

# WARWICK DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 23 February 2009, at the Town Hall, Royal Leamington Spa at 6.00 pm.

**PRESENT:** Councillor Mrs Falp (Chairman); Councillors Barrott, Mrs Blacklock, Boad, Mrs Bunker, Caborn, Coker, Copping, Crowther, Davies, De-Lara-Bond, Ms Dean, Dhillon, Malcolm Doody, Michael Doody, Edwards, Mrs Gallagher, Gifford, Gill, Mrs Goode, Mrs Grainger, Guest, Hammon, Harris, Hatfield, Heath, Mrs Higgins, Illingworth, Kinson, Kirton, Mrs Knight, Mrs McFarland, Mrs Mellor, Mobbs, Pittarello, Pratt, Rhead, Mrs Sawdon, Mrs Scarrott, Shilton, Mrs Tyrrell, Vincett, Weed and White.

## 818. **APOLOGIES**

An apology for absence was received from Councillor MacKay

## 819. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 14 January 2009, were taken as read, approved and signed by the Chairman subject to, in minute 726, the mover of the motion to approve the report of the Regulatory Committee be amended to read Councillor Mrs Gallagher.

## 820. **SETTING OF THE COUNCIL TAX 2009/10**

It was moved by Councillor Doody and duly seconded that, subject to the deletion of recommendation (17), the recommendations contained in the minute of the report of the Executive held on 4 February 2009 headed "Budget 2009/10 and Council Tax – Revenue and Capital", be approved and adopted, subject to the following amendments:

- (1) The Council Tax be increased by 3.8%;
- (2) the major contracts budget be reduced by £97,000 in the light of the RPI increase being only 0.1% for January 2009;
- (3) £57,000 be allocated to fund the reduction in the Council Tax increase from 4.6% to 3.8%; and
- (4) an ongoing budget of £40,000 be allocated to support neighbourhood working.

First amendment: It was moved by Councillor Edwards and duly seconded that the following amendments be approved:

- “(1) To reduce the inflation budget for the major contracts from 4% to 2% in view of the recent reduction in the retail price index. This will save around £114,000 per annum.
- (2) Remove the budget for enhancing the assisted travel scheme of £50,000 which was agreed a year ago and is yet uncommitted.

## **COUNCIL MINUTES (Continued)**

- (3) Reduce the general inflation provision on expenditure budgets across the Council from 3% to 2%. This will save around £70,000.
- (4) Of the savings totalling £234,000 per annum, they should be used as follows:
  - £180,000 to keep the level of the increase in the Council Tax to 2.1% for 2009/10.
  - £54,000 is set up as a general contingency budget. "This may be used for enhancing the assisted travel scheme, should there be suitable proposals, or for other priorities".

(A paper explaining the budgetary effects of this proposal was circulated).

On a vote being taken, the amendment was declared lost.

Second amendment: It was moved by Councillor Boad and duly seconded that the following amendments be made:

"This proposal takes the latest recommendations of the Conservative group with the following changes:

- (1) Remove the budget for enhancing the assisted travel scheme of £50,000 which was agreed a year ago, and is as yet uncommitted.
- (2) Reduce the mileage allowance for Members and Officers to 40p per mile in line with the HMRC approved mileage rate. This is estimated to save £15,000 in 2009/10 (and £30,000 per annum thereafter).
- (3) Reduce the number of portfolio holders within the Council by 2 to return to pre-2007 levels. This would save over £7,000 per annum.

In 2009/10, these items should save a total of a further £72,000. This saving will enable the Council Tax increase for 2009/10 to be a full 1% below that proposed by the Conservative group."

(A paper explaining the budgetary effects of this proposal was circulated).

On a vote being taken, the second amendment was declared lost.

(A) Adoption of Motion

The original motion was then put to the meeting as the substantive motion and declared carried.

It was then moved by Councillor Doody, duly seconded and

**RESOLVED** that the report of the Responsible Financial Officer in relation to the decision regarding the budget 2009/10 and Council Tax – Revenue and Capital, be approved and adopted.

## **COUNCIL MINUTES (Continued)**

It was therefore

**RESOLVED** that the following recommendations set out in the report of the Responsible Financial Officer, be approved and adopted:

1. ***Warwick District Council Budget***

That the following, as set out in the budget reports (Executive recommendations 04 February 2009) as amended and Estimates Book (to be circulated to members separately after this meeting), be approved:-

- (a) the revenue estimates for 2009/10
- (b) the capital programme for 2009/10

2. ***Warwick District Tax Base***

The Council notes the following amounts for the year 2009/10 in accordance with regulations made under Section 33(5) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992:-

- (a) 52,293.83 being the amount calculated, in accordance with regulation 3 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 1992, as its council tax base for the year.
- (b) Part of the Council's Area

<b>Parish of-</b>	<b>Band 'D' Equivalents</b>
Baddesley Clinton	84.97
Baginton	335.12
Barford, Sherbourne & Wasperton	811.47
Beausale, Haseley, Honiley & Wroxall	311.52
Bishops Tachbrook	984.74
Bubbenhall	322.87
Budbrooke	781.77
Bushwood	10.65
Cubbington	1,549.71
Eathorpe, Hunningham, Offchurch, Wappenbury	317.40
Hatton	945.75
Kenilworth	9,762.13
Lapworth	927.73
Leamington	16,738.88
Leek Wootton	523.36
Norton Lindsey	217.41
Old Milverton & Blackdown	228.55
Radford Semele	808.01
Rowington	527.95
Shrewley	428.65
Stoneleigh & Ashow	931.09
Warwick	11,451.45
Weston-under-Wetherley	196.41
Whitnash	3,096.24

## **COUNCIL MINUTES (Continued)**

being the amounts calculated, in accordance with regulation 6 of the Regulations, as the amounts of its council tax base for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area.

### **3. Calculation of Warwick District Council Council Tax, including parish/town council precepts**

That the following amounts be now calculated by the Council for the year 2009/10 in accordance with Sections 32 to 36 of the Local Government and Finance Act 1992:-

- (a) £96,282,916.65 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32 (2)(a) to (e) of the Act (*Gross Expenditure including parish/town council precepts*).
- (b) £77,367,079.00 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32(3)(a) to (c) of the Act (*Gross Income*).
- (c) £18,915,837.65 being the amount by which the aggregate at 1.3(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 1.3(b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 32(4) of the Act, as its budget requirement for the year (*Net Expenditure including parish/town council precepts*).
- (d) £10,406,338.00 being the aggregate of the sums which the Council estimates will be payable for the year into its general fund in respect of redistributed non-domestic rates and revenue support grant adjusted by the amount which the Council estimates (£zero for 2009/10) will be transferred in the year from its general fund to its collection fund in accordance with Section 97(4) of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 (Council Tax deficit) (*Revenue Support Grant, Redistributed Non Domestic Rates and Collection Fund Balance*).
- (e) £163.12 being the amount at 1.3(c) above less the amount at 1.3(d) above, all divided by the amount at 1.2(a) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 33(1) of the Act, as the basic amount of its council tax for the year (*Average Warwick District Council Tax, including parish/town precepts*).
- (f) £1,037,510.00 being the aggregate amount of all special items referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act (*Total parish/town council precepts*).
- (g) £143.28 being the amount at 1.3(e) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 1.3(f) above by the amount at 1.2(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 special item relates (*Warwick District Council Tax excluding parish/town council precepts*).

## **COUNCIL MINUTES (Continued)**

### (h) Part of the Council's Area

<b>PARISH/TOWN COUNCIL</b>	<b>BAND D £</b>
Baddesley Clinton	175.06
Baginton	166.26
Barford, Sherbourne & Wasperton	179.35
Beausale, Haseley, Honiley & Wroxall	156.20
Bishops Tachbrook	172.42
Bubbenhall	168.06
Budbrooke	173.81
Bushwood	143.28
Cubbington	167.99
Eathorpe, Hunningham, Offchurch, Wappenbury	165.26
Hatton	154.28
Kenilworth	156.55
Lapworth	161.07
Leamington Spa	160.27
Leek Wootton	156.75
Norton Lindsey	163.98
Old Milverton & Blackdown	161.66
Radford Semele	167.20
Rowington	175.21
Shrewley	153.52
Stoneleigh & Ashow	156.87
Warwick	168.13
Weston-under-Wetherley	171.74
Whitnash	171.71

being the amounts given by adding to the amount at 1.3(g) above the amounts of the special item or items relating to dwellings in those parts of the Council's area mentioned above divided in each case by the amount at 1.2(b) 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 (*Warwick District Council plus parish/town council Council Tax for each parish/town council at Band D*).

- (i) The amounts shown in Appendices 1 and 1a, attached, being the amounts given by multiplying the amounts at 1.3(h) 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 (*Warwick District Council plus parish/town council Council Tax for each parish/town council for each Band*).

## **COUNCIL MINUTES (Continued)**

### **4. *Warwickshire County Council and Warwickshire Police Authority Precepts***

That it be noted that for the year 2009/10 Warwickshire County Council and Warwickshire Police Authority have 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 shown below:-

<b>Band</b>	<b>Warwickshire County Council £</b>	<b>Warwickshire Police Authority £</b>
<b>A</b>	752.1177	114.1439
<b>B</b>	877.4706	133.1679
<b>C</b>	1,002.8236	152.1918
<b>D</b>	1,128.1765	171.2158
<b>E</b>	1,378.8824	209.2638
<b>F</b>	1,629.5883	247.3117
<b>G</b>	1,880.2942	285.3597
<b>H</b>	2,256.3530	342.4316

### **5. *Total Council Tax for the District for each Band in each Parish/Town Council***

That having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 1.3(i) and 1.4 above, the Council, in accordance with Section 30(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the amounts shown in Appendix 2 as the amounts of council tax for the year 2009/10 for each of the categories of dwellings shown.

### **821. *HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT BUDGET 2009/10 AND HOUSING RENTS***

It was moved by Councillor Mrs Grainger, duly seconded and

**RESOLVED** that the recommendations set out in the minutes of the Executive meeting held on 4 February 2009, regarding the Housing Revenue Account Budget 2009/10 and Housing Rents, be approved and adopted.

### **822. *TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY PLAN***

It was moved by Councillor Doody, duly seconded and

**RESOLVED** that the recommendations set out in the minutes of the Executive meeting held on 4 February 2009, regarding the Treasury Management Strategy Plan, be approved and adopted.

## **COUNCIL MINUTES (Continued)**

### **823. MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES**

It was moved and seconded and

**RESOLVED** that the following proposals regarding amendments which were necessary as a result of the revised political constitution of the Council, be approved and adopted:

- (a) Audit & Resources Scrutiny Committee: the current membership to remain unaltered, with the number of Councillors appointed remaining at 15;
- (b) Overview and Scrutiny Committee: Councillor Hatfield be appointed as a representative of the Conservative group, and Councillor Mrs Scarrott be appointed as the representative of the Independence group;
- (c) Licensing Committee: the current membership to remain unaltered, with the number of Councillors appointed remaining at 15;
- (d) Members/Trades Unions Joint Consultation and Safety Panel: Councillor Shilton be appointed as the representative of the Conservative group; and
- (e) the arrangements be considered further for approval at the Annual Council Meeting on 13 May 2009.

(With regard to (a) and (c) above, on a vote being taken, no Members voted against).

### **824. COMMON SEAL**

It was

**RESOLVED** that the Common Seal of Warwick District Council be affixed to such deeds and documents as may be required for implementing the decisions of the Council arrived at this day.

(The meeting ended at 7.40 pm)

CHAIRMAN  
4 March 2009