



MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 27th FEBRUARY 2018

PRESENT: Councillor J Chesworth (Chair), Councillors P Thurgood, R Bilcliff, A Bishop, S Claymore, T Clements, D Cook, C Cooke, S Doyle, J Faulkner, R Ford, M Gant, S Goodall, M Greatorex, A James, R Kingstone, A Lunn, T Madge, K Norchi, J Oates, M Oates, Dr S Peuple, S Peuple, R Pritchard, R Rogers, P Standen, M Summers and M Thurgood

The following officers were present: Andrew Barratt (Chief Operating Officer), John Wheatley (Executive Director Corporate Services), Jane Hackett (Solicitor to the Council and Monitoring Officer), Ryan Keyte (Senior Legal Officer) and Stefan Garner (Director of Finance)

38 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors J Goodall and T Peuple.

39 TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 12 December 2017 were approved and subject to a slight amendment and signed as a correct record.

(Moved by Councillor D Cook and seconded by Councillor Dr. S Peuple)

40 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest.

41 TO RECEIVE ANY ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE MAYOR, LEADER, MEMBERS OF THE CABINET OR THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

The following announcements were made:-

Councillor Dr. S Peuple following the dissolution of the UKIP group it is beholden to the opposition to decide on how to share out the Committee places and

although it would be very tempting as I cannot think of many groups whose views I share less than UKIP's I would see no reason to mess with the Committee structure at this stage. Mr Mayor, it be formally move in the absence of Councillor T Peuple on a leave of absence Councillor S Peuple will replace him on the Planning Committee.

(Moved by Councillor Dr. S Peuple and seconded by Councillor D Cook)

Councillor T Madge would like to officially inform Council members "as you are no doubt aware I have resigned my ambition from UKIP. I will not go into great depths as to the reason behind my decision as it has been published in the Herald and local media. Service to say I am most disappointed it came to this but UKIP are not the party they were when I joined. It was a party that promised so much but has delivered so little. I have nothing but admirations for the members of Tamworth UKIP who work tirelessly to promote UKIP in our town, they and the majority of UKIP members are not to blame for the present state of the party, the culprits are the leadership and the NEC who have grabbed defeat for the joys of victory and persistently dragged the party along the road to oblivion. I would also like to take this opportunity to inform the Council that along with Councillor Cooke and Councillor Bilcliff have come together to form the Tamworth Independent and UKIP group for the purpose of Council, we work together to offer the residents of Tamworth an alternative to the present two party system in our Town."

Councillor D Cook announced that Councillor J Goodall has by her own decision stepped away from Cabinet due to personal matters. "I would like to take this opportunity in front of all colleagues to say thank you to Councillor Goodall for her outstanding work for the last two years on Cabinet, she has really driven some ideas and some change within the portfolio and certainly driven the Castle Review that is currently about to go to Scrutiny and real fresh thinking and more commercial approach to the Castle. To take the Green Bins scheme through full Council was no easy ask and she did it admirably, I would like to personally thank Councillor Goodall for her service, with that in mind myself and the Deputy Leader have decided not to replace the Cabinet position till the end of the municipal year. If members (email to be circulated) wish to discuss anything within that portfolio myself and Councillor Thurgood will be covering Waste Management; Outdoor Events and Culture will be Councillor Pritchard; the Castle Review and any Heritage connection will be championed by Councillor Claymore, and if you have anything in relation to Tamworth in Bloom, Councillor Doyle has some history in this area and would be happy to help you out. To officially put this on record and again thank Councillor Goodall for her absolute sterling work over the last two years as a Cabinet colleague.

Councillor Dr. S Peuple, having dealt with the formal business we extend our best wishes to Councillor Goodall as she has not been in the best of health of late and we hope that things will be better for her. Can I take this opportunity; I mentioned it earlier that Councillor T Peuple took a leave of absence to take up a job in China. Things are going okay, but can I just say that it has been a real pleasure to pass on best wishes from all sides of the chamber, from individuals who

stopped us to tell us and I think it is a great thing about this Council that we can support each other in these personal areas whilst doing our combating in the political sphere and I would like to thank all those people from every side and aspect of the chamber who have sent on their best wishes to him, it has been a big help to him in forging his new career.

Councillor C Cooke, as Councillor Madge has already said I have also resigned from the UKIP party and am carrying on as an Independent, it isn't a decision I took lightly, but I want to put the Ward and residents first and in my opinion that is the best way to do it. Councillor Madge has forms a group including UKIP and I look forward to continuing to sit as a Councillor.

42 QUESTION TIME:

There were no Questions to Council.

43 CORPORATE VISION, PRIORITIES PLAN, BUDGET & MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2018/19

Report of the Leader of the Council to present to Members the Corporate Vision Statement, Priority Themes, Corporate Priorities and Outcomes and their inclusion in the Corporate Plan and Support Service Plan.

The report also recommended package of budget proposals to enable the Council to agree the:

- General Fund (GF) Revenue Budget and Council Tax for 2018/19;
 - Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Budget for 2018/19;
 - 3 Year General Fund Capital Programme (2018/21);
 - 5 Year HRA Capital Programme (2018/23);
 - 3 Year General Fund Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) (2018/21);
- and
- 5 Year HRA Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) (2018/23).

Compliance with the requirement of the Council's Treasury Management Policy in reporting to Council the proposed strategy for the forthcoming year and the Local Government Act 2003 with the reporting of the Prudential Indicators.

RESOLVED: That Council agreed

1. the Vision Statement, Priority Themes, Corporate Priorities and Outcomes for 2018/19.
2. the proposed revisions to Service Revenue Budgets (Policy Changes).

3. the sum of £80,065 be applied from Council Tax Collection Fund surpluses in reducing the Council Tax demand in 2018/19.
4. the sum of £222,336 be applied to Business Rates Collection Fund deficits in 2018/19.
5. that on 30th November 2017, the Cabinet calculated the Council Tax Base 2018/19 for the whole Council area as 21,438 [Item T in the formula in Section 31B(3) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended (the "Act")]
6. that the Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2018/19 is £3,681,977.
7. the following amounts as calculated for the year 2018/19 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Act:
 - a. £53,144,554 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) of the Act (Outgoings excluding internal GF Recharges).
 - b. £49,462,577 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act (Income excluding internal GF Recharges);
 - c. £3,681,977 being the amount by which the aggregate at 7(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 7(b) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the Act as its Council Tax requirement for the year (Item R in the formula in Section 31A(4) of the Act);
 - d. £171.75 being the amount at 7(c) above (Item R), all divided by Item T (at 5 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.
8. the Council Tax level for the Borough Council for 2018/19 of £171.75 (an increase of £5.00 (3.0%) on the 2017/18 level of £166.75) at Band D.
9. an aggregate Council Tax (comprising the respective demands of the Borough Council, Staffordshire County Council, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Authority) of £1,648.36 at Band D for 2018/19 be noted (£1,562.01 in 2017/18).
10. the Council Tax levels at each band for 2018/19.
11. the sum of £3,077,541 be transferred from General Fund Revenue Balances in 2018/19.
12. the Summary General Fund Revenue Budget for 2018/19.

13. the Provisional Budgets for 2018/19 to 2020/21, summarised at Appendix G, as the basis for future planning.
14. minimum level for balances of £500k to be held for each of the General Fund, Housing Revenue Account, General Capital Fund and Housing Capital Fund.
15. Cabinet be authorised to release funding from the General Contingency budget and that the release of funding for Specific Contingency items be delegated to the Corporate Management Team in consultation with the Leader of the Council.
16. proposed HRA Expenditure level of £15,912,710 for 2018/19.
17. rents for Council House Tenants in General Accommodation for 2018/19 be set at an average of £85.85 (2017/18 £86.72), over a 48 week rent year (including the required 1% reduction)
18. rents for Council House Tenants due for 52 weeks in 2018/19 be collected over 48 weeks.
19. the HRA deficit of £3,805,820 be financed through a transfer from Housing Revenue Account Balances in 2018/19.
20. the proposed 3 year General Fund Capital Programme of £17.749m.
21. the proposed 5 year Housing Capital Programme of £41.940m.
22. to delegate authority to Cabinet to approve/add new capital schemes to the capital programme where grant funding is received or there is no net additional cost to the Council.
23. the Treasury Management Strategy Statement, the Treasury Management Policy Statement, Minimum Revenue Provision Strategy and Annual Investment Statement 2018/19.
24. the Prudential and Treasury Indicators and Limits for 2018/19 to 2019/20.
25. adoption of the Treasury Management Practices contained within ANNEX 8.
26. the detailed criteria of the Investment Strategy 2018/19 contained in the Treasury Management Strategy within ANNEX 4.
27. the adoption of the revised CIPFA Prudential code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities (Prudential Code) and Treasury

Management in the Public Services Code of Practice and Cross-Sectoral Guidance Notes (Treasury Management Code).

28. endorse the action taken (under the MIFID II regulations) to opt up to professional status, so that we may continue to use the full range of investments.
29. to endorse the approach taken in the selection of Property Funds and approve investment in those property funds, making use of both primary and secondary markets as appropriate, at the discretion of the Executive Director Corporate Services and Director of Finance.

and the additional recommendation of:

30. the inclusion of an additional capital scheme budget of £6m in 2017/18, financed from the capital receipt from the sale of the former golf course, to take advantage of any potential advantageous opportunities to invest in property funds by 31st March 2018.

(Moved by Councillor D Cook and endorsed by Councillor R Pritchard)

The following amendment was proposed and seconded but not passed upon voting;

That only recommendations 2, 5, 14-21 and 23-28 be approved.

(Moved by Councillor Dr. S Peple and seconded by Councillor C Cooke)

The Mayor