

Cannock Chase Council
Minutes of the Meeting of the
Cabinet

Held on Wednesday 17 February 2021 at 5:00 p.m.

Via Remote Access

Part 1

PRESENT: Councillors:

Adamson, G.	Leader of the Council
Alcott, G.	Deputy Leader of the Council and Town Centre Regeneration Portfolio Leader
Pearson, A.R.	Community Safety and Partnerships Portfolio Leader
Preece, J.P.T.L.	Corporate Improvement Portfolio Leader
Mitchell, Mrs. C.	Culture and Sport Portfolio Leader
Johnson, T.B.	Economic Development and Planning Portfolio Leader
Newbury, J.A.A.	Environment and Climate Change Portfolio Leader
Martin, Mrs. C.E.	Health and Wellbeing Portfolio Leader
Kraujalis, J.T.	Housing Portfolio Leader

80. Apologies

None received.

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

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

82. General Fund Revenue Budget and Capital Programme 2021-22 to 2023-24

Consideration was given to the Conservative Group's Alternative Budget as referred back to Cabinet from the Council meeting held on 10 February 2021.

The Leader moved the following amendment to the Cabinet's proposed Capital Programme in respect of the Culture & Sport Portfolio:

"That an annual programme for development of new play areas and the refurbishment of existing play areas, open spaces and leisure facilities be included in the Capital Programme, at a total of £150,000. This being split into equal amounts of £50,000 per year for the period 2021-22 to 2023-24."

Resolved:

(A) That the Alternative Budget as referred back by Council from its meeting held

on 10 February be noted.

That the following be recommended to Council at its meeting to be held on 24 February 2021:

- (B) The level of net spending for the General Fund Revenue Budget for 2021-22 be set at £14.667 million; with indicative net spending for 2022-23 and 2023-24 of £14.361 million and £14.520 million, respectively (as detailed in Annex 1 of these Minutes (table 3 of the 28 January 2021 Cabinet report)).
- (C) The detailed portfolio budgets as set out in Appendix 2 of the 28 January 2021 Cabinet report, subject to the amendment to the Leader's portfolio as detailed in Annex 2 of these Minutes.
- (D) The Capital Programme as set out in Appendices 2 and 4 of the 28 January 2021 Cabinet report, subject to the additional scheme as detailed in Annex 3 of these Minutes.

That Council, at its meeting to be held on 24 February 2021, be recommended to note that the original Recommendations of the Cabinet in relation to the following resolutions remain unchanged:

- (E) The forecast outturn net budget of £15.408 million be approved.
- (F) The use of Government Grants in 2021-22 of £2.261 million.
- (G) That although indicative figures existed for the use of Government Grants for 2022-23 and 2023-24, they could not be accurately determined at this stage with each element of Government funding being subject to review.
- (H) The working balances be set at £0.812 million, £1.147 million, and £1.176 million for 2021-22 to 2023-24, respectively.
- (I) A Council Tax of £225.64 be recommended for 2021-22, with indicative increases of 1.95% to the level of Council Tax for 2022-23 and 2023-24.
- (J) The Council's Tax Base be set at 29,136.82.

Reasons for Decisions

The Council was required to set a balanced budget for 2021-22 set in the context of a sustainable medium-term financial plan.

83. Treasury Management Strategy, Minimum Revenue Provision Policy, Annual Investment Strategy and Capital Strategy 2021-22

Consideration was given to the Conservative Group's Alternative Budget as referred back to Cabinet from the Council meeting held on 10 February 2021.

Resolved:

- (A) That the Alternative Budget as referred back by Council from its meeting held on 10 February be noted.

That the following be recommended to Council at its meeting to be held on 24 February 2021:

- (B) The Capital expenditure prudential indicator for the Council be increased to £14.458 million in 2021-22, £15.182 million in 2022-23 and £13.927 million in 2023-24, reflecting the new Capital Scheme as detailed in Annex 3 of these Minutes.

That Council, at its meeting to be held on 24 February 2021, be recommended to note that the original Recommendations of the Cabinet in relation to the following resolutions remain unchanged:

- (C) The Prudential and Treasury Indicators.
- (D) The Minimum Revenue Provision Policy Statement.
- (E) The Treasury Management Policy.
- (F) The Annual Investment Strategy for 2021/22.

Reasons for Decisions

The Council was required to approve its treasury management, investment, and capital strategies to ensure that cashflow was adequately planned and that surplus monies were invested appropriately.

84. Corporate Plan 2021-2024

Consideration was given to the Report of the Head of Governance and Corporate Services (Item 6.1 – 6.37).

Resolved:

That:

- (A) The Alternative Budget as referred back by Council from its meeting held on 10 February be noted.
- (B) Council, at its meeting to be held on 24 February 2021, be recommended to approve and include in the Policy Framework of the Council the Corporate Plan 2021-24 as submitted to Council on 10 February 2021.

Reasons for Decisions

Adopting a new Corporate Plan for 2021-24 would allow the Council to focus on actions to deal with the impact that Covid-19 had had on the District and provide a medium-term focus on key recovery areas. It would lead to a longer-term and ambitious approach to the future of the District following on from this recovery.

The meeting closed at 5:15 p.m.

LEADER

Revised Budget

Table 3: General Fund Draft Budget 2021-22 to 2023-24

	Budget 2021-22	Budget 2022-23	Budget 2023-24
	£000	£000	£000
Net Expenditure			
Portfolio budgets	14,920	14,853	14,609
Investment interest	-82	-166	-208
Technical items	-171	-326	119
Net Spending	14,667	14,361	14,520
Less: Government Grants			
NNDR Multiplier	-159	-159	-159
Lower Tier Grant	-130		
COVID Grant	-541		
Income Guarantee Grant	-14		
New Homes Bonus	-1,417	-850	-316
Budget Requirement	12,406	13,352	14,045
Financing			
Business Rates	-5,409	-5,226	-5,333
Council Tax Income	-6,574	-6,770	-6,971
Council Tax Support Grant	-120		
Total Financing	-12,103	-11,996	-12,304
Less Transfer from Reserve	-303		
Budget Shortfall / Transfer from Working Balances		-1,356	-1,741

Revised Budget

Amendments to Portfolio Budgets (Appendix 2 of Budget Report)

<u>Ref</u>	<u>Detail</u>	<u>Budget</u> <u>2021-22</u> <u>£</u>	<u>Budget</u> <u>2022-23</u> <u>£</u>	<u>Budget</u> <u>2023-24</u> <u>£</u>
	<u>Economic Development & Planning</u>			
6	Public Buildings			
b.	Rationalisation of public buildings reflecting transformation proposals & efficiencies arising from mobile working	*	-	TBD
	<u>Leader of the Council Portfolio</u>			
1	Democratic Services			
	Expenditure			
c.	Remove Members IT Consumable Allowance	-5,180	-10,870	-16,680
d.	Provide I pads / Laptops to all Members	7,800	7,800	7,800
9	Excluded Items			
	Expenditure			
e.	Development of further Shared services	*	-	TBD
	TOTAL	2,620	-3,070	-8,880
*	Subject to report to Cabinet			

Revised Budget

Amendments to Capital Programme (Appendix 3 of Budget Report)

		Total Program Revised £'000	General Fund £'000	Section 106 £'000
<u>Culture & Sport Portfolio</u>				
Additional schemes				
A	Annual programme for development of new play areas and the refurbishment of existing play areas, open spaces and leisure facilities	TBD	150	TBD
		0	150	-
Amendments to Capital Programme (Appendix 4 of Budget Report)				
		2021-22 £'000	2022-23 £'000	2023-24 £'000
	Annual programme for development of new play areas and the refurbishment of existing play areas, open spaces and leisure facilities	50	50	50
		50	50	50