

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 04 FEBRUARY 2009

Attendance:

The Mayor (Councillor Kimber) (P) (in the Chair);

The Deputy Mayor (Councillor Mrs Searle) (P);

Councillors Allen (P), Mrs Bailey (P), Ms Ballard (P), Beavis (P), Bradley (P), Burgess (P), Carr (P), Carter (P), Champion, Chegwyn (P), Mrs Cully (P), Cully (P), Dickson (P), Edgar (P), Edwards (P), Mrs Forder (P), Forder (P), Foster-Reed (P), Geddes (P), Gill (P), Hicks (P), Hook (P), Langdon (P), Mrs Mudie (P), Murphy (P), Philpott (P), Mrs Salter (P), Salter (P), Smith (P), Ward, Miss West (P) and Wright (P).

Also in attendance: Honorary Alderman O'Neill.

APOLOGIES

Apologies for inability to attend the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillors Champion and Ward and Honorary Aldermen Flory, Foster, Hayward, Lucas and Searle.

MINUTES

COUNCIL RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Council held on 26 November 2008 be confirmed and signed.

MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS

(A) MAYORAL BALL – 6 MARCH 2009

The Mayor informed Members that he would be having his Mayoral Ball to support his charities on Friday, 6 March 2009 at the Explosion Museum.

(B) FRENCH WINE TASTING – 3 APRIL 2009

The Mayor reported that tickets were available from his Personal Assistant for the French Wine Tasting evening on Friday, 3 April 2009.

QUESTION PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER 3.4

(A) Question No 1 standing in the name of Councillor Allen on the progress made to bring Stokesmead Field back into public use was answered by the Chairman of the Policy and Organisation Board.

CONSIDERATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COUNCIL BOARDS

COUNCIL DWELLING RENTS 2009/10

At its meeting on 4 February 2009, the Housing Board recommended that:

- a) the average weekly Council Dwelling rents increase by 6.8%; and
- b) garage, carport and parking lot rents increase by 5.00%.

COUNCIL RESOLVED: That the recommendations be approved and adopted.

COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENT BOARD CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2008/09 TO 2013/14

At its meeting on 4 February 2009, the Community and Environment Board considered its Capital Programme 2008/09 to 2013/14. The Board subsequently resolved to amend the Capital Programme by deleting items 60 and 61. This resolution was Minority Ordered to this Council meeting.

COUNCIL RESOLVED: That the Capital Programme be amended by deleting Items 60 and 61.

COUNCIL BUDGET 2009/10

At its meeting on 4 February 2009, the Policy and Organisation Board recommended that:

Council approve a revised 2008/09 budget totaling £12,707,000 and a budget for 2009/10 totaling £13,082,000 (including a contribution to reserves of £80,000) and note the amendment to the Capital Programme made by the Community and Environment Board.

MOTION: That the Policy and Organisation Board's (4 February 2009) recommendation for a revised 2008/09 budget and a budget for 2009/10 (including a contribution to reserves of £80,000) and note the amendment to the Capital Programme made by the Community and Environment Board be approved and adopted.

AMENDMENT: That the Policy and Organisation Board's (4 February 2009) recommendation for a revised 2008/09 budget and a budget for 2009/10 (including a contribution to reserves of £80,000) and note the

amendment to the Capital Programme made by the Community and Environment Board be approved and adopted subject to a budget for 2009/10 totaling £12,972,000 representing a below inflation rise of 2.5%.

This to be made up as per the budget book with the following amendments:

Increase revenue from Gosport market	(40,000)
Increase revenue from Planning Fees	(10,000)
Reduce grant aid payments	20,000
Reduce net cost of Waterfront Festival	10,000
Take from reserves	30,000

The Amendment was put to the meeting and declared LOST.

SECOND AMENDMENT: That the Policy and Organisation Board's (4 February 2009) recommendation for a revised 2008/09 budget and a budget for 2009/10 (including a contribution to reserves of £80,000) and note the amendment to the Capital Programme made by the Community and Environment Board be approved and adopted subject to a Council Tax rise of 3.2%.

This to be made up as per the budget book with the following amendments:

REVENUE

General fund balance reduce by £40,000
(£10,000 proposed increase plus an additional £30,000 from balances)

Page 10	Christmas Entertainment, Decorations and Lights reduce by £10,000
Page 11	Environmental Supplies Reduce by £7,000
Page 13	Environmental Services we should increase the income by £2,000
Page 28	Grants Aid Payments Reduce by £15,000
Page 30	Civic Events Royan Twinning Reduce by £12,000
Page 32	Emergency Planning Reduce by £2,000
Page 41	Corporate Services Premises reduce by £23,000
Page 6	Delete £40,000 income for replacement wheel bins

The Second Amendment was put to the meeting and declared LOST.

It was moved and seconded that a Third Amendment be allowed to be drafted and put before the Council meeting. This proposition was put to the Council meeting and declared CARRIED.

ADJOURNMENT

The Mayor adjourned the Council meeting at 8.32pm so that the requested Third Amendment could be considered by Members of the Council. The Council meeting re-convened at 9.23pm.

STANDING ORDERS 4.11.18

In order for the meeting to continue beyond 9.30pm the Mayor moved Standing Order 4.11.18.

COUNCIL RESOLVED: That in accordance with Standing Order 4.11.18 the Council meeting continues beyond 9.30pm.

THIRD AMENDMENT: That the Policy and Organisation Board's (4 February 2009) recommendation for a revised 2008/09 budget and a budget for 2009/10 (including a contribution to reserves of £80,000) and note the amendment to the Capital Programme made by the Community and Environment Board be approved and adopted subject to an amended 2009/10 budget of £12,972,000 which will result in a below inflation Council Tax rise of 2.5%.

This to be made up as per the budget book with the following amendments:

Increase revenue from Gosport Market	£40,000
Increase revenue from Planning Fees	£10,000
Reduce Environmental Supplies	£7,000
Increase income from Environmental Services	£2,000
Reduce Emergency Planning	£2,000
Reduce Corporate Services Premises by sufficient to save General Fund £23,000	£23,000
Reduce Civic Events Royan Twinning	£12,000

Reduce Christmas Lights etc	£6,000
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Reduce Balances revenue contribution	£50,000
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Add

Temporary gardener at Crescent Gardens	£2,000
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Delete

Charges for replacement wheelie bins	£40,000
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Prior to the Third Amendment being put to the vote the Borough Treasurer advised that this amendment provided a balanced 2009/10 budget leading to a Council Tax increase of 2.5%. He stated that such an amendment had a knock on effect for future years, increasing the risks associated with the budget and reducing the Council's ability to spend to save in future years. He also expressed concern about the effect that the amendment may have on the affordability of the Council's capital programme, in particular the proposed new leisure centre.

The Third Amendment was accordingly put to the vote and declared CARRIED.

COUNCIL RESOLVED: That the Substantive Motion as amended be approved and adopted.

TREASURY MANAGEMENT AND PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS 2009/10

At its meeting on 4 February 2009, the Policy and Organisation Board recommended that:

The report be referred to Council for formal approval including the prudential indicators and limits within the report and Minimum Revenue Provision Policy.

COUNCIL RESOLVED: That the recommendation be approved and adopted.

PART II MINUTES

COUNCIL RESOLVED: That the following Part II Minutes be received:

Policy and Organisation Board: 26 January 2009 (Minute Nos. 52 – 56) and 4 February 2009 (Minute No. 63).

Community and Environment Board: 19 January 2009 (Minute Nos. 52 – 54) and 4 February 2009 (Minute No. 59).

ELECTION OF MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR 2009-2010

The Council was informed that in accordance with Standing Order 2.4 the Borough Solicitor had written to Group Leaders and Members of the Council to invite Member nominations for the selection of Mayor-Elect and Deputy Mayor-Elect for the next Municipal Year.

It was reported that one nomination each had been received by the Borough Solicitor; Councillor Mrs D Searle for Mayor-Elect and Councillor M J Carr for Deputy Mayor-Elect for the 2009-2010 Municipal Year. The Council accordingly approved the nominations and Councillors Mrs Searle and Carr briefly returned thanks for their nominations.

The Council commenced at 7.20pm and ended at 10.35pm