

## COUNCIL

*At a meeting of the Council on Wednesday, 2 March 2011 in the Council Chamber, Runcorn Town Hall*

Present: Councillors Jones, Wright, P. Blackmore, M. Bradshaw, J. Bradshaw, Browne, Bryant, D. Cargill, E. Cargill, Carlin, Dennett, Edge, Findon, Fry, A. Gerrard, J. Gerrard, Harris, Hignett, Hodgkinson, Horabin, Howard, Inch, Leadbetter, M Lloyd Jones, P. Lloyd Jones, Loftus, A. Lowe, J. Lowe, Macmanus, McDermott, McInerney, Morley, Murray, Nelson, Nolan, Norddahl, Osborne, Parker, Philbin, Polhill, M. Ratcliffe, Redhead, Roberts, Rowe, Shepherd, Stockton, Swain, Thompson, Wainwright, Wallace and Wharton

Apologies for Absence: Councillors Austin, Balmer and E. Ratcliffe

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: M. Reaney, A. Scott, G. Cook, B. Dodd, I. Leivesley, G. Meehan, D. Parr, D. Tregia and A. Williamson

Also in attendance: Nine members of the public and Trade Unions and one member of the press

### Action

*(NB: the following Councillors declared personal interests in the following item of business for the reasons stated:*

*Polhill - family member employed by Halton Borough Council;  
Wright – daughter-in-law employed by Halton Borough Council;  
Hignett – due to being employed by Community Integrated Care and daughter employed by Halton Borough Council;  
Murray – wife employed by PCT working for Halton Borough Council;  
E Cargill - family member employed by Halton Borough Council;  
Osborne – family member employed by Halton Borough Council;  
Nolan – wife employed by Halton Borough Council;  
Bryant – wife employed by Halton Borough Council;  
Wharton -- has close links with a user of the Pingot Day Centre and has a family member employed as a casual worker by Halton Borough Council;  
Swain - family members employed by Halton Borough Council;  
J Lowe – as a trustee of Churchill Hall;  
Nelson – as a trustee of Churchill Hall and had a family member employed by Halton Borough Council;  
P Lloyd Jones – as a Non-Executive Director of Halton and St Helens PCT;  
A Gerrard – family member employed by Halton Borough Council;  
D Cargill – family member employed by Halton Borough Council;  
M Ratcliffe – family member employed by Halton Borough Council;  
M Horabin - family member employed by Halton Borough Council;*

## COU78 BUDGET 2011/12 (MINUTE EXB 94 REFERS)

The Executive Board had considered a report setting out a recommendation to Council in respect of the Budget, Capital Programme and Council Tax for 2011/12. Since then the Cheshire Police and Fire Authorities had set their budgets and council tax precepts and an updated report had been circulated for Members' attention providing information in respect of:

- Budget consultation;
- Comprehensive Spending Review 2010
- medium term financial strategy;
- review of the 2010/11 Budget;
- the Local Government Finance Settlement;
- 2011/12 Budget;
- Budget outlook;
- Halton's Council Tax;
- Parish Precepts;
- Average Council Tax;
- Police Precept;
- Fire Precept;
- Total Council Tax;
- Capital Programme;
- Prudential Code; and
- School Budgets.

The Executive Board had recommended that Council adopt the resolution set out in Appendix A of the report, which included setting the budget at £110.487m and the Band D Council Tax for Halton (before Parish, Police and Fire precepts) of £1,137.91.

The Resources Portfolio Holder thanked all the officers involved for their support in producing this budget.

An amendment was moved and seconded by Councillors Murray and J Bradshaw respectively, and on being put to the vote, the amendment was lost.

The following motion was moved and seconded by Councillors Wharton and Polhill respectively and:-

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the policies outlined in the report be adopted, including the Budget for 2011/12, the growth and savings set out in Appendix B, the Capital Programme set out in Appendix C, and Prudential Indicators set out in Appendix D;

2) it be noted that at the meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2010 the Council agreed the following:

- (a) for 2011/12, in accordance with the Local Government Act 2003 and with regulations made under Section 33(5) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, a Council Tax Base of 38,200 being the amount calculated by the Council, in accordance with Regulation 3 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 1992, as its Council Tax Base for the year, and
- (b) for the Parishes, the Council Tax base for each Parish for the year 2011/12 be set as follows:

Parish	Tax Base
Hale	733
Daresbury	147
Moore	343
Preston Brook	345
Halebank	600
Sandymoor	973

being the amounts calculated by the Council, 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 to which special items relate;

3) in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (Sections 32 to 36), the following amounts be now calculated by the Council for the year 2011/12 and agreed as follows:

- (a) £336,417,320 – being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimated for the items set out in Section 32(2)(a) to (e) of the said Act;
- (b) £225,879,401 – being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimated for the items set out in Section 32(3)(a) to (c) of the said Act;
- (c) £110,537,919 – being the amount calculated by the Council for the year 2009/10 in accordance with Section 32(4) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 as its budget requirement for the year;
- (d) £67,018,572 – being the aggregate of the sums which the Council estimated would be payable for the year

into its General Fund in respect of redistributed Non-Domestic Rates (51,194,274) and Revenue Support Grant (£15,824,298);

- (e) £1,139.25 – being the amount at 3(c) above, less the amount at 3(d) above all divided by the amount at 2(a) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 33(1) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year;
- (f) £51,205 – being the aggregate amount of all special items referred to in Section 34(1) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, each individual Parish precept being:

	£
Hale	15,874
Daresbury	3,731
Moore	4,200
Preston Brook	4,400
Halebank	7,500
Sandymoor	15,500

- (g) £1,137.91 Local Government Finance Act 1992, as the basic amount of Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no special item relates;
- (h) Part of the Council's Area

	£
Hale	1,159.57
Daresbury	1,163.29
Moore	1,150.15
Preston Brook	1,150.66
Halebank	1,150.41
Sandymoor	1,153.84

being the amounts given by adding to the amounts at 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 2(b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(3) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as the basic amounts of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings of its area to which one or more special items relate.

(i) Part of the Council's Area

Band	Hale	Daresbury	Moore	Preston Brook	Halebank	Sandymoor	All other Parts of the Council's Area
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
A	773.05	775.53	766.77	767.11	766.94	769.23	758.61
B	901.89	904.78	894.56	894.96	894.76	897.43	885.04
C	1,030.73	1,034.04	1,022.36	1,022.81	1,022.59	1,025.64	1,011.48
<b>D</b>	<b>1,159.57</b>	<b>1,163.29</b>	<b>1,150.15</b>	<b>1,150.66</b>	<b>1,150.41</b>	<b>1,153.84</b>	<b>1,137.91</b>
E	1,417.25	1,421.80	1,405.74	1,406.36	1,406.06	1,410.25	1,390.78
F	1,674.94	1,680.31	1,661.33	1,662.07	1,661.71	1,666.66	1,643.65
G	1,932.62	1,938.82	1,916.92	1,917.77	1,917.35	1,923.07	1,896.52
H	2,319.14	2,326.58	2,300.30	2,301.32	2,300.82	2,307.68	2,275.82

being the amounts given by multiplying the amounts at 3(g) and 3(h) above by the number which, in the proportion set out in Section 5(1) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular 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 Local Government Finance Act 1992, as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands;

- 4) it be further noted that for the year 2011/12 the Police Authority had stated the following amounts in precepts issued to the Authority, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

	£
A	95.35
B	112.41
C	128.47
<b>D</b>	<b>144.53</b>
E	176.66
F	208.77
G	240.88
H	289.06

- 5) it be further noted that for the year 2011/12 the Fire Authority had stated the following amounts in precepts issued to the Authority, in accordance with the Local Government Act 2003 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

	£
A	44.29
B	51.67
C	59.05
<b>D</b>	<b>66.43</b>
E	81.19
F	95.95
G	110.72
H	132.86

- 6) having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 3(i), 4 and 5 above, the Council, in accordance with Section 30(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the following amounts as the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2011/12 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

Band	Hale	Daresbury	Moore	Preston Brook	Halebank	Sandymo or	All other Parts of the Council's Area
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
A	773.05	775.53	766.77	767.11	766.94	769.23	758.61
B	901.89	904.78	894.56	894.96	894.76	897.43	885.05
C	1,030.73	1,034.04	1,022.36	1,022.81	1,022.59	1,025.64	1,011.48
<b>D</b>	<b>1,159.57</b>	<b>1,163.29</b>	<b>1,150.15</b>	<b>1,150.66</b>	<b>1,150.41</b>	<b>1,153.84</b>	<b>1,137.91</b>
E	1,417.25	1,421.80	1,405.74	1,406.36	1,406.06	1,410.25	1,390.78
F	1,674.94	1,680.31	1,661.33	1,662.07	1,661.71	1,666.66	1,643.65
G	1,932.62	1,938.82	1,916.92	1,917.77	1,917.35	1,923.07	1,896.52
H	2,319.14	2,326.58	2,300.30	2,301.32	2,300.82	2,307.68	2,275.82

being satisfied that:

- (a) the total amount yielded by its Council Taxes for the said financial year would be sufficient, so far as is practicable, to provide for items mentioned at 3(a) to (d) above; and, to the extent that they are not, to be provided for by any other means;

- (b) those amounts which relate to a part only of its area will secure, so far as is practicable, that the precept or portion of a precept relating to such part will be provided for only by the amount yielded by such of its Council Taxes as relate to that part; and
- 7) the Operational Director – Finance be authorised at any time during the financial year 2011/12 to borrow on behalf of the Council by way of gross bank overdraft such sums as he shall deem necessary for the purposes of this paragraph, but not such that in any event the said overdraft at any time exceeds £10m (£1.5m net) as the Council may temporarily require.

COU79 TREASURY MANAGEMENT STATEMENT 2011/12 (MINUTE EXB 95 REFERS)

The Executive Board had considered a report which proposed the Treasury Management Strategy for 2011/12, appended to the report and which detailed the following:

- treasury limits for 2011/12 and 2013/14;
- current treasury portfolio position;
- borrowing requirements for 2011/11 to 2013/14;
- prospects for interest rates;
- borrowing strategy;
- policy on borrowing in advance of need;
- annual investment strategy;
- debt re-scheduling;
- extraordinary items;
- minimum revenue provision policy statement 2011/12;
- creditworthiness policy;
- policy on the use of external service providers;
- treasury management indicators for 2011/12 to 2013/14;
- adopting the CIPFA code of practice on treasury management
- roles and responsibilities for treasury management; and
- interest rate forecasts.

RESOLVED: That the policies, strategies, statement, approved list of counterparties, counterparty limits and indicators outlined in the report, be adopted.

COU80 OUTSIDE BODIES MEMBERSHIP

Members were advised that the Chief Executive had been notified of a change in membership on the Halton Community Transport Outside Body.

RESOLVED: That it be noted that Councillor Ellen Cargill had replaced Councillor Hignett as the Council's representative on the Halton Community Transport Outside Body with immediate effect.

COU81 LEADER'S UPDATE

Councillor Polhill thanked all members of staff who were leaving the Borough Council at the end of March for their loyal service to the Authority and the Community and wished them well for the future.

*Meeting ended at 7.50 p.m.*