

Council
13 FEBRUARY 2019

Present: Councillors: Peter Burgess (Chairman), Kate Rowbottom (Vice-Chairman), John Bailey, Andrew Baldwin, John Blackall, Toni Bradnum, Karen Burgess, John Chidlow, Jonathan Chowen, Philip Circus, Paul Clarke, David Coldwell, Roy Cornell, Christine Costin, Leonard Crosbie, Ray Dawe, Brian Donnelly, Matthew French, Billy Greening, David Jenkins, Nigel Jupp, Liz Kitchen, Lynn Lambert, Adrian Lee, Gordon Lindsay, Tim Lloyd, Christian Mitchell, Mike Morgan, Brian O'Connell, Stuart Ritchie, Jim Sanson, David Skipp, Ben Staines, Simon Torn, Claire Vickers, Michael Willett and Tricia Youtan

Apologies: Councillors: Alan Britten, Tony Hogben, Paul Marshall and Godfrey Newman

Absent: Councillors: Jonathan Dancer, Josh Murphy and Connor Relleen

CO/44 **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meetings of the Council held on 5th December 2018 and 24th January 2019 were approved as correct records and signed by the Chairman.

CO/45 **DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS**

There were no declarations of interest.

CO/46 **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman referred to the recent deaths of three former Members of the Council: Sally Horner (1989 to 2011), John Cox (2003 to 2009), and Alan Chisholm (1991 to 1999). Tributes were paid by current Members and a quiet period of reflection was observed.

The Cabinet Member for Planning and Development reported that the Council had been shortlisted as a finalist in the Royal Town Planning Institute Planning Excellence Awards 2019 in respect of the Abingworth Meadows development in Thakeham.

The Cabinet Member for Community and Wellbeing gave updates on: progress on the Peary Close temporary accommodation scheme; the expansion of the neighbourhood wardens' scheme; and a Member briefing being held on 26th February on the proposed creation of a Housing Company to deliver affordable housing in the District.

The Cabinet Member for Waste, Recycling and Cleansing reported on action being taken to address litter on the highway and the need for public involvement in reporting incidents and providing evidence.

The Cabinet Member for Leisure and Culture reminded Members that this was the last opportunity to contribute towards the commissioning of a plaque to be installed in Steyning commemorating ex-Councillor George Cockman.

The Cabinet Member for Local Economy advised that footfall in Horsham Town Centre had been up by 12% on the previous year over the Christmas period.

CO/47 **QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

No questions relevant to the business of the meeting had been received.

CO/48 **RECOMMENDATIONS FROM CABINET**

Council Tax Reduction Scheme

The Cabinet Member for Finance and Assets gave an overview of the Council's current Council Tax Reduction scheme, together with a recommendation from Cabinet that no changes were made to the scheme for 2019/20.

RESOLVED

That the Council Tax Reduction Scheme for 2019/20:

- (i) Maintains the existing protected groups.
- (ii) Maintains the existing £10,000 capital limit and band D restriction.
- (iii) Maintains the existing practice of charging at least 10% of the Council Tax bill to all unprotected groups.

REASON

Council Tax Reduction schemes are annual schemes and therefore require an annual review and approval, even when no changes to the scheme are being proposed.

CO/49 **BUDGET 2019/20 AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY**

Further to the detailed consideration of the Budget for 2019/20 by the Cabinet, Councillor Brian Donnelly, the Cabinet Member for Finance and Assets introduced this item; presented the recommendations of the Cabinet in respect of the 2019/20 budget; and moved that they be approved. Councillor Stuart Ritchie seconded the proposal.

Councillor Donnelly noted that the Council was able to set a budget for 2019/20 that would generate a surplus, which would help towards funding future transformation to maximise efficiency and effectiveness. It was also currently projected that there would be a budget surplus in 2020/21, and the budget projections for 2021/22 and 2022/23 were close to breakeven, provided significant transformation continued to be delivered. Additionally, in 2019/20, the Council would be delivering a £19,800,000 capital programme, while the level of council tax proposed remained the lowest in West Sussex and in the lowest quartile nationally. Councillor Donnelly thanked all staff for their work in maximising efficiency and achieving savings, which made a positive contribution to the Council's current and predicted financial position. He also thanked the Director of Corporate Resources and her team for their hard work in briefing Members at a number of meetings and producing the budget report.

Councillor David Skipp, Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group endorsed the Cabinet Member's thanks to officers for producing the budget now before Members. He agreed with the Cabinet Member's positive comments regarding the Council's current financial position and also noted that planning for the future in the current uncertain financial situation was difficult. He noted that in October 2012 the Council had agreed a minimum level of general reserves of £6,000,000, which was accepted as a sound principle. However, the Council's general reserves now stood at £11,100,000. He noted that the Council was currently investigating the possibility of setting up a housing company to enable the provision of more affordable housing throughout the District using commuted sums from S106 agreements.

Councillor Skipp then moved an amendment to the motion by the addition of the following recommendation: "In view of the significant solvency of this Council, the commuted sum comprising £12,000,000 from S106 agreements should be enhanced by £2,000,000 a year for the next three years from Council funds in order to ensure that much-needed affordable accommodation is provided within this District."

The amendment was seconded by Councillor Christine Costin.

Members debated the amendment, expressing support for the provision of affordable housing through the proposed setting up of a housing company, which was due to be considered by Cabinet in March. However, generally, Members did not support making an additional commitment as now proposed in view of future uncertainties regarding the Council's finances.

Having been moved and seconded, the amendment was put.

In accordance with the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014, the voting in respect of the amendment was recorded and was as follows:

FOR THE MOTION: Councillors: Christine Costin, Leonard Crosbie, David Skipp

AGAINST: Councillors: John Bailey, Andrew Baldwin, John Blackall, Toni Bradnum, Karen Burgess, Peter Burgess, John Chidlow, Jonathan Chowen, Philip Circus, Paul Clarke, David Coldwell, Roy Cornell, Ray Dawe, Brian Donnelly, Matthew French, Billy Greening, David Jenkins, Nigel Jupp, Liz Kitchen, Lynn Lambert, Adrian Lee, Gordon Lindsay, Tim Lloyd, Christian Mitchell, Brian O'Connell, Stuart Ritchie, Kate Rowbottom, Jim Sanson, Ben Staines, Simon Torn, Claire Vickers, Michael Willett, Tricia Youtan

ABSTAIN: Councillor: Mike Morgan

ABSENT: Councillors: Alan Britten, Jonathan Dancer, Tony Hogben, Paul Marshall, Josh Murphy, Godfrey Newman, Connor Relleen

The amendment was declared LOST.

Members then debated the substantive motion raising a number of points including concerns regarding the impact of the County Council's proposed reduction in housing support; the benefits of New Homes Bonus; and the work that had gone into producing a budget that provided value for money whilst preserving services.

Having been moved and seconded, the substantive motion was put.

In accordance with the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014, the voting in respect of the motion was recorded and was as follows:

FOR THE MOTION: Councillors: John Bailey, Andrew Baldwin, John Blackall, Toni Bradnum, Karen Burgess, Peter Burgess, John Chidlow, Jonathan Chowen, Philip Circus, Paul Clarke, David Coldwell, Roy Cornell, Leonard Crosbie, Ray Dawe, Brian Donnelly, Matthew French, Billy Greening, David Jenkins, Nigel Jupp, Liz Kitchen, Lynn Lambert, Adrian Lee, Gordon Lindsay, Tim Lloyd, Christian Mitchell, Mike Morgan, Brian O'Connell, Stuart Ritchie, Kate Rowbottom, Jim Sanson, Ben Staines, Simon Torn, Claire Vickers, Michael Willett, Tricia Youtan

AGAINST: None

ABSTAIN: Councillors: Christine Costin, David Skipp

ABSENT: Councillors: Alan Britten, Jonathan Dancer, Tony Hogben, Paul Marshall, Josh Murphy, Godfrey Newman, Connor Relleen

The motion was declared CARRIED and it was:

RESOLVED

- (i) That the level of Council Tax for 2019/20 be increased from £145.60 by £3.93 (2.7%) to £149.53 at Band D.

- (ii) That the net revenue budget for 2019/20 of £10.435m be approved (Appendix A to the report).
- (iii) That Special Expenses of £299,140 (Appendix D to the report) and a Band D charge of £25.46 be agreed in respect of the unparished area for 2019/20.
- (iv) That the capital programme for 2019/20 (amended Appendix E to the report) be approved and that the indicative capital budgets in the programme for future years be noted.
- (v) That the projected future balanced budgets on the revenue account in 2021/22 and 2022/23 be noted and the Medium Term Financial Strategy continues to be reviewed and refined to ensure that decisions are taken to deliver these balanced budgets in these two years.
- (vi) That the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Statement set out in Appendix F to the report be approved.
- (vii) That the Capital Strategy and prudential indicators and limits for 2018/19 to 2021/22 set out in the amended Appendix G to the report be approved.
- (viii) That the statement on the robustness of the level reserves in Appendix I to the report be noted.

REASON

To meet the Council's statutory requirement to approve the budget and the prudential indicators before the start of a new financial year

CO/50 **COUNCIL TAX 2019/20**

It was moved by Councillor Brian Donnelly and seconded by Councillor Stuart Ritchie that the Council Tax resolution for 2019/20 be approved.

In accordance with the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014, the voting in respect of the motion was recorded and was as follows:

FOR THE MOTION: Councillors: John Bailey, Andrew Baldwin, John Blackall, Toni Bradnum, Karen Burgess, Peter Burgess, John Chidlow, Jonathan Chowen, Philip Circus, Paul Clarke, David Coldwell, Roy Cornell, Leonard Crosbie, Ray Dawe, Brian Donnelly, Matthew French, Billy Greening, David Jenkins, Nigel Jupp, Liz Kitchen, Lynn Lambert, Adrian Lee, Gordon Lindsay, Tim Lloyd, Christian Mitchell, Mike Morgan, Brian O'Connell, Stuart Ritchie, Kate Rowbottom, Jim Sanson, Ben Staines, Simon Torn, Claire Vickers, Michael Willett, Tricia Youtan

AGAINST: None

ABSTAIN: Councillors: Christine Costin, David Skipp

ABSENT: Councillors: Alan Britten, Jonathan Dancer, Tony Hogben, Paul Marshall, Josh Murphy, Godfrey Newman, Connor Relleen

The motion was declared CARRIED and it was:

RESOLVED

1. The Council Tax Base 2019/20 be noted
 - a. for the whole Council area as 62,187.0 (Item T in the formula in section 31B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended (the "Act") and
 - b. for dwellings in those parts of its area to which as Parish Precept or Special Expenses relates as shown below:

Parish	2019/20 tax base
Amberley	329.1
Ashington	1,136.7
Ashurst	148.5
Billingshurst	4,156.8
Bramber	409.4
Broadbridge Heath	2,271.3
Coldwaltham	470.0
Colgate	1,353.3
Cowfold	843.1
Henfield	2,699.1
Itchingfield	757.5
Lower Beeding	541.7
North Horsham	8,705.2
Nuthurst	1,056.2
Parham	124.7
Pulborough	2,527.5
Rudgwick	1,394.6
Rusper	907.5
Shermanbury	288.3
Shipley	634.2
Slinfold	900.5
Southwater	4,526.2
Steyning	2,565.5
Storrington & Sullington	3,283.7
Thakeham	1,007.1
Upper Beeding	1,447.3
Warnham	989.5
Washington	1,083.9
West Chiltington	2,189.1
West Grinstead	1,308.3
Wiston	108.0
Woodmancote	272.6
Horsham Town	11,750.6
Total	62,187.0

2. That the Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2019/20 (excluding Special Expenses and Parish precepts) is £149.53

3. That the following amounts be calculated for the year 2019/20 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Act:

- (a) £83,563,123 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) of the Act taking into account all precepts issued to it by Parish Councils.
- (b) £70,366,846 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act.
- (c) £13,196,277 being the amount by which the aggregate at 3(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 3(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 31B of the Act).
- (d) £212.20 being the amount at 3(c) above (Item R), all divided by Item T (1(a) above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year (including Parish precepts).
- (e) £3,897,764 being the aggregate amount of all special items (Parish precepts) referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act
- (f) £149.53 being the amount at 3(d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 3(e) above by Item T (1(a) 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 Parish precept relates.

(g)				
Parish	Precept Amount £	Council Tax at Band D		
		Parish Precept/ Special charge for Unparished Area £	Basic Amount of District Council Tax £	Total £
Amberley	22,116.00	67.20	149.53	216.73
Ashington	100,837.00	88.71	149.53	238.24
Ashurst	11,490.00	77.37	149.53	226.90
Billingshurst	352,463.00	84.79	149.53	234.32
Bramber	21,930.00	53.57	149.53	203.10
Broadbridge Heath	115,980.00	51.06	149.53	200.59
Coldwaltham	15,863.00	33.75	149.53	183.28
Colgate	21,490.00	15.88	149.53	165.41
Cowfold	62,520.00	74.15	149.53	223.68
Henfield	236,145.00	87.49	149.53	237.02
Itchingfield	64,000.00	84.49	149.53	234.02
Lower Beeding	36,110.00	66.66	149.53	216.19
North Horsham	327,769.00	37.65	149.53	187.18
Nuthurst	46,000.00	43.55	149.53	193.08
Parham	4,842.00	38.83	149.53	188.36
Pulborough	214,079.00	84.70	149.53	234.23
Rudgwick	96,940.00	69.51	149.53	219.04
Rusper	32,276.00	35.57	149.53	185.10
Shermanbury	22,020.00	76.38	149.53	225.91
Shipley	32,124.30	50.65	149.53	200.18
Slinfold	56,892.00	63.18	149.53	212.71
Southwater	651,993.00	144.05	149.53	293.58
Steyning	254,680.00	99.27	149.53	248.80
Storrington & Sullington	230,577.00	70.22	149.53	219.75
Thakeham	58,428.00	58.02	149.53	207.55
Upper Beeding	174,075.00	120.28	149.53	269.81
Warnham	73,217.05	73.99	149.53	223.52
Washington	40,429.00	37.30	149.53	186.83
West Chiltington	139,007.00	63.50	149.53	213.03
West Grinstead	69,500.00	53.12	149.53	202.65
Wiston	4,156.00	38.48	149.53	188.01
Woodmancote	8,675.00	31.82	149.53	181.35
Horsham Town - Special charge	299,140.00	25.46	149.53	174.99

being the amounts given by adding to the amount at (f) above the amounts of the special items relating to the dwellings in those parts of the Council's area

mentioned above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with section 34(3) of the Act, as the basic amounts of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate.

Band Authority	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
West Sussex County Council	922.38	1,076.11	1,229.84	1,383.57	1,691.03	1,998.49	2,305.95	2,767.14

Band Authority	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner	126.61	147.71	168.81	189.91	232.11	274.31	316.52	379.82

4. (a) To note that the County Council have proposed precepts and the Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner has notified precepts to the Council in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 for each category of dwellings in the Council's area as indicated in the table below:

(b) to delegate authority to the Director of Corporate Resources and S151 officer to amend the County precept in section 4 of the report and the aggregate amounts in section 5 of the report, if so notified by West Sussex County Council following the County's budget setting meeting at Council on 15 February 2019.

The Horsham District Figures are shown below:-

Band Authority	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Horsham District Council	99.69	116.30	132.92	149.53	182.76	215.99	249.22	299.06

5. That, having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 3 and 4 above the Council, in accordance with Sections 30 and 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the aggregate amounts shown in the tables below as the amounts of Council Tax for 2019/20 for each part of its area and for each of the categories of dwellings:

BAND	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Amberley	1,193.48	1,392.39	1,591.30	1,790.21	2,188.04	2,585.86	2,983.69	3,580.42
Ashington	1,207.82	1,409.12	1,610.42	1,811.72	2,214.32	2,616.93	3,019.54	3,623.44
Ashurst	1,200.26	1,400.30	1,600.35	1,800.38	2,200.47	2,600.55	3,000.65	3,600.77
Billingshurst	1,205.21	1,406.07	1,606.94	1,807.80	2,209.53	2,611.27	3,013.01	3,615.60
Bramber	1,184.39	1,381.78	1,579.18	1,776.58	2,171.37	2,566.16	2,960.97	3,553.15
Broadbridge Heath	1,182.72	1,379.84	1,576.96	1,774.07	2,168.31	2,562.55	2,956.80	3,548.15
Coldwaltham	1,171.18	1,366.37	1,561.57	1,756.76	2,147.15	2,537.54	2,927.94	3,513.52
Colgate	1,159.27	1,352.47	1,545.69	1,738.89	2,125.31	2,511.73	2,898.16	3,477.78
Cowfold	1,198.12	1,397.80	1,597.49	1,797.16	2,196.53	2,595.90	2,995.28	3,594.33
Henfield	1,207.01	1,408.17	1,609.34	1,810.50	2,212.83	2,615.16	3,017.51	3,621.00
Itchingfield	1,205.01	1,405.83	1,606.67	1,807.50	2,209.16	2,610.83	3,012.50	3,615.00
Lower Beeding	1,193.12	1,391.97	1,590.82	1,789.67	2,187.37	2,585.08	2,982.79	3,579.34
North Horsham	1,173.78	1,369.40	1,565.04	1,760.66	2,151.92	2,543.18	2,934.44	3,521.32
Nuthurst	1,177.71	1,373.99	1,570.28	1,766.56	2,159.13	2,551.70	2,944.28	3,533.12
Parham	1,174.57	1,370.32	1,566.08	1,761.84	2,153.36	2,544.88	2,936.41	3,523.68
Pulborough	1,205.15	1,406.00	1,606.86	1,807.71	2,209.42	2,611.13	3,012.86	3,615.42
Rudgwick	1,195.02	1,394.18	1,593.36	1,792.52	2,190.86	2,589.19	2,987.54	3,585.04
Rusper	1,172.39	1,367.78	1,563.18	1,758.58	2,149.37	2,540.16	2,930.97	3,517.15
Shermanbury	1,199.60	1,399.53	1,599.46	1,799.39	2,199.25	2,599.11	2,998.99	3,598.78
Shipley	1,182.45	1,379.52	1,576.60	1,773.66	2,167.81	2,561.96	2,956.11	3,547.33
Slinfold	1,190.80	1,389.26	1,587.73	1,786.19	2,183.12	2,580.05	2,976.99	3,572.38
Southwater	1,244.71	1,452.16	1,659.61	1,867.06	2,281.96	2,696.86	3,111.77	3,734.11
Steyning	1,214.86	1,417.33	1,619.81	1,822.28	2,227.23	2,632.18	3,037.14	3,644.56
Storrington & Sullington	1,195.49	1,394.73	1,593.99	1,793.23	2,191.72	2,590.22	2,988.72	3,586.46
Thakeham	1,187.36	1,385.24	1,583.14	1,781.03	2,176.81	2,572.59	2,968.38	3,562.05
Upper Beeding	1,228.86	1,433.67	1,638.48	1,843.29	2,252.90	2,662.52	3,072.15	3,686.57
Warnham	1,198.01	1,397.67	1,597.34	1,797.00	2,196.34	2,595.67	2,995.01	3,594.01
Washington	1,173.55	1,369.13	1,564.73	1,760.31	2,151.49	2,542.67	2,933.86	3,520.62
West Chiltington	1,191.01	1,389.51	1,588.01	1,786.51	2,183.51	2,580.51	2,977.52	3,573.02
West Grinstead	1,184.09	1,381.44	1,578.79	1,776.13	2,170.83	2,565.52	2,960.23	3,552.26
Wiston	1,174.33	1,370.05	1,565.78	1,761.49	2,152.93	2,544.37	2,935.83	3,522.98
Woodmancote	1,169.90	1,364.87	1,559.86	1,754.83	2,144.80	2,534.76	2,924.73	3,509.67
Horsham Town - Special charge	1,165.65	1,359.92	1,554.20	1,748.47	2,137.02	2,525.57	2,914.12	3,496.94

6. To note that the Council's basic amount of Council Tax for 2019/20 is not excessive in accordance with principles approved under Section 52ZB Local Government Finance Act 1992.

Horsham District Council Tax Band D

2018/19	2019/20	Council Tax increase
£150.28	£154.34	£4.06 (or 2.7%)

As the billing Authority the Council has not been notified by a major precepting authority that its relevant basic amount of Council Tax for 2019/20 is excessive and that the billing authority is not required to hold a referendum in accordance with Section 522K Local Government Act 1992.

7. There are no changes to the Council Tax discount policies.

REASON

To meet the Council's statutory requirement to set a Council Tax.

CO/51 **REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES**

Councillor Liz Kitchen, the Council's representative on the Gatwick Airport Consultative Committee (GATCOM), updated Members on a number of current issues including the London Airspace Modernisation Programme (LAMP). Use of the emergency/standby runway, Gatwick railway station/Gatwick Express, and noise management.

Councillor Christine Costin gave an update on Horsham in Bloom.

Councillor David Coldwell, the Council's representative on the South Downs National Park Authority, updated Members on the current position regarding the A27 at Arundel and progress on the National Park Local Plan.

CO/52 **CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2019/20**

The Chief Executive reported on the proposed programme of Council, Cabinet and Committee meetings, including standing Cabinet Member Policy Development Advisory Groups, for 2019/20. It was noted that the calendar proposed monthly meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, as agreed by that Committee.

Members and officers had been consulted to ensure that the proposed programme met the requirements for reporting on statutory matters, such as the

budget and final accounts, and comments received had been taken into account in the submitted calendar.

RESOLVED

That the calendar of meetings for 2019/20 be approved as submitted.

REASON

To fix a programme of Council meetings, in accordance with the Council's Constitution, and to approve a calendar for Cabinet and Committee meetings, which enables the Council to transact its business in a timely and efficient manner

CO/53 **MEMBERS' QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

No questions had been received.

CO/54 **URGENT BUSINESS**

There was no urgent business.

The meeting closed at 7.34 pm having commenced at 6.00 pm

CHAIRMAN