	332.62	399.14
Cannock Wood	117.71	141.25	164.79	188.33	211.87	258.95	306.03	353.12	423.74
Heath Hayes & Wimblebury	114.06	136.87	159.68	182.49	205.30	250.92	296.54	342.17	410.60
Norton Canes	118.26	141.91	165.56	189.21	212.86	260.16	307.46	354.77	425.72
Rugeley	131.97	158.36	184.75	211.15	237.54	290.33	343.11	395.90	475.08
Hednesford	120.51	144.61	168.72	192.82	216.92	265.12	313.33	361.53	433.84
All other parts of Council's area	106.47	127.76	149.05	170.35	191.64	234.23	276.81	319.40	383.28

being the amounts given by multiplying the amounts at (H)(vii) and (H)(viii) above by the number which, in the proportion set out in Section 5(1) of the Act, is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the number which in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in valuation band D, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 36(1) of the Act, as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands.

- (I) That it be noted that, for the year 2009-10, the Staffordshire County Council, Staffordshire Police Authority and the Stoke on Trent and Staffordshire Fire Authority have stated the following amounts in precepts issued to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act, 1992, for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

	Valuation Bands								
	A (disabled) £. p	A £. p	B £. p	C £. p	D £. p	E £. p	F £. p	G £. p	H £. p
Staffordshire County Council	560.89	673.07	785.25	897.43	1,009.61	1,233.97	1,458.33	1,682.68	2,019.22
Staffordshire Police Authority	95.95	115.14	134.33	153.52	172.71	211.09	249.47	287.85	345.42
Stoke on Trent and Staffordshire Fire	36.52	43.82	51.12	58.43	65.73	80.34	94.94	109.55	131.46

- (J) That, having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at (H)(ix) and (I) above, the Council, in accordance with Section 30(2) of the Local Government Finance Act, 1992, hereby sets the following amounts as the amounts of council tax for the year 2009-10 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

Part of the Council's Area	Valuation Bands								
	A (disabled) £. p	A £. p	B £. p	C £. p	D £. p	E £. p	F £. p	G £. p	H £. p
Brereton & Ravenhill	814.49	977.38	1,140.28	1,303.18	1,466.08	1,791.88	2,117.67	2,443.46	2,932.16
Bridgtown	812.47	974.96	1,137.45	1,299.95	1,462.44	1,787.43	2,112.41	2,437.40	2,924.88
Brindley Heath	804.23	965.08	1,125.92	1,286.78	1,447.62	1,769.32	2,091.01	2,412.70	2,895.24
Cannock Wood	811.07	973.28	1,135.49	1,297.71	1,459.92	1,784.35	2,108.77	2,433.20	2,919.84
Heath Hayes & Wimblebury	807.42	968.90	1,130.38	1,291.87	1,453.35	1,776.32	2,099.28	2,422.25	2,906.70
Norton Canes	811.62	973.94	1,136.26	1,298.59	1,460.91	1,785.56	2,110.20	2,434.85	2,921.82
Rugeley	825.33	990.39	1,155.45	1,320.53	1,485.59	1,815.73	2,145.85	2,475.98	2,971.18
Hednesford	813.87	976.64	1,139.42	1,302.20	1,464.97	1,790.52	2,116.07	2,441.61	2,929.94
All Other Parts of the Area	799.83	959.79	1,119.75	1,279.73	1,439.69	1,759.63	2,079.55	2,399.48	2,879.38

- (K) That the Council authorises:

- (i) Mr. Stephen Brown, Chief Executive for the Council, or other officer authorised by him in writing:



- to collect and recover any Council Tax payable on dates previously determined;
  - in the event of a Council Taxpayer defaulting, to implement the appropriate recovery proceedings for the recovery of the amounts due.
- (ii) The Chief Executive, or such other Officers authorised by him to take all such proceedings as maybe necessary to secure the recovery of sums due and appear on behalf of the Council at any hearing of any legal proceedings in respect thereof.

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CHAIRMAN