

MINUTES OF COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

At a Meeting of the Council for the Borough of Slough held at the Flexi Hall, The Centre, Farnham Road, Slough, SL1 4UT on Thursday, 19th February, 2015 at 7.00 pm

Present:- The Worshipful the Deputy Mayor (Councillor Rasib) in the chair; Councillors Abe, Ajaib, Anderson, Bains, Brooker, Carter, Chahal, Cheema, Chohan, Coad, Dar, Davis, Dhaliwal, Dhillon, M Holledge, Hussain, Malik, Mann, Mansoor, Matloob, Mellor, Munawar, Nazir, Parmar, Plenty, Rana, Sandhu, Shah, Sharif, Sidhu, Sohal, Strutton, Swindlehurst, Usmani, Wright and Zarait.

Apologies for Absence:- Councillors Bal, Chaudhry, N Holledge, Pantelic and Smith.

40. Declarations of Interest

None were received.

41. Meeting Procedure

A suggested procedure for debating the item on the Medium Term Financial Strategy had been circulated to all Members of the Council.

It was moved by Councillor Anderson,
Seconded by Councillor Swindlehurst,

“That in accordance with procedure rule 27.1, rule 16.5 on rules of debate be suspended insofar as is necessary to enable the procedure as circulated to be adopted and that the Council consent to:

- Members of the Leadership speaking for up to 50 minutes in total on the Medium Term Financial Strategy 2014-18.
- Members of the Opposition speaking for up to 25 minutes in total on the same item, and
- All subsequent speeches in the debate being limited to 3 minutes, other than the winding up speech by the Leader of the Council which shall not exceed 10 minutes.”

The procedural motion was put and carried.

Resolved – That the proposed procedure for the debate on the Medium Term Financial Strategy 2015-19 be approved and adopted.

42. Medium Term Financial Strategy 2015-2019

The Leader of the Council and the Commissioners for Community & Leisure; Health & Wellbeing; Performance & Accountability; Social & Economic Inclusion; Education & Children; Environment & Open Spaces and Neighbourhoods and Renewal presented the Leadership Proposals for the Medium Term Financial Strategy 2015-19. On completion of the presentation:

It was moved by Councillor Anderson,
Seconded by Councillor Swindlehurst,

“That the MTFFS 2015 –19 as set out at Appendix A of the report be approved”.

No amendments were put and the recommendation was opened up to debate.

The recommendation was put and carried and in accordance with the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014 a record of the vote was taken as follows:-

There voted for the recommendation:-

Councillors Ajaib, Anderson, Brooker, Carter, Chohan, Dar, Davis, Dhillon, M.Holledge, Hussain, Malik, P K Mann, Matloob, Munawar, Nazir, Parmar, Plenty, Rana, Shah, Sharif, Sidhu, Sohal, Swindlehurst, Usmani and Zarait.
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There abstained from voting:-

The Worshipful the Deputy Mayor, Councillors Abe, Bains, Chahal, Coad, Mellor, Sandhu, Strutton and Wright 9

Resolved - That that the Medium Term Financial Strategy 2015 – 19 as set out at Appendix A of the report be approved.

43. Treasury Management Strategy 2015-16

It was moved by Councillor Anderson,
Seconded by Councillor Swindlehurst,

“That the Treasury Management Strategy for 2015/16 be approved as set out at Appendix A of the report”.

The recommendation was put and carried and in accordance with the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014 a record of the vote was taken as follows:-

There voted for the recommendation:-

Councillors Ajaib, Anderson, Bains, Brooker, Carter, Chahal, Chohan, Dar, Davis, Dhillon, M.Holledge, Hussain, Malik, Matloob, Munawar, Nazir, Parmar, Plenty, Rana, Shah, Sharif, Sidhu, Sohal, Swindlehurst, Usmani and Zarait
..... 26

Council - 19.02.15

There abstained from voting:-

The Worshipful the Deputy Mayor, Councillors Abe, Coad, Mellor, Sandhu, Strutton and Wright 7

Resolved - That the Treasury Management Strategy for 2015/16, attached as Appendix A of the report be approved.

44. Capital Strategy 2015-2020

It was moved by Councillor Anderson,
Seconded by Councillor Swindlehurst,

- “(a) That the capital strategy of £165m be approved.
- (b) That Council notes the notional costs of borrowing for the capital programme to the revenue budget will be an increase of up to **£1.5m** per annum commencing during the period of the capital strategy to fund borrowing and / or the reduction of investments of £23m.
- (c) That the principles underpinning the capital programme in paragraph 5.1.2 and Minimum Revenue Provision principles be approved.
- (d) That appendices A to C detailing the capital programmes be approved (subject to these having approved Final Business Cases by the Capital Strategy Board)”.

The recommendations were put and carried and in accordance with the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014 a record of the vote was taken as follows:-

There voted for the recommendations:-

Councillors Ajaib, Anderson, Brooker, Carter, Chohan, Coad, Dar, Davis, Dhillon, M.Holledge, Hussain, Malik, Mann, Mansoor, Matloob, Munawar, Nazir, Parmar, Plenty, Rana, Shah, Sharif, Sidhu, Sohal, Swindlehurst, Usmani and Zarait 27

There abstained from voting:-

The Worshipful the Deputy Mayor, Councillors Abe, Bains, Chahal, Mellor, Strutton and Wright 7

Resolved -

- (a) That the capital strategy of **£165m** be approved.

Council - 19.02.15

- (b) That Council notes the notional costs of borrowing for the capital programme to the revenue budget will be an increase of up to **£1.5m** per annum commencing during the period of the capital strategy to fund borrowing and / or the reduction of investments of £23m.
- (c) That the principles underpinning the capital programme in paragraph 5.1.2 and Minimum Revenue Provision principles be approved.
- (d) That appendices A to C detailing the capital programmes be approved (subject to these having approved Final Business Cases by the Capital Strategy Board).

45. Revenue Budget 2015-2016

It was moved by Councillor Anderson,
Seconded by Councillor Swindlehurst,

“That the budget as set out be approved and:

Council Tax Resolution – In relation to the Council Tax for 2015/16

- (a) That in pursuance of the powers conferred on the Council as the billing authority for its area by the Local Government Finance Acts (the Acts), the Council Tax for the Slough area for the year ending 31 March 2016 be as specified below and that the Council Tax be levied accordingly.
- (b) That it be noted that at its meeting on 15 December 2014 Cabinet calculated the following Tax Base amounts for the financial year 2015/16 in accordance with Regulations made under sections 31B (3) and 34(4) of the Act:
 - (i) 38,462.6 being the amount calculated by the Council, in accordance with Regulation 3 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 2012 (the Regulations) as the Council Tax Base for the whole of the Slough area for the year 2015/16; and
 - (ii) The sums below being the amounts of Council Tax Base for the Parishes within Slough for 2015/16:

a)	Parish of Britwell	597.0
b)	Parish of Colnbrook with Poyle	1,781.1
c)	Parish of Wexham	1,270.3
- (c) That the following amounts be now calculated for the year 2015/16 in accordance with sections 31A to 36 of the Act:
 - (i) £437,571,351 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in section 31A (2)(a) to (f) of the Act.
(Gross Expenditure);

Council - 19.02.15

- (ii) £ 392,237,445 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in section 31A (3) (a) to (d) of the Act.
(Gross Income);
- (iii) £45,333,906 being the amount by which the aggregate at paragraph c (i) above exceeds the aggregate at paragraph c (ii) above calculated by the Council as its council tax requirement for the year as set out in section 31A(4) of the Act. (Council Tax Requirement);
- (iv) £1,178.64 being the amount at paragraph c(iii) above divided by the amount at paragraph b(i) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with section 31B(1) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year, including the requirements for Parish precepts.
- (v) That for the year 2015/16 the Council determines in accordance with section 34 (1) of the Act, Total Special Items of £207,046 representing the total of Parish Precepts for that year.
- (vi) £1,173.27 being the amount at paragraph c (iv) above less the result given by dividing the amount at paragraph c (v) above by the relevant amounts at paragraph b (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.
- (vii) Valuation Bands

Band	Slough Area	Parish of Britwell	Parish of Colnbrook with Poyle	Parish of Wexham Court
	£	£	£	£
A	782.18	44.06	31.80	24.48
B	912.54	51.41	37.10	28.56
C	1,042.91	58.75	42.40	32.64
D	1,173.27	66.10	47.70	36.72
E	1,434.00	80.79	58.30	44.89
F	1,694.72	95.47	68.90	53.05
G	1,955.45	110.16	79.50	61.21
H	2,346.54	132.19	95.40	73.45

Being the amounts given by multiplying the amounts at paragraph c (iv) and c (vi) 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 amount to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands.

Council - 19.02.15

- (viii) That it be noted that for the year 2015/16 the Thames Valley Police Authority precept has been provisionally stated in line with previous year increases, in accordance with section 40 of the Act, for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

Band	Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) for Thames Valley £
A	109.14
B	127.32
C	145.52
D	163.70
E	200.08
F	236.46
G	272.84
H	327.41

- (ix) That it be noted that for the year 2015/16 the Royal Berkshire Fire Authority has provisionally stated the following amount in precept issued to the Council, in accordance with section 40 of the Act, for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

Band	Royal Berkshire Fire Authority £
A	40.44
B	47.18
C	53.92
D	60.66
E	74.14
F	87.62
G	101.10
H	121.32

These precepts have not been formally proposed or agreed by the Royal Berkshire Fire Authority and may be revised when agreed.

- (x) Note that arising from these recommendations, and assuming the major precepts are agreed, the overall Council Tax for Slough Borough Council including the precepting authorities will be as follows:

Band	Slough £	Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) for Thames Valley £	Royal Berkshire Fire Authority £	TOTAL £
A	782.18	109.14	40.44	931.76

Council - 19.02.15

B	912.54	127.32	47.18	1,087.04
C	1,042.91	145.52	53.92	1,242.35
D	1,173.27	163.70	60.66	1,397.63
E	1,434.00	200.08	74.14	1,708.22
F	1,694.72	236.46	87.62	2,018.80
G	1,955.45	272.84	101.10	2,329.39
H	2,346.54	327.41	121.32	2,795.27

- (xi) That the Section 151 Officer be and is hereby authorised to give due notice of the said Council Tax in the manner provided by Section 38(2) of the 2012 Act.
- (xii) That the Section 151 Officer be and is hereby authorised when necessary to apply for a summons against any Council Tax payer or non-domestic ratepayer on whom an account for the said tax or rate and arrears has been duly served and who has failed to pay the amounts due to take all subsequent necessary action to recover them promptly.
- (xiii) That the Section 151 Officer be authorised to collect (and disperse from the relevant accounts) the Council Tax and National Non-Domestic Rate and that whenever the office of the Section 151 Officer is vacant or the holder thereof is for any reason unable to act, the Chief Executive or such other authorised post-holder be authorised to act as before said in his or her stead.
- (xiv) The above figures assume a council tax freeze for the Royal Berkshire Fire Authority. If this is not the case this report requests that the Section 151 or nominated officer be authorised to adjust the council tax charges in line with final figures following consultation with the Leader of the Council and Leaders of the Opposition Groups.

HRA Rents and Service Charges –

- (e) That the proposed increase in Housing Revenue Account rents and service charges for 2015/16 be as follows:
 - (i) Council house dwelling rents for 2015/16 increase by an average of £2.24 per week (2.2% average increase) with effect from Monday 6th April 2015. This is in line with current government guidelines on rent increases, linked to September CPI+1%.
 - (ii) Garage rents, heating, utility and ancillary charges increase by 2.3% with effect from Monday 6th April 2015. This is based upon the September RPI figure.
 - (iii) Service charges increase by 2.2% with effect from Monday 6th April 2015. This is based upon the CPI+1% uplift used for rent setting.
 - (iv) 'Other committee' property rents increase by an average of 2.2% from Monday 6th April 2015 in line with the average increase of all housing properties.

Council - 19.02.15

Fees and Charges –

- (f) That the proposed increase in Fees and charges outlined in Appendix Fi for 2015/16 be as follows:
 - (i) Sports Pitch fees and Allotment fees increase by the benchmark plus 4.2%.
 - (ii) The sports pitch fees will be implemented from the 1st April 2015 but the allotments will take effect from the 1st December 2017 as the allotment holders are normally given a year’s notice and the fees for 2016 have already been set.”

The recommendations were put and carried and in accordance with the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014 a record of the vote was taken as follows:-

There voted for the recommendations:-

Councillors Ajaib, Anderson, Brooker, Carter, Chohan, Coad, Dar, Davis, Dhillon, M.Holledge, Hussain, Malik, Mann, Mansoor, Matloob, Mellor, Munawar, Nazir, Parmar, Plenty, Rana, Shah, Sharif, Sidhu, Sohal, Swindlehurst, Usmani and Zarait 28

There abstained from voting:-

The Worshipful the Deputy Mayor, Abe, Bains, Chahal, Sandhu, Strutton and Wright 7

Resolved - That the budget as set out be approved and:

Council Tax Resolution – In relation to the Council Tax for 2015/16

- (a) That in pursuance of the powers conferred on the Council as the billing authority for its area by the Local Government Finance Acts (the Acts), the Council Tax for the Slough area for the year ending 31 March 2016 be as specified below and that the Council Tax be levied accordingly.
- (b) That it be noted that at its meeting on 15 December 2014 Cabinet calculated the following Tax Base amounts for the financial year 2015/16 in accordance with Regulations made under sections 31B (3) and 34(4) of the Act:
 - (i) 38,462.6 being the amount calculated by the Council, in accordance with Regulation 3 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 2012 (the Regulations) as the Council Tax Base for the whole of the Slough area for the year 2015/16; and

Council - 19.02.15

(ii) The sums below being the amounts of Council Tax Base for the Parishes within Slough for 2015/16:

a)	Parish of Britwell	597.0
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c)	Parish of Wexham	1,270.3

(c) That the following amounts be now calculated for the year 2015/16 in accordance with sections 31A to 36 of the Act:

- (i) £437,571,351 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in section 31A (2)(a) to (f) of the Act.
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- (ii) £ 392,237,445 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in section 31A (3) (a) to (d) of the Act.
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Council - 19.02.15

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F	1,694.72	95.47	68.90	53.05
G	1,955.45	110.16	79.50	61.21
H	2,346.54	132.19	95.40	73.45

Being the amounts given by multiplying the amounts at paragraph c (iv) and c (vi) 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 amount to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands.

- (viii) That it be noted that for the year 2015/16 the Thames Valley Police Authority precept has been provisionally stated in line with previous year increases, in accordance with section 40 of the Act, for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

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- (x) Note that arising from these recommendations, and assuming the major precepts are agreed, the overall Council Tax for Slough Borough Council including the precepting authorities will be as follows:

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H	2,346.54	327.41	121.32	2,795.27

- (xi) That the Section 151 Officer be and is hereby authorised to give due notice of the said Council Tax in the manner provided by Section 38(2) of the 2012 Act.
- (xii) That the Section 151 Officer be and is hereby authorised when necessary to apply for a summons against any Council Tax payer or non-domestic ratepayer on whom an account for the said tax or rate and arrears has been duly served and who has failed to pay the amounts due to take all subsequent necessary action to recover them promptly.
- (xiii) That the Section 151 Officer be authorised to collect (and disperse from the relevant accounts) the Council Tax and National Non-Domestic Rate and that whenever the office of the Section 151 Officer is vacant or the holder thereof is for any reason unable to act, the Chief Executive or such other authorised post-holder be authorised to act as before said in his or her stead.
- (xiv) The above figures assume a council tax freeze for the Royal Berkshire Fire Authority. If this is not the case this report requests that the Section 151 or nominated officer be authorised to adjust the council tax charges in line with final figures following consultation with the Leader of the Council and Leaders of the Opposition Groups.

HRA Rents and Service Charges –

- (e) That the proposed increase in Housing Revenue Account rents and service charges for 2015/16 be as follows:
 - (i) Council house dwelling rents for 2015/16 increase by an average of £2.24 per week (2.2% average increase) with effect from Monday 6th April 2015. This is in line with current government guidelines on rent increases, linked to September CPI+1%.
 - (ii) Garage rents, heating, utility and ancillary charges increase by 2.3% with effect from Monday 6th April 2015. This is based upon the September RPI figure.
 - (iii) Service charges increase by 2.2% with effect from Monday 6th April 2015. This is based upon the CPI+1% uplift used for rent setting.
 - (v) 'Other committee' property rents increase by an average of 2.2% from Monday 6th April 2015 in line with the average increase of all housing properties.

Fees and Charges –

- (f) That the proposed increase in Fees and charges outlined in Appendix Fi for 2015/16 be as follows:
 - (i) Sports Pitch fees and Allotment fees increase by the benchmark plus 4.2%.
 - (ii) The sports pitch fees will be implemented from the 1st April 2015 but the allotments will take effect from the 1st December 2017 as the allotment holders are normally given a year's notice and the fees for 2016 have already been set.

46. Independent Remuneration Panel - Members Allowances Scheme

It was moved by Councillor Anderson,
Seconded by Councillor Swindlehurst,

“That the Independent Remuneration Panel’s recommendations as set out below be approved, subject to an amendment to recommendation 18:

18. That for the SRA for Leader[s] of the Minority Group[s] to be payable the group must have at least **5** members. Subject the Group meeting the qualifying criteria the 2015/16 SRA for Leader[s] of the Minority Group[s] should be £3,811.

1. No change to the (2015/16) Basic Allowance (£7,329) payable in Slough Borough Council.
2. No change to the 2015/16 SRA (£19,055) for the Leader of Slough Borough Council.

Council - 19.02.15

3. No change to the 2015/16 SRA (£13,338) for the Deputy Leader of Slough Borough Council.
4. No change to the 2015/16 SRA (£10,480) for the other Cabinet Members (Commissioners).
5. No change to the 2015/16 SRA (£6,671) for the Chair of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee.
6. Ratio utilised in arriving at the SRA for the Vice Chair of Overview and Scrutiny reduced from 1/3 to 20% of the Overview & Scrutiny Chair's SRA. SRA for the Vice Chair of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee should be £1,334 (2015/16).
7. No change to the 2015/16 SRA (£2,858) payable to the Chairs of the 3 Scrutiny Panels.
8. No change to the 2015/16 SRA (£4,764) for the Chair of the Planning Committee.
9. No change to the 2015/16 SRA (£1,587) for the Vice Chair of the Planning Committee
10. Ratio utilised in arriving at the SRA for the Chair of Licensing reduced from 20% to 15% of the Leader's SRA. SRA paid to the Chair of the Licensing Committee should be £2,858 (2015/16).
11. Ratio (1/3 of Chair's SRA) utilised in arriving at the SRA for the Vice Chair of Planning retained for the Vice Chair of the Licensing Committee. SRA for the Vice Chair of the Licensing Committee should be £952 (2015/16).
12. No SRAs to be paid to the Chairs or Members of the Licensing Sub Committee.
13. No change to the 2015/16 SRA (£1,905) for the Chair of the Employment & Appeals Committee.
14. No change to the 2015/16 SRA (£1,905) for the Chair of the Audit & Risk Committee.
15. Ratio utilized in arriving at the SRA for the Chair of Standards Advisory Committee reduced from 10% of Leader's SRA to 5%. SRA for the Chair of the Standards Advisory Committee should be £953 (2015/16).
16. No change to the 2015/16 SRA (£5,716) for the Leader of the Opposition.
17. The Members allowances scheme be clarified so that as long as a Minority Group reaches the qualifying criteria then that group's Leader should be paid a Minority Group Leaders' SRA.

Council - 19.02.15

18. That for the SRA for Leader[s] of the Minority Group[s] to be payable the group must have at least 5 members. Subject the Group meeting the qualifying criteria the 2015/16 SRA for Leader[s] of the Minority Group[s] should be £3,811.
19. No change to the 2015/16 Co-optees' Allowance. £516 per annum (2015/16).
20. No change to the 2015/16 remuneration for the Independent Person. £1,239 per annum (2015/16).
21. That the current rates payable for the Travel and Subsistence Allowances and the terms and conditions by which they may be claimed be maintained.
22. That the Members' Allowances scheme is clarified to point out that where a Member is appointed to an outside body that has its own allowances schemes (e.g. the Local Government Association and Royal Berkshire Fire & Rescue Authority) or provision to pay travel and subsistence (e.g. the Thames Valley Police & Crime Panel) that they should claim travel and subsistence allowances directly from those bodies.
23. That the current rates payable for the Dependants' Carers' Allowance and the terms and conditions by which it may be claimed are maintained.
24. That Section 11 of the published Members' Allowances scheme is removed.
25. That the Basic Allowance, Special Responsibility Allowances, Co-optees' Allowances, the annual cap on the DCA and the remuneration of the Independent Person be Indexed to the annual percentage salary increase for local government staff (at spinal column 49) to be adopted from 1 April 2015 and to run for 4 years.
26. That Travel Allowances (Outwith Borough Only): be indexed as follows:
 - a. Mileage: indexed to the HMRC rates
 - b. Other Travel: actual costs subject to most cost effective provisions
27. That Subsistence and Overnight Allowances (Outwith Borough Only) be Indexed to the maximum rates payable under the South East Employers Subsistence scheme.
28. That the recommendations are implemented as follows:
 - Indices: from 1 April 2015.
 - Other recommendations: from 19 May 2015, date of annual meeting of the Council”.

Council - 19.02.15

The recommendations were put and carried unanimously.

Resolved –

1. That there is no change to the (2015/16) Basic Allowance (£7,329) payable in Slough Borough Council.
2. That there is no change to the 2015/16 SRA (£19,055) for the Leader of Slough Borough Council.
3. That there is no change to the 2015/16 SRA (£13,338) for the Deputy Leader of Slough Borough Council.
4. That there is no change to the 2015/16 SRA (£10,480) for the other Cabinet Members (Commissioners).
5. That there is no change to the 2015/16 SRA (£6,671) for the Chair of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee.
6. Ratio utilised in arriving at the SRA for the Vice Chair of Overview and Scrutiny reduced from 1/3 to 20% of the Overview & Scrutiny Chair's SRA. SRA for the Vice Chair of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee should be £1,334 (2015/16).
7. That there is no change to the 2015/16 SRA (£2,858) payable to the Chairs of the 3 Scrutiny Panels.
8. That there is no change to the 2015/16 SRA (£4,764) for the Chair of the Planning Committee.
9. That there is no change to the 2015/16 SRA (£1,587) for the Vice Chair of the Planning Committee.
10. Ratio utilised in arriving at the SRA for the Chair of Licensing reduced from 20% to 15% of the Leader's SRA. SRA paid to the Chair of the Licensing Committee should be £2,858 (2015/16).
11. Ratio (1/3 of Chair's SRA) utilised in arriving at the SRA for the Vice Chair of Planning retained for the Vice Chair of the Licensing Committee. SRA for the Vice Chair of the Licensing Committee should be £952 (2015/16).
12. That no SRAs to be paid to the Chairs or Members of the Licensing Sub Committee.
13. That there is no change to the 2015/16 SRA (£1,905) for the Chair of the Employment & Appeals Committee.
14. That there is no change to the 2015/16 SRA (£1,905) for the Chair of the Audit & Risk Committee.

Council - 19.02.15

15. Ratio utilized in arriving at the SRA for the Chair of Standards Advisory Committee reduced from 10% of Leader's SRA to 5%. SRA for the Chair of the Standards Advisory Committee should be £953 (2015/16).
16. That there is no change to the 2015/16 SRA (£5,716) for the Leader of the Opposition.
17. That the Members allowances scheme be clarified so that as long as a Minority Group reaches the qualifying criteria then that group's Leader should be paid a Minority Group Leaders' SRA.
18. That for the SRA for Leader[s] of the Minority Group[s] to be payable the group must have at least 5 members. Subject the Group meeting the qualifying criteria the 2015/16 SRA for Leader[s] of the Minority Group[s] should be £3,811
19. That there is no change to the 2015/16 Co-optees' Allowance. £516 per annum (2015/16).
20. That there is no change to the 2015/16 remuneration for the Independent Person. £1,239 per annum (2015/16).
21. That the current rates payable for the Travel and Subsistence Allowances and the terms and conditions by which they may be claimed be maintained.
22. That the Members' Allowances scheme is clarified to point out that where a Member is appointed to an outside body that has its own allowances schemes (e.g. the Local Government Association and Royal Berkshire Fire & Rescue Authority) or provision to pay travel and subsistence (e.g. the Thames Valley Police & Crime Panel) that they should claim travel and subsistence allowances directly from those bodies.
23. That the current rates payable for the Dependants' Carers' Allowance and the terms and conditions by which it may be claimed are maintained.
24. That Section 11 of the published Members' Allowances scheme is removed.
25. That the Basic Allowance, Special Responsibility Allowances, Co-optees' Allowances, the annual cap on the DCA and the remuneration of the Independent Person be Indexed to the annual percentage salary increase for local government staff (at spinal column 49) to be adopted from 1 April 2015 and to run for 4 years.
26. That Travel Allowances (Outwith Borough Only): be indexed as follows:
 - a. Mileage: indexed to the HMRC rates
 - b. Other Travel: actual costs subject to most cost effective provisions

Council - 19.02.15

27. That Subsistence and Overnight Allowances (Outwith Borough Only) be Indexed to the maximum rates payable under the South East Employers Subsistence scheme.

28. That the recommendations are implemented as follows:

- Indices: from 1 April 2015.
- Other recommendations: from 19 May 2015, date of annual meeting of the Council.

47. Review of Committee Places and Appointments

It was moved by Councillor Anderson,
Seconded by Councillor Swindlehurst,

- “(a) That the political balance of the Council as set out in Paragraph 5.3 of the report be noted.
- (b) That the revised allocation of seats on Committees be agreed.
- (c) That the Conservative Group lose a seat on Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Employment and Appeals Committee.
- (d) That UKIP gain a seat on Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Employment and Appeals Committee.
- (e) That the Conservative Group appoint a Member to replace Councillor Coad on the Licensing Committee and Neighbourhoods and Community Services Panel”.

The recommendations were put and carried unanimously.

Resolved -

- (a) That the political balance of the Council as set out in Paragraph 5.3 of the report be noted.
- (b) That the revised allocation of seats on Committees be agreed.
- (c) That the Conservative Group lose a seat on Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Employment and Appeals Committee.
- (d) That UKIP gain a seat on Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Employment and Appeals Committee.
- (e) That the Conservative Group appoint a Member to replace Councillor Coad on the Licensing Committee and Neighbourhoods and Community Services Panel.

Chair

(Note: The Meeting opened at 7.00 pm and closed at 9.12 pm)