

COUNCIL

Date and Time: Thursday, 28 February 2019 at 7.00 pm

Place: Council Chamber, Civic Offices, Fleet

Present:

COUNCILLORS –

Makepeace-Browne - (Chairman)

Ambler	Crookes	Neighbour
Axam	Delaney	Oliver
Bailey	Drage	Parker
Blewett	Dickens	Quarterman
Butler	Forster	Radley
Clarke	Gray	Renshaw
Cockarill	Gorys	Southern
Collings	Kennett	Wheale
Crampton	Kinnell	Worlock
Crisp	Morris	Wright

Officers Present:

Patricia Hughes	Joint Chief Executive
Daryl Phillips	Joint Chief Executive
Andrew Vallance	Head of Corporate Services and S151 Officer
Amy Summers	Media and Communications Manager
Gill Chapman	Committee Services

82 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 13 December 2018 were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

83 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillor Burchfield.

84 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Regarding the Minutes of the Staffing Committee Minutes, Minute 15, Councillor Forster declared he had an interest in the electric car industry.

85 PRESENTATION BY THE HEAD OF CORPORATE SERVICES

Andrew Vallance, Head of Corporate Services, gave a short talk on finance planning and the proposed budget later in the agenda.

86 COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 12 – QUESTIONS BY THE PUBLIC

No questions were received.

87 COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 14 – QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS

Questions put by Councillors are detailed in Appendix I attached to these Minutes.

88 CHAIRMAN’S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman had attended the following events on behalf of the Council.

- 14 December HCC Chairman’s Christmas Civic Dinner, Winchester
- 18 December Xmas visit to Royal Mail delivery office, Fleet
- 21 December Mayor Havant Christmas Charity Dinner Dance, Waterlooville
- 16 January Live at Home Charity - Award Presentation
- 25 January Havant Holocaust Memorial Day Commemoration, Havant Cemetery
- 7 February Dinner at Farnborough College of Technology
- 16 February Mayor Winchester Big Quiz Night – The Guildhall Winchester

The Chairman reported that, further to the dinner at Farnborough College of Technology (FCOT), she had been invited by the Principal to talk about how Hart and FCOT can help each other and the students.

The Chairman also announced that a Raffle to benefit her Charities would be run in March. The Raffle would be open to both staff and Councillors, and she invited Members to generously support it.

89 CABINET MEMBERS ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Leader of the Council, **Councillor Neighbour**, announced

Along with Councillor Parker I attended the District Council Network conference, where it was stressed that councils should get a bigger slice of the government cake, with a proper replacement for the new homes bonus. In a subsequent session this was put to the Secretary of State, who responded that he hoped to have a replacement for it. Proposed changes for business rates will create a lot of chaos, and it is imperative that the Secretary of State gives us transitional arrangements. We need to make sure that local government is provided with stable finance going forward.

The Cabinet Member for Contracts and Community Safety, **Councillor Radley**, reported

January has been a record breaking month for both Hart leisure centres. Monthly attendance across both leisure centres was a record breaking 70,234; smashing the previous record by approx. 3,000 visits.

Everyone Active are also reporting record membership levels for both leisure centres, with 4,405 members at the Hart Leisure Centre and 1,776 at Frogmore.

The Cabinet Member for Housing, **Councillor Bailey**, reported

On 19 March, for the fifth year running, Rushmoor Borough Council and Hart District Council are holding a joint affordable housing event to help residents looking to take their first step on the housing ladder.

Our two year trailblazer funding that was provided by central government to pilot strategies to help those facing homelessness has now come to an end. I am delighted that the budget, which Council will be debating later this evening, includes funding for our social inclusion team that will continue the work started as part of the trailblazer initiative.

I am delighted to confirm that we learnt earlier today that alongside Basingstoke BC we have been successful in securing £190,000 of funding to increase access for those facing homelessness to private sector landlords

The Cabinet Member for Planning Services, **Councillor Cockarill**, announced:

Members will be aware of the results of the Bramshill planning appeals and the accompanying enforcement cases. I won't go into details as there are a lot, but suffice it to say that overall, it was a conclusive victory for the Council's position. I'm sure Members will want to join with me in thanking the Conservation team, the Development Management team and the Enforcement team for all of their hard work in fighting these extremely important appeals. Bramshill is one of the most important heritage assets in the country and we will continue to protect and defend it robustly.

We have received a letter from the Inspector, Jonathan Manning, giving us some provisional feedback on a couple of issues associated with the Local Plan. I must stress that this is not his final report but the letter gives us a clear indication that, subject to the Council agreeing a couple of important modifications, we are close to having in place a sound Local Plan. It is a very important milestone because we have never reached this stage before.

The Inspector has accepted our assessment of what is our objectively assessed housing need at around 388 dwellings per annum, and recognised our positive approach to meeting that need. It is for this reason that the inspector recommends that we agree to meet Surrey Heath's unmet need because he considers that it can be done within our projected targets without changing our plan or having to find further sites.

The Inspector's other key recommendation is that we do not, at this time, pursue Policy SS3. In his view the new settlement approach is not sufficiently developed to be included within the Plan, particularly as the numbers of new homes it may deliver are not necessary to meet our housing numbers within this Plan. The important point is that the Inspector does not rule out a new settlement option for the future. He recognises our clear aspiration to deliver a new settlement to meet long-term housing needs. He accepts that it would be acceptable for the Plan to retain the Council's aspirations to plan for long-term needs beyond the Plan period, which could refer to the delivery of a new settlement through (potentially an early or

immediate) review of the Plan or a subsequent DPD. He says that this would not change any timescales.

I intend later tonight to circulate to all Members the Inspector's letter and it will be published on our web page. I also intend to work with respective Group Leaders and through the Local Plan Steering Group to agree the next steps, but it would seem to me that our best interests lie in getting a sound local plan swiftly in place in the form as recommended by the Inspector.

This is great news for both the Council and its residents because having a local plan in place will give us a sound basis to make future planning decisions and it removes the threat of planning by appeal.

Councillor Cockarill, in response to a question, agreed to circulate a summary of the Bramshill enquiry decision to Members.

The Cabinet Member for Regulatory Services, **Councillor Kinnell**, reported:

Members I am delighted to announce that Hart are in the final stages of negotiating a more comprehensive and focussed shared licensing arrangement with Basingstoke and Deane which will maintain the high standards currently achieved, in the current arrangement. Staff have been consulted and I am content with the arrangements being put into place.

The Cabinet Member for Technical Services, **Councillor Oliver**, reported

Firstly , I attended the Project Integra project board on Monday to discuss Hampshire councils waste collection and disposal strategy. The county council have decided to push ahead with the design phase on a new Material Reprocessing Facility (MRF Recycling), to replace the existing 2 facilities in Hampshire which are coming to end of life, notwithstanding the government (DEFRA) publishing their consultations on the new proposed Waste and Recycling strategy for the UK. I would urge councillors to look at these consultations as they have the potential to significantly change the way we collect waste in Hart. HCC are confident that the MRF design will accomodate any future government policy and importatntly will include facilities to recycle Pots, Tubs and Trays. Councillors will know this is a wish many residents have asked for.

Secondly, we engage Portsmouth CC to prosecute Blue Badge abuse observed by our own enforcement officers. In coming to Hart to collect information to prosecute 2 such cases they agreed to check Fleet High Street for any further digressions. In a 2 hr period they siezed and took records of 7 further Blue Badge offences (out of date, misuse and fake). This level of abuse is not acceptable and blocks disabled bays for the genuine disabled who need this facility. A programme of on-going visits and enforcement is being agreed to stamp out this selfish activity.

Councillors queried the market for some recyclables, and Member visits to recycling facilities, which Parishes may also be interested in.

90 JOINT CHIEF EXECUTIVES' REPORT

The Joint Chief Executives' reported that Nick Steevens had left the Council.

91 MINUTES OF COMMITTEES

Meeting	Date
Overview and Scrutiny	18 December 2018

No questions asked.

Overview and Scrutiny (draft)	15 January 2019
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No questions asked.

Licensing (draft)	5 February 2019
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No questions asked.

Cabinet	6 December 2018
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No questions asked.

Cabinet	3 January 2019
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No questions asked.

Cabinet (draft)	7 February 2019
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Minute 95 - Budget 2019/2020 (see item 11 below)

Minute 97 - Capital Strategy, Treasury Management Strategy Statement And Annual Investment Strategy

Councillor Neighbour put the recommendation, seconded by Councillor Crookes.

RESOLVED

- 1 That the Capital Strategy be approved.
- 2 That the Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2019/20 be approved.

Staffing (draft)	12 February 2019
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Minute 13 - Pay Policy Statement Financial Year 2019-20

Councillor Kennett put the recommendation, seconded by Councillor Radley.

RESOLVED

That the Pay Policy be approved.

Minute 15 - Review Of Staff Allowances And Introduction Of An Electric Vehicle Mileage Rate

Councillor Kennett put the recommendation, seconded by Councillor Neighbour. (Councillor Forster abstained due to his declaration of interest (minute 84).)

RESOLVED

- 1 That the proposed revised allowances from 1 April 2019, be approved
- 2 That the introduction of mileage rates for electric vehicles from 1 April 2019, be approved subject to the addition of “essential car users – 1200cc and above including Electric Vehicles.

Planning Committee

9 January 2019

No questions asked.

Planning (draft)

13 February 2019

No questions asked.

92 BUDGET 2019/20

Council considered a summary of Cabinet’s revenue and capital budget recommendations for 2019/20, enabling Council to calculate and approve the Council Tax requirement for 2019/20. The report also included the Head of Corporate Services’ (Section 151) statutory statement to Council on the robustness of the estimates and adequacy of reserves.

Councillor Neighbour introduced the budget, and moved the recommendation, seconded by Councillor Radley.

Councillor Crookes put forward a motion, seconded by Councillor Parker:

“To change the car parking charges for the Church Road Car Park to make the first 30 minutes free of charge, and that Hart supports the Keep Britain Tidy Campaign by joining the Keep Britain Tidy network, which will cost £1,000 from reserves.”

After a debate, particularly around the planned review of parking charges, a vote was taken and the Motion was NOT CARRIED.

Councillor Radley gave notice that he would be proposing a motion for the March Council meeting:

“This Council wishes a prompt review of car parking charges across the district to bring in free 30 minute parking in a way that is cost neutral to the car parking budget.

The 30 mins free parking is important to help our district wide retailers and therefore cost neutrality is vital in order to make the scheme sustainable in more challenging budget years. The parking review needs to take in to account the effect of Hampshire County Council's proposal to introduce on street parking meters in high foot fall areas.”

After full discussion on the Budget, a recorded vote was taken on the full Recommendation.

FOR the Recommendation: Ambler, Axa, Bailey, Blewett, Butler, Clarke, Cockarill, Collings, Crampton, Crisp, Delaney, Dickens, Drage, Gray, Gorys, Kennett, Kinnell, Makepeace-Browne, Morris, Neighbour, Oliver, Parker, Quarterman, Radley, Wheale, Worlock, Wright

AGAINST the Recommendation: None

Abstentions: Crookes, Forster, Renshaw, Southern

DECISION

I Council resolved:

1. That the Council Tax Base for 2019/20 be noted
 - (a) for the whole Council area as 40,704.11 [Item T in the formula in Section 31B(1) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended (the "Act")]; and
 - (b) for dwellings in those parts of its area to which a Parish precept relates as in the attached Appendix 1A.
2. The Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2019/20 (excluding Parish precepts) is £6,994,594.
3. That the following amounts be calculated for the year 2019/20 in accordance with Sections 31 and 34 to 36 of the Act:
 - (a) £38,842,140 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) £28,614,070 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act.
 - (c) £ 10,228,070 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(1) of the Act).

- (d) £251.28 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) £3,233,476 being the aggregate amount of all special items (Parish precepts) referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act (as per Column 2 of Appendix 1A).
 - (f) £171.84 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) The amounts set out in column 6 of Appendix 1A for each part of the Council's area being the amounts given by adding to the amount at 3(f) above the amounts of the special items relating to dwellings in those parts of the Council's area mentioned in Appendix 1A divided in each case by the amount at 1(b) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 34 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.
 - (h) The amounts set out in columns 1 to 9 of Appendix 1B for each part of the Council's area being the amounts given by multiplying the amounts at 3(g) 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 amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands.
- 2 That it be noted that for the year 2019/20 the Hampshire County Council, and the Police & Crime Commissioner for Hampshire and the Hampshire Fire and Rescue Authority had stated the following amounts in precepts issued to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for each of the categories of dwellings below:

Valuation Band	Hampshire County Council (£)	HCC Adult Social Care (£)	Hampshire Fire & Rescue (£)	Police & Crime Commissioner for Hampshire (£)
A(R)	638.76	48.39	37.62	111.92
A	766.51	58.07	45.14	134.31
B	894.27	67.74	52.66	156.69
C	1,022.02	77.42	60.19	179.08
D	1,149.77	87.10	67.71	201.46
E	1,405.27	106.46	82.76	246.23
F	1,660.78	125.81	97.80	291.00
G	1,916.28	145.17	112.85	335.77
H	2,299.54	174.20	135.42	402.92

- 3 That, having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 3(h) and 2.2 above, the Council, in accordance with section 30(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, set the amounts shown in Appendix 1D as the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2019/20 for each of the categories of dwellings in each of the Parishes.
- 4 That for the purposes of section 35 (2) (d) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, any expenses incurred by the District Council in the financial year 2019/20 in performing functions in a part of the district which elsewhere in the district are performed by a Parish Council, shall not be special expenses of the District Council.
- 5 That the fees and charges for 2019/20 be approved.
- 6 That the budget changes be approved.
- 7 That the revised Capital Programme for 2018/19 to 2019/20 be approved.
- 8 That the Section 151 officer's statutory report regarding the robustness of the estimates and the adequacy of reserves be noted.

93 OUTSIDE BODIES - FEEDBACK FROM MEMBERS

Councillor Morris updated the meeting on the Military Covenant, after which he made a personal announcement that he may be resigning from the Council at the next election in May 2019. With that in mind and, with immediate effect, Councillor Collings had agreed to take on board the role of Military Champion, supporting the important work being done by Liz Glenn in this sector.

Councillor Parker reported on the Wider South East summit, held on 11 January, which he attended as part of the SEEC delegation. Details would be circulated, but Councillor Parker considered that the statement by Mayor Sadiq Khan was important and needed to be in the public domain. He said "I do not want to export London's housing need to unwilling partners". This was as near a safeguard for Hart against London housing overspill as it will get.

Councillor Wheale reported that the Chairman of the Fleet Pond Society, Colin Gray had received a very deserved MBE. She praised the work done by the Society, who gave a lot of time and effort to maintenance of the pond, all voluntarily.

The meeting closed at 8.34 pm

COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 14

QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS

Question received from **Councillor Kennett**:

In 2011/12, when, as it happens, I was Chairman of this Council, Hart was rated the best place to live in the entire country by the respected Halifax Quality of Life Index. Our District then maintained this top position for several years but I note that in the most recent Halifax Index it has slipped down the rankings to 13th place.

What plans does the Council have to restore Hart's status as the best place in the country to live?

Councillor Neighbour responded:

The Halifax Quality of Life Survey measures twenty-four variables across eight broad headings. Hart has been first in 5 of the last six years (including last year). We are still 13th out of 405 local authority areas throughout the UK. That is, we still hit the 97 percentile for Quality of Life.

Our objective as a Council is to provide the services people need at a price they can afford. We should not be distracted from this by a subset of subjective factors that we cannot control.

Councillor Kennett asked a supplementary question:

Given that building a new Harlington would take years and be too costly, would a refurbished Harlington enhance the quality of life in Hart?

Councillor Neighbour responded:

Yes.