

**CANNOCK CHASE COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**  
**HELD IN THE CIVIC CENTRE, BEECROFT ROAD, CANNOCK**  
**AT 4.00 P.M., WEDNESDAY, 16 FEBRUARY, 2011**

**PART 1**

PRESENT: Councillors

Alcott, G. (Chairman)  
Jones, R. (Vice-Chairman)

Allen, F.W.C.	Green, M.R.
Ansell, Mrs. P.A.	Grice, Mrs. D.
Ball, G.D.	Grocott, M.R.
Beddows, J.	Kraujalis, J.T.
Bennett, Mrs. D.J.	Meaden, R.G.
Bernard, Mrs. A.F.	Mitchell, Mrs. C.
Bernard, J.D.	Molineux, G.N.
Bullock, L.W.	Morgan, C.W.J.
Burnett, G.	Rowley, J.
Burnett, J.	Stanley, N.K.
Cartwright, Mrs. S.M.	Sutherland, M.
Collis, C.	Sutton, Mrs. H.M.
Davies, D.N.	Thomas, D.
Davis, Mrs. M.A.	Todd, Mrs. D.M.
Dixon, D.I.	Whitehouse, Mrs. L.
Easton, Mrs. D.M.	Williams, A.
Easton, R.	Williams, Mrs. P.
Freeman, M.P.	Yates, Ms. W.
Gilbert, P.	

(Apologies for absence were received from Councillors G. Adamson; and B. Williams.)

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

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

**79. Minutes**

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the Extra Ordinary Council meeting and the Council meeting held on 8 December, 2010, be approved as a correct record.

## **80. Chairman's Announcements and Correspondence**

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

The Chairman reported that the charity collection box was circulating for Members to make a small donation to support his charities. At the meeting held on 8 December, 2010, a total of £46.00 had been donated.

### **(ii) Chairman's Evening**

The Chairman reminded Council that he would be hosting his Chairman's Charity Evening on 18 March, 2011, in the Ballroom, Civic Suite. Tickets for the event would be £29.95 to include a three course meal and entertainment from Swede Dreamz, an ABBA tribute band. The Chairman said that he looked forward to seeing Members there, and thanked them for their support.

### **(iii) Chairman's Charity Evening**

The Chairman also reminded Council of a fundraising evening to be held at the Prince of Wales Centre on Sunday, 6 March, 2010. The event would include Cannock Ex-Servicemen's Choir; Rugeley Power Station Band and pupils from Heath Hayes Primary School. Tickets for the evening would be £7.00 each, or £6.00 with a concession. Again, the Chairman said that he looked forward to seeing Members there, and thanked them for their support.

### **(iv) Declan Hoare, Director of Service Improvement**

The Chairman advised Members that, following four years working for Cannock Chase District Council, Declan Hoare, Director of Service Improvement, was leaving to take up a position as Assistant Director of Environment and Operations at the London Borough of Barnet. On behalf of himself and the Council, he thanked Declan for all his hard work in the past and wished him all the best for the future. The Chairman then presented a personal gift to Mr. Hoare.

## **81. Questions in Accordance with Rule 8**

No questions had been submitted in accordance with Rule 8.

## **82. Budget Timetable - Procedural Issues**

Consideration was given to the Joint Report of the Head of Financial Management and Council Solicitor (Enclosure 6A.1 – 6A.5 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

That it be noted that Council would be required to meet on 2 March, 2011 to set the overall Council Tax for 2011-12.

**83. Budget 2011-12 to 2013-14**

The Chairman of the Council waived the 10 minutes rule for the Leader's Budget Statement.

The Leader of the Council, Councillor N.K. Stanley, presented the Budget recommendations referred from Cabinet held on 3 February, 2011 in respect of the Housing Revenue Account 2011-12 and the General Fund Revenue Budget, 2011-12 to 2013-14. The Budget recommendations were seconded.

The Leader of the Conservative Group, Councillor Mrs. A.F. Bernard, then moved an Alternative Budget proposal put forward by the Conservative Group as a referral back to Cabinet, which was seconded.

Members then debated the Cabinet's Budget proposals and the Conservative Group's Alternative Budget proposals.

At the end of the debate, the Leader of the Council moved that a named vote be called, which was supported by the required number of Members, in respect of the Alternative Budget proposals put forward by the Conservative Group as a referral back to Cabinet.

The voting was as below:

<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Beddows, J.	Ansell, Mrs. P.A.	Alcott, G.
Bernard, Mrs. A.F.	Bennett, Mrs. D.J.	Allen, F.W.C.
Bernard, J.D.	Collis, C.	Ball, G.D.
Burnett, G.	Davies, D.N.	Bullock, L.W.
Burnett, J.	Easton, Mrs. M.	Cartwright, Mrs. S.M.
Gilbert, P.	Easton, R.	Davis, Mrs. M.A.
Sutherland, M.	Freeman, M.P.	Dixon, D.I.
Sutton, Mrs. H.	Green, M.	Grice, Mrs. D.
Whitehouse, Mrs. L.	Grocott, M.R.	Kraujalis, J.T.
	Jones, R.	Mitchell, Mrs. C.
	Meaden, R.G.	Morgan, C.W.J.
	Molineux, G.N.	Rowley, J.
	Stanley, N.K.	Thomas, D.
	Williams, A.	Todd, Mrs. D.M.
	Williams, Mrs. P.	
	Yates, Ms. W.	
<b>Total: 9</b>	<b>Total: 16</b>	<b>Total: 14</b>

The Chairman called for a vote on the recommendations referred from Cabinet held on 3 February, 2011, in respect of the Housing Revenue Account 2011-12 and the General Fund Revenue Budget, 2011-12 to 2013-14.

RESOLVED:

(A) Housing Revenue Account Budget, 2011-12

That, in respect of the Joint Report to Cabinet of the Director of Service Improvement and the Head of Financial Management:

- (i) A one year Housing Revenue Account Revenue Budget for 2011-12 be approved as summarised at Annex 1 of the report.
- (ii) A minimum level of working balances of £912,680 be determined for 2011-12.
- (iii) A revenue contribution to the capital programme of £165,000 for 2011-12 be approved.
- (iv) It be noted that the Housing Revenue Account revenue Budgets for 2012-13 and 2013-14 will be considered when the details of the Government's proposed Housing revenue Account reform settlement are known.

(B) Housing Revenue Account Capital Resources and Housing Revenue Account Capital Expenditure Requirements 2011-12

That, in respect of the Joint Report to Cabinet of the Director of Service Improvement and Head of Financial Management:

- (i) A one year HRA Capital Programme for 2011-12 in accordance with the HRA capital expenditure requirements as set out in the report and summarised at Annex 2 of the report, be approved.
- (ii) It be noted that the HRA Capital Programme for 2012-13 and 2013-14 will be considered when the details of the Government's proposed Housing Revenue Account reform settlement are known.

(C) General Fund Revenue Budget 2011-12 to 2013-14

That, in respect of the following Reports to Cabinet of the Head of Financial Management:

- Budget Consultation Process 2011-12
- General Fund Revenue Budget 2011-12 to 2013-14 Reserves and Balances
- General Fund Revenue Budget 2011-12 to 2013-14

and the Report to Cabinet of the Chief Executive in respect of:

- Senior Management and Corporate Restructures:

- (i) The recommendation in relation to the Senior Management Restructure be supported.
- (ii) The recommendation on reserves and balances at paragraph 2.1, of the General Fund Revenue Budget 2011-12 to 2013-14 Reserves and Balances Report be supported
- (iii) A minimum level of working balances for the budget of £970,000 for 2011-12 with indicative levels of £1,088,000 and £717,000 for subsequent years be approved.
- (iv) The 2011-12 Council Tax for District Council be maintained at its 2010-11 level of £197.01, (Band D property), representing a Council Tax freeze.
- (v) The proposals for service developments set out at Annex 1 to the Cabinet Resolutions of 3 February, 2011, be supported.
- (vi) The proposals for savings set out at Annex 2 to the Cabinet Resolutions of 3 February, 2011, be supported.
- (vii) The use of Section 106 Funds for Economic Development purposes as set out at Annex 3 to the Cabinet Resolutions of 3 February, 2011, be supported.
- (viii) The use of the residual Planning Delivery Grant as set out at Annex 4 to the Cabinet Resolutions of 3 February, 2011, be supported.
- (ix) Indicative Council Tax increases of 2.5% in 2012-13 and 2.5% in 2013-14 be approved.
- (x) As a result of the above, the outturn budget for 2010-11 and the three year budget for 2011-12 to 2013-14 as set out at Annex 5 to the Cabinet Resolutions of 3 February, 2011, be approved.

(D) Housing Revenue Account Capital Resources and Housing Revenue Account Capital Expenditure Requirements 2011-12

That, in respect of the Report to Cabinet of the Head of Financial Management:

- (i) The General Fund Capital Budget 2010-11 to 2013-14 as shown in Annex 4 of the above report be approved.

(E) Section 106 Capital Programme 2011-12

That, in respect of the Report of the Head of Financial Management:

- (i) The Section 106 programme for 2010-11 to 2013-14, as shown in Annexes 2-4 of the report be approved.

(F) Treasury Management Strategy Statement

That, in respect of the Report of the Head of Financial Management:

- (i) The control framework set out at paragraph 2.1 of the report be approved.
- (ii) The revised Code and Treasury Management Policy Statement be adopted.
- (iii) Treasury and Prudential Indicators arising from the Budget Recommendations above (Annex 6 to the Cabinet resolutions of 3 February, 2011 ) be approved.

**84. Rent Restructuring**

Consideration was given to the Joint Report of the Director of Service Improvement and the Head of Financial Management (Enclosure 7.1 – 7.6 of the Official Minutes of the Council)

RESOLVED:

That:

- (A) The Council's rent restructuring strategy be extended to achieve convergence by 2015.
- (B) The 2011-12 rent restructuring plan formulated in accordance with the Council's revised rent restructuring strategy as set out below:-
  - (i) No rent will change by more than RPI plus 0.5% plus £2.00 per week.
  - (ii) All rent changes will be implemented via five equal steps between April 2011 and April 2015 except where the total change in rent is between £0.10-£1.00 over the restructuring period, in which case the total change will be implemented in April 2011.
- (C) The 2011-12 rent restructuring plan be implemented with effect from 4 April, 2011.

**85. Exclusion of the Public**

RESOLVED:

That the public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting because of the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 2, 3 and 4, Part 1, Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972.





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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**  
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**PART 2**

**86. Senior Management and Corporate Support Restructures**

Consideration was given to the Report of the Chief Executive (Enclosure 9.1 – 9.7 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

That:

- (A) The Senior Management structure as set out in Annex 2 to the report and as described within it be approved.
- (B) The savings resulting from the Senior Management Restructure which forms part of the Cabinet's recommended budget be noted.

(The meeting closed at 5.55 pm)

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CHAIRMAN