

CANNOCK CHASE COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

HELD IN THE CIVIC CENTRE, BEECROFT ROAD, CANNOCK

AT 4.00 P.M., WEDNESDAY, 27 FEBRUARY 2008

PART 1

PRESENT: Councillors

Easton, R. (Chairman)
Ansell, Mrs. P.A. (Vice-Chairman)

Alcott, G.	Holder, M.J.
Allen, F.W.C.	Jones, Mrs. A.E.
Ball, G.D.	Kraujalis, J.T.
Beddows, J.	Martin, G.R.
Bennett, Mrs. D.J.	Mawle, D.L.
Bernard, Mrs. A.F.	Meaden, R.G.
Bullock, L.W.	Mitchell, C.
Burnett, J.	Molineux, G.N.
Carr, I.R.	Morgan, C.W.J.
Collis, C.	Pearce, Mrs. L.J.
Davies, D.N.	Stanley, N.K.
Davis, Mrs. M.A.	Stretton, Mrs. P.Z.
Dixon, D.I.	Thomas, D.
Easton, Mrs. M.	Todd, Mrs. D.M.
Faulkner, B.J.	Williams, A.
Freeman, M.P.	Williams, B.
Grice, Mrs. D.	Yates, Ms. W.
Grocott, M.R.	1 Vacancy

(Apologies for absence were received from Councillors K.L. Bennett, R. Jones and J. Toth).

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

<u>Member</u>	<u>Nature of Interest</u>	<u>Type</u>
L.W. Bullock	Any street cleansing matters and vehicle procurement	Personal
Ansell, Mrs. P.A.	Relative employed by the Council's Grounds Maintenance Contractor	Personal

88. Recommendations Referred from Cabinet held on 21 February 2008

Consideration was given to the recommendations from Cabinet held on 21 February 2008 in respect of the General Fund Revenue Budget for 2008-09 to 2010-11.

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

The Leader, Councillor N.K. Stanley, moved the following motion which was seconded by Councillor M.P. Freeman:-

- "1. That in respect of the Housing Revenue Account Budget 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11, the Council:
 - 1.1 Determines a minimum level of working balances of £828,000 throughout the three year budget period.
 - 1.2 Approves the following revenue contributions to capital programme:

2008-09 - £1,140,000
2009-10 - £1,010,000
2010-11 - £ 706,000
 - 1.3 In all other respects, approves the HRA budget for 2008-09 and subsequent years as set out in Table 6 of the Leader's Budget Statement 2008-09.
 - 1.4 Approves the relevant Prudential Indicators for HRA capital financing as set out in Table 20 of the Leader's Budget Statement 2008-09.
2. That in respect of the Housing Revenue Account Capital Programme 2008-09 to 2010-11, the Council:
 - 2.1 Approves the available HRA Capital Resources and the three year HRA Capital Programme as set out in Tables 11 and 12 of the Leader's Budget Statement 2008-09.
3. That in respect of the General Fund Capital Programme 2007-08 and Resources 2008-09 to 2010-11, the Council:
 - 3.1 Approves the available General Fund Resources and the existing commitments against these sums (This is summarised at Tables 7 to 9 of the Leader's Budget Statement 2008-09).
4. That in respect of the proposed Section 106 Capital Programme, the Council:
 - 4.1 Approves the Section 106 Schemes Programme for 2008-09 to 2010-11 as set out in Tables 10 and 10a of the Leader's Budget statement 2008-09.
5. That in respect of the General Fund Reserves and Balances, the Council:

- 5.1 Approves a minimum level of working balances for the budget of £1,896,000 for 2008-09 with indicative levels of £1,888,000 and £1,574,000 for subsequent years.
- 5.2 Notes that the Head of Financial Management, as Section 151 Officer, considers that the level of Working Balances, as reflected in Table 2, and the General Fund Specified Reserves, Table 19, remains adequate based upon the stated General Fund Budget and the circumstances in place at the time of preparing it.
6. In respect of the General Fund Revenue Budget 2008-09 to 2010-11, the Council:
 - 6.1 Sets a 2008-09 Council Tax for District Council purposes of £184.44 for a Band D property, an increase of £4.32 (2.4%) over the current year.
 - 6.2 Approves indicative Council Tax increases of 5.0% in 2009-10 and 5.0% in 2010-11.
 - 6.3 Supports the proposals for service development set out in Table 2a in the Leader's Budget Statement 2008-09.
 - 6.4 Supports the proposals for savings set out at Table 2b of the Leader's Budget Statement 2008-09.
 - 6.5 Supports the use of Section 106 Funds for Economic Development purposes as set out at Table 2c in the Leader's Budget Statement 2008-09.
 - 6.6 Supports the use of Planning Delivery Grant as set out at Table 2d in the Leader's Budget Statement 2008-09.
 - 6.7 Approves the outturn budget for 2007-08 and the three year budget for 2008-09 to 2010-11 as set out at Table 2 in the Leader's Budget Statement 2008-09.
 - 6.8 Approves the relevant Prudential Indicators for General Fund capital financing as set out in Table 20 of the Leader's Budget Statement 2008-09.
 - 6.9 Notes the fees and charges, reflecting the above proposals, as detailed in the Fees and Charges Booklet.
 - 6.10 Notes that the Head of Financial Management, as Section 151 Officer, considers that Budget as proposed in Table 2, based upon the recommended level of Working Balances(see 5.1 above), to be sufficiently robust for approval by Council
7. That it be noted that at its meeting on 5 December 2007, the Council agreed the following amounts for the year 2008-09 in accordance with regulations made under Section 33(5) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992:
 - a. 29,971.73 (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.

b. Part of the Council's Area

Parish of Brereton & Ravenhill	1,974.30
Parish of Bridgtown	318.74
Parish of Brindley Heath	252.90
Parish of Cannock Wood	405.40
Parish of Heath Hayes & Wimblebury	4,252.32
Parish of Norton Canes	2,300.13
Parish of Rugeley	5,571.90
Parish of Hednesford	5,114.68

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.

8. That the following amounts be now calculated by the Council for the year 2008-09 in accordance with Sections 32 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 :-

- a. £52,850,424 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.
- b. £38,535,000 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for items set out in Section 32(3) (a) to (c) of the Act.
- c. £14,315,424 being the amount by which the aggregate at 8(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 8(b) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 32(4) of the Act, as its budget requirement for the year.
- d. £8,314,027 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 2008.

- e. £200.23 being the amount at 8(c) above less the amount at 8(d) above, all divided by the amount at 7(a) 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.
- f. £473,397 being the aggregate amount of all special items referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act.
- g. £184.44 being the amount at 8(e) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 8(f) above by the amount at 7(a) 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.
- h. Part of the Council's Area

	£.	p.
Parish of Brereton & Ravenhill	209.72	
Parish of Bridgtown	206.40	
Parish of Brindley Heath	192.35	
Parish of Cannock Wood	204.77	
Parish of Heath Hayes & Wimblebury	198.17	
Parish of Norton Canes	205.79	
Parish of Rugeley	220.11	
Parish of Hednesford	203.99	

being the amounts given by adding to the amount at 8(g) 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 7(b) 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.

- i. 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	116.51	139.81	163.12	186.42	209.72	256.32	302.93	349.53	419.44
Bridgtown	114.67	137.60	160.53	183.47	206.40	252.27	298.13	344.00	412.80
Brindley Heath	106.86	128.23	149.61	170.98	192.35	235.09	277.84	320.58	384.70
Cannock Wood	113.76	136.51	159.27	182.02	204.77	250.27	295.78	341.28	409.54

Heath	110.09	132.11	154.13	176.15	198.17	242.21	286.25	330.28	396.34
Hayes & Wimblebury									
Norton Canes	114.33	137.19	160.06	182.92	205.79	251.52	297.25	342.98	411.58
Rugeley	122.28	146.74	171.20	195.65	220.11	269.02	317.94	366.85	440.22
Hednesford	113.33	135.99	158.66	181.32	203.99	249.32	294.65	339.98	407.98
All other parts of Council's area	102.47	122.96	143.45	163.95	184.44	225.43	266.41	307.40	368.88

being the amounts given by multiplying the amounts at 8(g) and 8(h) 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.

9. That it be noted that, for the year 2008-09, 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)	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
	£. p	£. p	£. p	£. p	£. p	£. p	£. p	£. p	£. p
Staffordshire County Council	547.47	656.96	766.45	875.95	985.44	1,204.43	1,423.41	1,642.40	1,970.88
Staffordshire Police Authority	92.31	110.77	129.23	147.69	166.16	203.08	240.00	276.93	332.31
Stoke on Trent and Staffordshire Fire	35.13	42.16	49.19	56.21	63.24	77.29	91.35	105.40	126.48

10. That, having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 8(i) and 9 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 2008-09 for each of the categories of dwellings show below:

Valuation Bands

Part of the Council's Area	A (disabled)	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
	£. p	£. p	£. p	£. p	£. p	£. p	£. P	£. p	£. p
Brereton & Ravenhill	791.42	949.70	1,107.99	1,266.27	1,424.55	1,741.12	2,057.69	2,374.26	2,849.11
Bridgtown	789.58	947.49	1,105.40	1,263.32	1,421.23	1,737.07	2,052.89	2,368.73	2,842.47

Brindley Heath	781.77	938.12	1,094.48	1,250.83	1,407.18	1,719.89	2,032.60	2,345.31	2,814.37
Cannock Wood Heath	788.67	946.40	1,104.14	1,261.87	1,419.60	1,735.07	2,050.54	2,366.01	2,839.21
Hayes & Wimblebury	785.00	942.00	1,099.00	1,256.00	1,413.00	1,727.01	2,041.01	2,355.01	2,826.01
Norton Canes	789.24	947.08	1,104.93	1,262.77	1,420.62	1,736.32	2,052.01	2,367.71	2,841.25
Rugeley	797.19	956.63	1,116.07	1,275.50	1,434.94	1,753.82	2,072.70	2,391.58	2,869.89
Hednesford	788.24	945.88	1,103.53	1,261.17	1,418.82	1,734.12	2,049.41	2,364.71	2,837.65
All Other Parts of the Area	777.38	932.85	1,088.32	1,243.80	1,399.28	1,710.23	2,021.17	2,332.13	2,798.55

11. That the Council authorises:

11.1 Mr. Philip Lloyd-Williams, the Director of Governance for the Council, appointed to the said office under Section 112 of the Local Government Act, 1972, or other officer authorised by him in writing:

- (a) to collect and recover any Council Tax payable on dates previously determined;
- (b) in the event of a Council Taxpayer defaulting, to implement the appropriate recovery proceedings for the recovery of the amounts due.

11.2 The Director of Governance, 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".

Councillor D. Thomas proposed objections to the recommendations of the Cabinet, identifying a number of areas to be reconsidered, which were seconded.

Following a debate the meeting adjourned for 10 Minutes in order that officers could clarify the process for debating the budget in light of the fact that during the debate Councillor M.J. Holder had indicated that he wished to move a further objection should Councillor Thomas' objection fall.

On the meeting being reconvened the Chief Executive advised Members that the procedure for debating the Council's budget was such that the Council could resolve to either approve the recommendations of the Cabinet or object to them. The Council could not consider a number of amendments as it would in a normal debate as this was not permitted by the Budget and Policy Framework within the Council's Constitution.

Councillor M.P. Freeman moved that the question be now put, which was seconded. Following a vote this motion was carried.

Following a vote, the motion moved by the Leader as set out in paragraphs 1 to 11 above was carried.

RESOLVED:

That the motion as set out in paragraphs 1 to 11 above be approved.

CHAIRMAN