

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, 25th February, 2016 at 7.00 pm

Present:- The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor Rasib), in the chair; Councillors Abe, Ajaib, Anderson, Bains, Bal, Brooker, Carter, Chahal, Chaudhry, Cheema, Chohan (from 7.21pm), Coad (until 8.43pm), Dar, Davis, Amarpreet Dhaliwal, Dhillon, N Holledge, Hussain, Mann, Matloob, Munawar, Nazir, Parmar, Plenty, Rana, Sandhu, Shah, Sharif, Smith, Sohal, Strutton, Swindlehurst, Usmani and Wright.

Apologies for Absence:- Councillors Arvind Dhaliwal, M Holledge, Malik, Mansoor, Morris and Pantelic

51. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Anderson declared that he was a Member on Britwell Parish Council.

Councillor Bal declared that his daughter was employed by Slough Borough Council.

Councillor Carter declared that he was a Member on Britwell Parish Council.

Councillor Plenty declared that he was the Council's appointed representative as an Independent Director on the Slough Children's Services Trust.

Councillor Sohal declared that he was a Member on Wexham Court Parish Council.

Councillor Smith declared that he was a Member of Colnbrook Parish Council.

52. 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 2016-20.
- Members of the Opposition speaking for up to 25 minutes in total on the same item, and

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- 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.

53. Medium Term Financial Strategy 2016-20

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 2016-20. On completion of the presentation:

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

“That the MTFFS 2016 – 20 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, Bal, Brooker, Carter, Chaudhry, Cheema, Chohan, Dar, Davis, Dhillon, M Holledge, Hussain, P K Mann, Matloob, Munawar, Nazir, Parmar, Plenty, Rana, Shah, Sharif, Sohal, Swindlehurst and Usmani
..... 25

There voted against the recommendation:-

Councillors Abe, Bains, Chahal, Amarpreet Dhaliwal, Sandhu, Smith, Strutton and Wright 8

There abstained from voting:-

The Worshipful the Mayor 1

Resolved - That that the Medium Term Financial Strategy 2016 – 20 as set out at Appendix A of the report be approved.

54. Treasury Management Strategy 2016-17

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

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“That the Treasury Management Strategy for 2016/17 be approved as set out at Appendix A of the report”.

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, Bal, Carter, Chaudhry, Cheema, Chohan, Dar, Davis, Dhillon, M Holledge, Hussain, P K Mann, Matloob, Munawar, Nazir, Parmar, Plenty, Rana, Shah, Sharif, Sohal, Swindlehurst and Usmani 24

There voted against the recommendation:-

Councillors Bains, Chahal, Amarpreet Dhaliwal, Sandhu, Smith and Wright 6

There abstained from voting:-

The Worshipful the Mayor, Councillors Abe and Strutton 3

Resolved - That the Treasury Management Strategy for 2016/17, attached as Appendix A of the report be approved.

55. Capital Strategy 2016-22

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

- “(a) That the capital strategy of **£235m** and the Minimum Revenue Provision be approved.
- (b) That the Council notes the notional costs of borrowing for the capital programme to the revenue budget will be an increase of up to **£2.5m** per annum commencing during the period of the capital strategy to fund borrowing and / or the reduction of investments of £40m.
- (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)”.

No amendments were put and the recommendations were opened up to debate.

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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, Bal, Brooker, Carter, Chaudhry, Cheema, Chohan, Dar, Davis, Dhillon, M Holledge, Hussain, P K Mann, Matloob, Munawar, Nazir, Parmar, Plenty, Rana, Shah, Sharif, Sohal, Strutton, Swindlehurst and Usmani 26

There voted against the recommendations:-

Councillors Bains, Chahal, Amarpreet Dhaliwal, Sandhu, Smith and Wright ...6

There abstained from voting:-

The Worshipful the Mayor and Councillor Abe 2

Resolved –

- (a) That the capital strategy of **£235m** and the Minimum Revenue Provision be approved.
- (b) That the Council notes the notional costs of borrowing for the capital programme to the revenue budget will be an increase of up to **£2.5m** per annum commencing during the period of the capital strategy to fund borrowing and / or the reduction of investments of £40m.
- (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).

56. Revenue Budget 2016-17

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 2016/17

- (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 2017 be as specified below and that the Council Tax be levied accordingly.
- (b) That it be noted that at its meeting on 14 December 2015 Cabinet calculated the following Tax Base amounts for the financial year 2016/17 in accordance with Regulations made under sections 31B (3) and 34(4) of the Act:

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- (i) 40,001.8 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 2016/17; and
- (ii) The sums below being the amounts of Council Tax Base for the Parishes within Slough for 2016/17:
 - a) Parish of Britwell 753.4
 - b) Parish of Colnbrook with Poyle 1,840.2
 - c) Parish of Wexham 1,315.8
- (c) That the following amounts be now calculated for the year 2016/17 in accordance with sections 31A to 36 of the Act:
 - (i) £420,671,409 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);
 - (ii) £ 371,765,208 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) £48,906,201 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) £1,222.60 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 2016/17 the Council determines in accordance with section 34 (1) of the Act, Total Special Items of £215,778 representing the total of Parish Precepts for that year.
 - (vi) £1,217.21 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.

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(vii) Valuation Bands

Band	Slough Area £	Parish of Britwell £	Parish of Colnbrook with Poyle £	Parish of Wexham Court £
A	811.47	44.06	32.93	24.48
B	946.72	51.41	38.42	28.56
C	1,081.97	58.75	43.91	32.64
D	1,217.21	66.10	49.40	36.72
E	1,487.70	80.79	60.38	44.89
F	1,758.19	95.47	71.36	53.05
G	2,028.68	110.16	82.33	61.21
H	2,434.42	132.19	98.80	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 2016/17 the Thames Valley Police Authority precept has been increased by 1.99%. The following amounts are stated 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	111.31
B	129.86
C	148.41
D	166.96
E	204.06
F	241.16
G	278.27
H	333.92

- (ix) That it be noted that for the year 2016/17 the Royal Berkshire Fire Authority has been increased by 1% as 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	40.84
B	47.65
C	54.46

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D	61.27
E	74.88
F	88.50
G	102.11
H	122.53

- (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	811.47	111.31	40.84	963.62
B	946.72	129.86	47.65	1,124.23
C	1,081.97	148.41	54.46	1,284.83
D	1,217.21	166.96	61.27	1,445.44
E	1,487.70	204.06	74.88	1,766.64
F	1,758.19	241.16	88.50	2,087.85
G	2,028.68	278.27	102.11	2,409.06
H	2,434.42	333.92	122.53	2,890.87

- (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.

Fees and Charges –

- (e) That the increase to Fees and charges as outlined in Appendix F for 2016/17 be as follows:
- (i) An increase to the court costs figures from **£129 to £152**
 - (ii) Charge VAT on local land searches
 - (iii) Further changes as highlighted in appendix F

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Pay Policy –

- (f) That the Pay Policy outlined in Appendix O be approved.”

No amendments were put and the recommendations were opened up to debate.

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, Bal, Brooker, Carter, Chaudhry, Cheema, Chohan, Dar, Davis, Dhillon, M Holledge, Hussain, P K Mann, Matloob, Munawar, Nazir, Parmar, Plenty, Rana, Shah, Sharif, Sohal, Swindlehurst and Usmani 25

There voted against the recommendations:-

Councillors Abe, Bains, Chahal, Amarpreet Dhaliwal, Sandhu, Smith, Strutton and Wright 8

There abstained from voting:-

The Worshipful the Mayor 1

Resolved – That the budget be approved, and

Council Tax Resolution – In relation to the Council Tax for 2016/17

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 - (i) 40,001.8 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 2016/17; and
 - (ii) The sums below being the amounts of Council Tax Base for the Parishes within Slough for 2016/17:

a)	Parish of Britwell	753.4
b)	Parish of Colnbrook with Poyle	1,840.2
c)	Parish of Wexham	1,315.8

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- (c) That the following amounts be now calculated for the year 2016/17 in accordance with sections 31A to 36 of the Act:
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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,

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- (e) That the increase to Fees and charges as outlined in Appendix F for 2016/17 be as follows:
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 - (ii) Charge VAT on local land searches
 - (iii) Further changes as highlighted in appendix F

Pay Policy –

- (f) That the Pay Policy outlined in Appendix O be approved.

Chair

(Note: The Meeting opened at 7.00 pm and closed at 9.21 pm)