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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 3 FEBRUARY 2021 AT 6.00 pm

Attendance:

The Mayor (Councillor Mrs Huggins) (in the Chair)

Councillors Mitchell, Hook, Ms Ballard, Bateman, Beavis, Burgess, Carter, Chegwyn, Mrs Cully, Earle, Farr, Mrs Furlong, Mrs Hook, Hylands, Jessop, Mrs Jones, Miss Kelly, Mrs Morgan, Murphy, Philpott, Mrs Prickett, Raffaelli, Scard, Blackman, Casey, Hammond, Herridge, Hutchison, Johnston, Pepper and Westerby
Also in attendance:

APOLOGIES

There were none.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Hylands and Jessop declared a pecuniary interest in minute number 48 of the Policy and Organisation Board Part II minutes and advised that if the item was discussed they would leave the meeting and take no part in the discussion or voting.

Councillor Casey declared a non-pecuniary interest in minute number 48 of the Policy and Organisation Board Part II minutes.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 9 DECEMBER 2020.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 9 December 2020 be signed as a true and correct record.

TO CONSIDER ANY MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS

The Mayor reflected on the importance of wellbeing, exercise and advised that she had met with Win the Morning, Win the day, and recognised the importance of putting wellbeing high on personal agendas making time to talk, walk, and be kind to one another.

She advised that she had also learnt about the Alverstoke art trail and that there were also some great projects locally about going advising that it was now time to consider starting projects sowing seeds and watch them grow!

The Mayor concluded by offering reflection as her Mayoral role came to an end.

The Mayoral year had been filled with sadness, the loss of local people, impact to businesses, schools and young people, and mental health. Sadness that normal traditions and ceremonies could not be carried out.

She advised that a challenge should be an opportunity and that she had had the greatest opportunity to meet and support the inspiring people of Gosport in a very different way than before and had seen the true value of community and the strength of people and embrace change, chance and courage and support others in doing so.

To conclude, she advised that with hope and spring in the air, we were moving into the light.

As said by Colonel Sir Tom Moore 'we will see the golden skies, tomorrow is a good day'

DEPUTATIONS AND PUBLIC QUESTIONS

There were none.

QUESTIONS (IF ANY) PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER NO 3.4.

There were none.

CONSIDERATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS BY BOARDS OF THE COUNCIL:

Consideration was given to a recommendation by Housing at its meeting held on 20th January 2021.

COUNCIL RESOLVED THAT:

- The revised HRA Business Plan Financial Model extract and associated 2020/21 Revised Budget and 2021/22 Budget is agreed.
- That Council Dwelling rents increase by CPI (0.5% @Sept 2020) plus 1%. The Council is setting

The rent for all garages is increased in line with inflation, as agreed in the garage Renewal strategy

PART II MINUTES OF THE BOARDS OF THE COUNCIL:

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

- Housing Board: 20 January 2021
- Climate Change Board: 21 January 2021
- Economic Development Board: 27 January 2021
- Policy and Organisation Board: 2 February 2021

MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY & BUDGET (REVENUE & CAPITAL) 2021/22

Consideration was given to a report of the Borough Treasurer.

Council is required to set a "Balanced Budget" and to maintain adequate levels of Reserves. The primary purpose of this report is to set the Council's overall Budget for the

forthcoming year 2021/22 (both Revenue & Capital) and the associated level of Council Tax necessary to help fund the Budget.

Voting was thereupon taken and the names of the Members voting for and against the Recommendation and those abstaining were read to the Council:

FOR THE RECOMMENDATION: Councillors Bateman, Beavis, Rev Blackman, Burgess, Carter, Casey, Mrs Cully, Hook, Mrs Hook, Farr, Mrs Furlong, Jessop, Mrs Jones, Mrs Morgan, Murphy, Philpott, Raffaelli, Scard, The Mayor **(19)**

ABSTENTIONS: Councillors Ballard, Chegwyn, Earle, Hammond, Herridge, Hutchison, Hylands, Johnston, Miss Kelly, Mitchell, Pepper, Mrs Prickett, Mrs Westerby **(14)**

COUNCIL RESOLVED: That the recommendations be approved.

RESOLVED:

It is recommended that the following be approved:

- 2.1 A Revised General Fund Budget for 2020/21 of £11,946,970 as set out in Appendix A;
- 2.2 A General Fund Budget for 2021/22 of £10,503,100 as set out in Appendix A and broken down in Appendix D;
- 2.3 Any variation arising from the final Local Government Finance Settlement be accommodated by a transfer to / from the Revenue Financing Reserve;
- 2.4 That the level of Council Tax be increased by £5 per annum for a Band D property for 2021/22;
- 2.5 It be noted that the Borough Treasurer Officer has determined that the Council Tax Base for the financial year 2021/22 will be 26,722.80 [item T in the formula in Section 31 B(1) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended (the "Act")];
- 2.6 That the following amounts be now calculated by the Council for the financial year 2021/22 in accordance with Section 31 and Sections 34 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992:

| | | |
|-----|-------------|---|
| (a) | £48,540,093 | Being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) of the Act. |
| (b) | £42,240,193 | Being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act. |
| (c) | £6,299,900 | Being the amount by which the aggregate at 2.6 (a) above exceeds the aggregate at 2.6(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) | £235.75 | Being the amount at 2.6 (c) above (Item R), all divided by Item 2.5 above (Item T), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B(1) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year. |

(e) Valuation Bands (Gosport Borough Council)

| A £ | B £ | C £ | D £ | E £ | F £ | G £ | H £ |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 157.17 | 183.36 | 209.56 | 235.75 | 288.14 | 340.53 | 392.92 | 471.50 |

| A £ | B £ | C £ | D £ | E £ | F £ | G £ | H £ |
|--------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| 900.30 | 1,050.35 | 1,200.40 | 1,350.45 | 1,650.55 | 1,950.65 | 2,250.75 | 2,700.90 |

Being the amounts given by multiplying the amount at 2.6 (d) 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 in different valuation bands.

- 2.7 That it be noted that for the financial year 2021/22 we estimate that Hampshire County Council will propose the following amounts for the precept to be issued to the Council in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for each of categories of the dwellings shown below:

Valuation Bands (Hampshire County Council)

- 2.8 That it be noted that for the financial year 2021/22 the Hampshire Police & Crime Commissioner will propose the following amounts for the precept to be issued to the Council in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for each of the categories of the dwellings shown below:

Valuation Bands (Hampshire Police & Crime Commissioner)

| A £ | B £ | C £ | D £ | E £ | F £ | G £ | H £ |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 150.97 | 176.14 | 201.30 | 226.46 | 276.78 | 327.11 | 377.43 | 452.92 |

- 2.9 That it be noted that for the financial year 2021/22, we estimate that Hampshire & Isle of Wight Fire and Rescue Authority will propose the following amounts for the precept issued to the Council in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for each of the categories of the dwellings shown below:

Valuation Bands (Hampshire & Isle of Wight Fire & Rescue Authority)

| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| 46.95 | 54.78 | 62.60 | 70.43 | 86.08 | 101.73 | 117.38 | 140.86 |

- 2.10 That having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 2.6(e), 2.7, 2.8 and 2.9 above, the Council, in accordance with Sections 31A, 31B and 34 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 as amended, hereby sets the following amounts as the amounts of Council Tax for the financial year 2021/22 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

Valuation Bands (Total Council Tax)

| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| 1,255.39 | 1,464.63 | 1,673.86 | 1,883.09 | 2,301.55 | 2,720.02 | 3,138.48 | 3,766.18 |

- 2.11 The Borough Treasurer be given delegated authority to implement any variation to the overall level of Council Tax arising from the final notification of the Hampshire County Council, Hampshire Police & Crime Commissioner and Hampshire & Isle of Wight Fire and Rescue Authority precepts.
- 2.12 The Council determines in accordance with Section 52ZB of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 that the Council's basic amount of Council Tax for 2021/22, which represents a £5 increase, is not excessive in accordance with the principles approved by the Secretary of State under Section 52ZC of the Act.
- 2.13 As the billing authority, the Council has not been notified by a major precepting authority (Hampshire County Council, the Police and Crime Commissioner for Hampshire or the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Fire & Rescue Authority) that its relevant basic amount of Council Tax for 2021/22 is excessive and that the billing authority is not required to hold a referendum in accordance with Section 52ZK of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.
- 2.14 Members have had regard for the Statement of the Section 151 Officer in accordance with the Local Government Act 2003 as set out in the report.
- 2.15 The Capital Programme 2020/21 to 2023/24 as set out in Appendix E is approved.
- 2.16 That the Prudential Indicators as set out in Appendix F are approved
- 2.17 That the Pay Policy Statement 2021/22 as set out in Appendix G is approved

Members should note that:

- 2.18 The Section 151 Officer has a duty to report to Members on the Robustness of the Estimates and the Adequacy of Reserves (as described in Section **Error! Reference source not found.**). Accordingly, any amendments put before the Council for consideration must also include a written Statement by the Section 151 Officer.
- 2.19 In accordance with statute, the Budget Report is required to incorporate a number of specific recommendations. Amendments may require those recommendations to be altered and therefore need to be precisely written in order to have legal effect and be capable of adoption by the Council.
- 2.20 Due to the requirements set out above, it is necessary for any amendment to be discussed in sufficient time to be drafted by the Section 151 Officer so that it includes the Section 151 Officers Statement alongside precisely worded recommendations that the Council can properly consider.

LOCAL COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT SCHEME FOR GOSPORT

Consideration was given to a report of the Head of Benefits, Procurement and Insurance informing Members of the proposal not to change the Local Council Tax Support scheme (LCTS) for Gosport for the forthcoming 2021-22 financial year.

RESOLVED: That Council approve the Local Council Tax Support Scheme (LCTS) for Gosport at Appendix 1 of this report for working age customers and notes the statutory scheme for Pension Age customers. Statutory changes to the Pension Age scheme are administered by Ministry for Housing Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) and this year only contain minor changes, these are yet to be released by MHCLG and will be forwarded to Members as part of the updated scheme when received.

ELECTION OF MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR 2021/22

The Council was informed that in accordance with Standing Order 2.4 the Borough Solicitor and Monitoring Officer 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 had been received Councillor M W P Hook for Mayor-Elect the 2021-2022 Municipal Year.

A subsequent nomination of Councillor R Hylands was made for Mayor-Elect and subsequent nominations of Councillor J Hutchison and Councillor Mr Z Huggins were made for Deputy Mayor-Elect.

A vote on the proposed nominations for Mayor-Elect was taken and Councillor M W P Hook was approved.

Councillor J Hutchison withdrew his nomination for Deputy Mayor-Elect and Councillor Mrs Z Huggins was subsequently approved.

The Meeting concluded at 8.54 pm

The Mayor.

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