

Council

A meeting of Council was held on Wednesday, 29th February, 2012.

Present: The Worshipful the Mayor (Cllr Paul Baker); Cllr Jim Beall, Cllr Derrick Brown, Cllr Mark Chatburn, Cllr Julia Cherrett, Cllr Carol Clark, Cllr Michael Clark, Cllr David Coleman, Cllr Robert Cook, Cllr Nigel Cooke, Cllr Gillian Corr, Cllr Evaline Cunningham, Cllr Phillip Dennis, Cllr Ken Dixon, Cllr Kevin Faulks, Cllr Robert Gibson, Cllr David Harrington, Cllr Ben Houchen, Cllr Mohammed Javed, Cllr Eileen Johnson, Cllr Elliot Kennedy, Cllr Paul Kirton, Cllr Terry Laing, Cllr Miss Tina Large, Cllr Alan Lewis, Cllr Ken Lupton, Cllr Ray McCall, Cllr Mrs Ann McCoy, Cllr Mrs Kath Nelson, Cllr Steve Nelson, Cllr Mrs Jean O'Donnell, Cllr Ross Patterson, Cllr Maurice Perry, Cllr Mrs Maureen Rigg, Cllr David Rose, Cllr Andrew Sherris, Cllr Michael Smith, Cllr Andrew Stephenson, Cllr Norma Stephenson, Cllr Mick Stoker, Cllr Tracey Stott, Cllr Steve Walmsley, Cllr David Wilburn, Cllr Norma Wilburn, Cllr Mrs Mary Womphrey, Cllr Mick Womphrey, Cllr Bill Woodhead and Cllr Barry Woodhouse.

Officers: N Schneider (CE); D E Bond, P K Bell (LD); P Dobson (DNS); J Danks, G Cummings, B Brown, L King (R).

Also in attendance: Members of the public.

Apologies: Cllr Lynne Apedaile, Cllr Ian Dalgarno, Cllr Mick Eddy, Cllr John Gardner, Cllr Barbara Inman, Cllr Jean Kirby, Cllr Colin Leckonby and Cllr Mrs Sylvia Walmsley.

C Declarations of Interest

186/11

All Members present who were Council Tax payers were deemed to have declared a personal non prejudicial interest in respect of agenda item 3 - Review of the Medium Term Financial Plan and Budget for 2011/12.

C Medium Term Financial Plan Update and Strategy

187/11

Members considered a report on the Council's 2012/13 budget and Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) for 2012 to 2017. The report also incorporated Council Tax proposals and the approach to the financial issues faced by the Council.

The report had been considered by Cabinet, at its special meeting held on 23rd February 2012 and an extract of the relevant Cabinet minute was provided for Members.

Members expressed their thanks to all of the Officers that had been involved in the budget process. Members considered that the budget proposals being put forward were a testament to the excellent management of the Council's financial resources.

Moved by Councillor Cook, seconded by Councillor Beall that:-

1. In accordance with the Local Government Act 2003, Members note that the Section 151 Officer confirms that the following recommendations:-

- a) represent a robust budget which has been prepared in line with best practice,
- b) provide adequate working balances at 3% of general fund, and
- c) that the controlled reserves and provisions are adequate for their purpose.

General Fund Budget

2. The 2012/13 Council Tax requirement for Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council

of £75,016,771 be approved.

3. The 2012/13 Council Tax requirement for Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council inclusive of Parish Precepts (£617,577) of £75,634,348 be approved.

4. The 2012/13 budget and indicative 2012/17 MTFP as outlined in paragraphs 15 and 20 and the use of balances and reserves as outlined in paragraph 32 be approved.

5. The Pay Policy Statement attached at Appendix A to the report be approved.

Taxation

SBC

6. The Council Tax for Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council prior to Parish, Fire and Police Precepts be increased by 3.49% i.e. to £1264.16 at Band D (£842.77 at Band A).

Fire, Police & Parish

7. The Police Precept of £11,536,661 which equates to a Council Tax of £194.41 at Band D (£129.61 at Band A) be noted.

8. The Fire Precept of £3,946,189 which equates to a Council Tax of £66.50 at Band D (£44.33 at Band A) be noted.

9. The Parish precepts as set out in paragraph 44 of the budget report be noted.

Capital

10. The Capital Programme at Appendix B be approved.

Council Tax - Statutory Requirements

11. The statutory requirements for Council Tax at Appendix C be approved.

Treasury Management/Prudential Code

12. The Treasury Management Strategy, Minimum Revenue Provision Statement, Investment Strategy and Prudential Indicators for 2012/13– 2014/15 at Appendix D be approved.

Moved by Councillor Lupton, seconded by Councillor Laing that the motion be amended as follows:-

2. A 2012/13 Council Tax requirement for Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council of £72,487,056 be approved.

3. A 2012/13 Council Tax requirement for Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council inclusive of Parish Precepts (£617,577) of £73,104,633 be approved.

6. The Council Tax for Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council prior to Parish, Fire

and Police Precepts be frozen to £1221.53 at Band D (£814.35 at Band A) be approved.

7. The Police Precept of £11,536,661 which equates to a Council Tax of £194.41 at Band D (£129.61 at Band A) be noted.

Details of the consequential changes to the body of the Cabinet report and of the impact of the alternative recommendations were also provided to Members.

A vote took place and the amendment was declared lost.

RESOLVED that:-

In accordance with the Local Government Act 2003, Members note that the Section 151 Officer confirms that the following recommendations:-

- a) represent a robust budget which has been prepared in line with best practice,
- b) provide adequate working balances at 3% of general fund, and
- c) that the controlled reserves and provisions are adequate for their purpose.

General Fund Budget

2. The 2012/13 Council Tax requirement for Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council of £75,016,771 be approved.

3. The 2012/13 Council Tax requirement for Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council inclusive of Parish Precepts (£617,577) of £75,634,348 be approved.

4. The 2012/13 budget and indicative 2012/17 MTFP as outlined in paragraphs 15 and 20 and the use of balances and reserves as outlined in paragraph 32 be approved.

5. The Pay Policy Statement attached at Appendix A to the report be approved.

Taxation

SBC

6. The Council Tax for Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council prior to Parish, Fire and Police Precepts be increased by 3.49% i.e. to £1264.16 at Band D (£842.77 at Band A).

Fire, Police & Parish

7. The Police Precept of £11,536,661 which equates to a Council Tax of £194.41 at Band D (£129.61 at Band A) be noted.

8. The Fire Precept of £3,946,189 which equates to a Council Tax of £66.50 at Band D (£44.33 at Band A) be noted.

9. The Parish precepts as set out in paragraph 44 of the budget report be noted.

Capital

10. The Capital Programme at Appendix B be approved.

Council Tax - Statutory Requirements

11. The statutory requirements for Council Tax at Appendix C be approved.

Treasury Management/Prudential Code

12. The Treasury Management Strategy, Minimum Revenue Provision Statement, Investment Strategy and Prudential Indicators for 2012/13– 2014/15 at Appendix D be approved.