

Minutes of: THE BUDGET MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

Date of Meeting: 20 February 2019

Present: The Worshipful the Mayor (J Black) in the Chair; Councillors, S Briggs, R A Caserta, R Cathcart, P Cropper, A Cummings, M D'Albert, J Daly, I B Gartside, D L Gunther, M Hankey, S Haroon, J Harris, M Hayes, R Hodgkinson, T Holt, D Jones, N Jones, K Hussain, M A James, J Kelly, O Kersh, K Leach, A McKay, S Nuttall, E O'Brien, G McGill, T D Pickstone, C Preston, A Quinn, T Rafiq, I Schofield, R Shori, D Silbiger, A Simpson, R Skillen, L Smith, S Smith, Sarah Southworth, Susan Southworth, T Tariq, K Thomas, J Walker, R E Walker, S Walmsley, M Whitby, S Wright and Y Wright

Apologies for absence: Councillors N Bayley, J Grimshaw and G Keeley

Public attendance: 6 members of the public attended the meeting.

C.365 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

1. Councillor S Wright declared a personal interest in any item which related to staffing in schools as his wife is employed by a school in the Borough. Councillor Wright further declared a personal interest in respect of Minute C.369(i), Housing Revenue Account 2019/20 as a Six Town Housing Board Member.
2. Councillor Leach declared a personal interest in Minute C.369(ii) Budget 2019/2020, as an NHS employee working with a service commissioned by the Bury Clinical Commissioning Group.
3. Councillor L Smith declared an interest in any item which related to Health as her husband works for the NHS.
5. Councillor Simpson declared an interest in any item which related to Health as she works for the NHS.
6. Councillor J Walker declared a personal interest in Minute C.369(i) Housing Revenue Account 2019/20 as he lives in a property managed by Six Town Housing.
7. Councillors J Black, S Briggs, R Cathcart, A Cummings, M Hayes, S Haroon, T Holt, M A James, D Jones, J Kelly, K Leach, G McGill, E O'Brien, C Preston, T Rafiq, A Simpson, R Shori, L Smith, S Smith, R Skillen, Sarah Southworth, Susan Southworth, T Tariq, K Thomas, J Walker, S Walmsley

and M Whitby declared personal interests in respect of the amendment set out in (B) of Minute C.369 (ii) Budget 2019/20, as Trade Union Members.

C.366 MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 16 January 2019 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

C.367 MAYORAL AND LEADER COMMUNICATIONS

The Mayor paid tribute to ex-Mayor Mr Peter Ashworth.
The Mayor updated the Council on a number of recent engagements undertaken and made reference to upcoming events.

C.368 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

The Mayor reported that no written questions had been received in advance of the meeting.

On inviting questions from members of the public present, the following issues were raised:-

No.	Issue	Questioner	Answered By
1.	Proposed redevelopment at Bury New Road, Whitefield	Mr N Watkins	Councillor Shori
2.	Level of Council Tax	Mr D Edwards	Councillor Shori

C.369 RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CABINET AND COUNCIL COMMITTEES

(i) Housing Revenue Account 2019/2020

At the invitation of the Mayor, Councillor O'Brien, Cabinet Member for Finance and Housing, made a statement on the Housing Revenue Account 2019/2020.

It was moved by Councillor O'Brien and seconded by Councillor Shori and it was:-

RESOLVED:

That the recommendations contained in Minute CA.363 of the Cabinet meeting held on 20 February 2019 be approved.

(ii) Budget 2019/20

At the invitation of the Mayor, Councillor O'Brien, Cabinet Member for Finance and Housing, made a statement on the Budget for 2019/20.

(A) It was moved by Councillor O'Brien and seconded by Councillor Shori that the recommendations contained in Minute CA.363 of the Cabinet meeting held on 20 February 2019 be approved subject to the following amendments:

DELETE

That the Council consider and determine all matters relating to the Budget, and the level of the Council Tax for 2019/2020, at its meeting on 20th February 2019.

ADD

Council is recommended to:

1. Note the details of the Final Settlement Funding Allocation (SFA) for 2019/20.
2. Note that under delegated powers the Interim Executive Director of Resources & Regulation has calculated the amount of 53,600 as the Council Tax base for the year 2019/20 in accordance with the Local Government Act 2003 and with regulations made under section 33(5) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 and the Local Authority (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (England) Regulations 2012;
3. Note the forecast outturn position for 2018/19;
4. Approve that the minimum level of balances for 2019/20 be set at £4.250m in view of the Council's risk profile;
5. Approve the Capital Strategy 2019/20 to 2023/24.
6. Note and adopt the decisions of the Cabinet on 20 February 2019 in respect of:

Children and Young People Budget 2019/20

Communities & Wellbeing Budget 2019/20

Resources & Regulation Budget 2019/20

Business, Growth & Infrastructure Budget 2019/20

Operations Budget 2019/20

Dedicated Schools Grant Budget 2019/20

7. Approve the Capital Programme 2019/20 to 2023/24 as set out in the report to Council subject to the following amendments;

	2019/20		Future Years	
	Cost £'000	Funding	Cost £'000	Funding
CAPITAL PROGRAMME				
Highways: The programme already includes £2.750m for 2019/20; being the final year of the £10m investment approved in 2017/18. It is proposed that a further £10m be made available for future years through prudential borrowing	2,750	Already funded	10,000	Prudential Borrowing Revenue implication of £250k to be funded through reduced insurance claims
Bury Market: Proposed programme of refurbishment works at Bury Market	1,000	Prudential Borrowing Revenue implication of £25k to be funded from Empty Property Premium*	300	Prudential Borrowing Revenue implication of £8k to be funded from Empty Property Premium*
Radcliffe: Capital investment in Radcliffe to support the Radcliffe Regeneration Task Group	500	Available Capital Receipts		
Prestwich: Enabling budget to deliver the Prestwich Town Centre Challenge & scheme development prior to construction phase.	250	Prudential Borrowing Revenue implications of £7k to be funded from Empty Property		

		Premium*
Whitefield: Enabling money to develop the Uplands Health & Wellbeing / Residential concept.	100	Prudential Borrowing Revenue implications of £3k to be funded from Empty Property Premium*
Radcliffe: Masterplanning / market focussed implementation plan including urban design, planning & transport Link to the Radcliffe Town Centre Challenge	420	Prudential Borrowing Revenue implications of £11k to be funded from Empty Property Premium*
Ramsbottom: Funding to increase car parking provision in Ramsbottom	100	Available Capital Receipts
3G Pitches: Seeking grant support to develop 3G pitches in the Borough.	430	Grant / flood relief
Digital: Investment in IT in community buildings to enhance digital accessibility for residents, via the introduction of a community laptop in each ward	8	Fund from contingency within Digital Strategy (already in programme)
Growth / Place Shaping: Enabling budget to support	2,715	Prudential

development of Borough wide sites to offer housing and business growth and develop a one public estate approach for the Council and Partner organisations.		Borrowing Revenue implication of £70k to be funded from Empty Property Premium*		
OTHER INITIATIVES				
<p>*Empty Property Premium – Council Tax:</p> <p>To apply the maximum permissible premium (100%) for properties empty in excess of 2 years; to encourage occupation / redevelopment.</p> <p>Nil cost to implement. Additional income to be monitored during year.</p>	(116)	To fund revenue consequences of proposals outlined above	(8)	To fund revenue consequences of proposals outlined above

8. Endorse the statements by the Interim Executive Director of Resources & Regulation on the robustness of budget assumptions and on the minimum level of balances;
9. Raise the Bury element of the 2018/19 Council Tax; by **2.94%**;
10. Note the proposals of the major preceptors;
11. Approve the net Revenue Budget for 2019/20 of **£138.862m** as set out in section 4.7 of the report;
12. Approve the following recommendations in relation to the Revenue Budget and Council Tax for 2019/20:
 - i) It be noted that on 25th January 2019 the Council calculated the Council Tax Base 2019/20 for the whole Council area as **53,600** [item T in the formula in Section 31B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended (the "Act")].
 - ii) The Council calculates the Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2019/20 (excluding precepts) as **£83,130,128**.

- iii) That the following amounts be calculated for the year 2019/20 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Act;
- a) **£441,732,000** being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) of the Act.
 - b) **£358,601,872** being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act.
 - c) **£83,130,128** being the amount by which the aggregate at iii(a) above exceeds the aggregate at iii(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) **£1,550.94** being the amount at iii(c) above (Item R), divided by Item T (item i above) calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B of the Act, as the relevant basic amount of its Council Tax for the year, and;
 - e) **Bury Council**

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1,033.95	1,206.28	1,378.60	1,550.94	1,895.58	2,240.22	2,584.89	3,101.85

Being the amounts given by multiplying the amount set at iii(e) 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.

- iv) To note that the Police and Crime Commissioner component of the Greater Manchester Mayoral Budget, and Mayoral General Budget (including Fire & Rescue) have issued 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.

Police & Crime Commissioner Component of Mayoral Precept

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
132.20	154.23	176.27	198.30	242.37	286.43	330.50	396.60

Mayoral General Budget (including Fire & Rescue)

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
51.29	59.84	68.39	76.95	94.05	111.15	128.24	153.90

- v) That 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.

Aggregate of Council Tax Requirements

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1,217.44	1,420.35	1,623.26	1,826.19	2,232.00	2,637.80	3,043.63	3,652.35

- vi) To determine whether the Council's relevant basic amount of Council Tax for 2019/20 is excessive in accordance with the principles approved under the Local Accountability and Audit Act 2014.

	2018/19	2019/20	%
Council Tax Base	52,850	53,600	2.94%
Council Tax Requirement	£79,625,729	£83,130,128	
Relevant Amount of Council Tax	£1,506.64	£1,550.94	

- vii) The calculation in 14 vi) above is undertaken to assess the extent to which the Council has increased its relevant level of Council Tax.

The total increase of **2.94%** is not excessive as it is within the 3% referendum limit.

The Authority is therefore not subject to a referendum

(B) An amendment was moved by Councillor Daly and seconded by Councillor R E Walker that:

The revenue and capital budgets submitted to the Council should be approved, with the following amendments:

	2019/20 £'000	Future Years £'000
<p><u>Highways</u></p> <p>Invest £30 million into the Borough's highways over a 10 year period</p> <p>Cost of Borrowing £750,000</p> <p>Funded by;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduced insurance claims £500,000 • Reduced spend on consultants £250,000 	3,000	27,000
<p><u>Youth Fund</u></p> <p>Create a £1 million Youth Fund to further community based youth facilities and activity. (£600,000 Capital; £400,000 Revenue)</p> <p>Funded by;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Available Capital Receipts £600,000 • Retain 3 days unpaid leave £355,000 • Reduced Trade Union Facility Time £45,000 	600 400	Capital Ongoing
<p><u>Education Fund</u></p> <p>Create a £1 million Education Fund to further education attainment. Fund to employ 5 x School Improvement Officers and allow schools to bid for funds.</p> <p>Funded by;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduced spend on Consultants £500,000 • Reduced spend on Agency Staff £500,000 	1,000	Ongoing
<p><u>Street Cleaning / Fly Tipping</u></p> <p>£1 million to improve standards of Street Cleaning and address issues of Fly Tipping.</p> <p>Funded by;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduced spend on Consultants £250,000 • Reduced spend on Agency Staff £750,000 	1,000	Ongoing

<u>House Building</u> To create an arms length housing development company and invest £10 million in housebuilding, social housing and affordable homes. Cost of Borrowing £250,000 Funded by; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initially through review of senior staff terms and conditions Ultimately through sales / rent / Council Tax receipts 	2,000	8,000
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On being put the result of the vote was as follows:

For the Amendment:-

Councillors R Caserta, P Cropper, J Daly, I Gartside, D Gunther, M Hankey, J Harris, R Hodgkinson, K Hussain, N Jones, O Kersh, A McKay, S Nuttall, I Schofield, D Silbiger, R Walker, and Y Wright.

Against the Amendment:-

Councillors S Briggs, R Cathcart, A Cummings, M D'Albert, S Haroon, M Hayes, T Holt, M James, D Jones, J Kelly, K Leach, G McGill, E O'Brien, T Pickstone, C Preston, A Quinn, T Rafiq, R Shori, A Simpson, R Skillen, L Smith, S Smith, Sarah Southworth, Susan Southworth, T Tariq, K Thomas, J Walker, S Walmsley, M Whitby and S Wright.

Abstaining from the Vote:-

**The Worshipful the Mayor.
The Mayor declared the amendment lost.**

(C) An amendment was moved by Councillor Pickstone and seconded by Councillor S Wright that:

That the budget contained in the Council report should be approved subject to the following changes;

	2019/20 £'000	Future Years £'000
<u>Highways Maintenance</u>		

<p>Reversal of the current budget proposal to cut highways maintenance from being cuts of £600,000 to spend an <u>extra</u> £600,000 per year in 2019 to 2023 (ie £3.6 million more than proposed over three years). (Using additional borrowing £3.6 million.</p> <p>Cost of Borrowing £90,000</p> <p>Funded by;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initially from earmarked reserves £90,000 long-term through reduction in the level of insurance claims <p><u>Congestion and Rat Runs</u></p> <p>Funding for 12 capital schemes (four per year in 2019 to 2023) to address the worst congestion problems and problems with 'rat runs' (£200,000 per year).</p> <p>Funded by;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Available capital receipts £600,000 <p><u>Mental health and Wellbeing in Schools</u></p> <p>Provision of additional support to schools to assist teachers supporting children with mental health needs through additional support and resources (for example through The Ark). £100,000 per year on an ongoing basis.</p> <p>Funded by;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Management Delayering (£100,000)* <p><u>Tackling Environmental Crime</u></p> <p>Creation of a dedicated unit to tackle environmental crime, in particular fly-tipping – assume two additional officers and associated costs £120,000 per year on an ongoing basis.</p> <p>Funded by;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Management Delayering (£120,000)* <p><u>No Idling Zones</u></p> <p>Implementation of the Council's agreed policy of introducing 'no-idling' zones outside all schools in the Bury area.</p>	<p>1,200</p> <p>200</p> <p>100</p> <p>120</p> <p>50</p>	<p>2,400</p> <p>400</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>50</p>
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<p>Two year programme to introduce (£1,000 per scheme) plus borough wide education scheme.</p> <p>£45,000 + £5,000 in each year - £100,000 in total.</p> <p>Funded by;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management Delayering (£100,000)* <p>* <u>Management De-Layering</u></p> <p>Reducing Management Costs by removing one level of senior management (two Executive Director posts); saving £320,000 on an ongoing basis.</p>	(320)	Ongoing
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On being put the result of the vote was as follows:

For the Amendment:-

Councillors R Caserta, P Cropper, M D'Albert, J Daly, I Gartside, D Gunther, M Hankey, J Harris, R Hodgkinson, K Hussain, N Jones, O Kersh, A McKay, S Nuttall, T Pickstone, I Schofield, D Silbiger, R Walker, S Wright and Y Wright.

Against the Amendment:-

Councillors S Briggs, R Cathcart, A Cummings, S Haroon, M Hayes, T Holt, M James, D Jones, J Kelly, K Leach, G McGill, E O'Brien, C Preston, A Quinn, T Rafiq, R Shori, A Simpson, R Skillen, L Smith, S Smith, Sarah Southworth, Susan Southworth, T Tariq, K Thomas, J Walker, S Walmsley and M Whitby.

Abstaining from the Vote:-

The Worshipful the Mayor.

The Mayor declared the amendment lost.

The substantive motion (as set out in A) was put to the vote which was as follows:-

For the Motion:-

Councillors S Briggs, R A Caserta, R Cathcart, P Cropper, A Cummings, M D'Albert, J Daly, I B Gartside, D L Gunther, M Hankey, S Haroon, J Harris, M Hayes, R Hodgkinson, T Holt, D Jones, N Jones, K Hussain, M A James, J Kelly, O Kersh, K Leach, A McKay, S Nuttall, E O'Brien, G McGill, T D Pickstone, C Preston, A Quinn, T Rafiq, I Schofield, R Shori, D Silbiger, A Simpson, R Skillen, L Smith, S Smith, Sarah Southworth, Susan Southworth, T Tariq, K Thomas, J Walker, R E Walker, S Walmsley, M Whitby, S Wright and Y Wright

Against the Motion:-

Abstaining from the Motion:-

The Worshipful the Mayor, Councillors M D'Albert, T Pickstone and S Wright

The Mayor declared the substantive Motion carried.

(iii) Treasury Management Strategy and Prudential Indicators 2019/20

On being put with no Members voting against and the Mayor abstaining it was:

RESOLVED:

That the recommendations contained in the Minute CA.364 of the Cabinet dated 20 February 2019 be approved and adopted.

C.370 DELEGATED DECISIONS OF THE CABINET AND COUNCIL COMMITTEES

There were no questions asked on the delegated decisions of the Cabinet, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Joint Consultative Committee (Corporate) and Joint Consultative Committee (Teachers).

THE WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR

(NOTE: The meeting started at 7.00 pm and ended at 10.25pm)

(NOTE: Members of Council voted to suspend Council Procedure Rule 9.1 to allow the meeting to continue beyond 10.10pm in order to conclude the business items set out in the summons).