

## COUNCIL

*At a meeting of the Council on Wednesday, 18 December 2019 in the Council Chamber, Runcorn Town Hall*

Present: Councillors Horabin, Abbott, Baker, J. Bradshaw, M. Bradshaw, D. Cargill, E. Cargill, Carlin, Dennett, Dourley, Fry, Gilligan, Harris, R. Hignett, S. Hill, V. Hill, Howard, Jones, Leck, M. Lloyd Jones, P. Lloyd Jones, C. Loftus, K. Loftus, Logan, MacManus, A. McInerney, T. McInerney, Nelson, Nolan, Polhill, N. Plumpton Walsh, Ratcliffe, Joe Roberts, June Roberts, Rowe, Sinnott, G. Stockton, J. Stockton, Teeling, Thompson, Wall, Wallace, Wharton, Whitley, Woolfall and Wright

Apologies for Absence: Councillors Cassidy, P. Hignett, A. Lowe, J. Lowe, McDermott, Philbin and Wainwright

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: D. Parr, I. Leivesley, M. Vasic, M. Reaney, A. Scott and A. Jones

Also in attendance: One member of the press and four members of the public

### *Action*

#### COU44 COUNCIL MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of Council held on 16 October 2019 were taken as read and signed as a correct record.

#### COU45 THE MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor made the following announcements:-

- Following a recent delegation by Chinese teachers from the school in Tongling, the Mayor had been presented with a small replica statue of the large statue situated in the Chinese style Friendship Garden at the entrance of Runcorn Town Hall. The replica statue would be displayed at the Town Hall.

#### COU46 LEADER'S REPORT

The Leader made the following announcements:-

- He congratulated the two returning MP's for the Borough following the results of the General Election on 12 December 2019;

- Confirmed that the X1 Bus Service was to continue and thanked those Members that had actively supported the campaign;
- The Council was awaiting the announcement of the grant settlement from Government, but given the delays to business caused by the General Election, it was unlikely to be announced until the New Year; and
- Reported that currently, there was approximately a £6.5m gap in the Council's budget for 2020/21.

#### COU47 MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

The Council considered the minutes of the Executive Board meetings on 17 October 2019 and 14 November 2019.

RESOLVED: That the minutes be received.

#### COU48 MINUTES OF THE HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

The Council considered the minutes of the Health and Wellbeing Board meeting on 2 October 2019.

RESOLVED: That the minutes be received.

#### COU49 QUESTIONS ASKED UNDER STANDING ORDER 8

It was noted that no questions had been submitted under Standing Order No. 8.

#### COU50 HALTON STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE) CONSTITUTION (MINUTE EXB 45 REFERS)

The Council considered a report of the Strategic Director, People, on the adoption of the Halton Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE) Constitution.

RESOLVED: That Council approve the Halton SACRE Constitution.

Strategic Director  
- People

#### COU51 DETERMINATION OF COUNCIL TAX BASE 2020/21 - KEY DECISION (MINUTE EXB 52 REFERS)

The Council considered a report of the Operational Director, Finance, on the determination of the Council Tax Base for 2020/21.

In accordance with Standing Order 16 (3), a recorded vote was taken.

The following Members voted FOR the motion:

Councillors Abbott, Baker, M. Bradshaw, J. Bradshaw, D. Cargill, E. Cargill, Carlin, Dennett, Dourley, Fry, Gilligan, Harris, R. Hignett, S. Hill, V. Hill, Horabin, Howard, Jones, Leck, M. Lloyd Jones, P. Lloyd Jones, C. Loftus, K. Loftus, Logan, MacManus, A. McInerney, T. McInerney, Nelson, Nolan, N. Plumpton Walsh, Polhill, Ratcliffe, Joe Roberts, June Roberts, Rowe, Sinnott, G. Stockton, J. Stockton, Teeling, Thompson, Wall, Wallace, Wharton, Whitley, Woolfall and Wright.

There were no votes against the motion.

There were no abstentions.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the Council Tax Base for 2020/21 be set at 35,359 for the Borough, and that the Cheshire Fire Authority, the Cheshire Police and Crime Commissioner, Liverpool City Region Combined Authority and the Environment Agency be so notified; and
- 2) Council set the Council Tax Base for each of the Parishes as follows:

<b>Parish</b>	<b>Tax Base</b>
<b>Hale</b>	<b>663</b>
<b>Halebank</b>	<b>523</b>
<b>Daresbury</b>	<b>179</b>
<b>Moore</b>	<b>327</b>
<b>Preston Brook</b>	<b>368</b>
<b>Sandymoor</b>	<b>1,265</b>

Operational  
Director  
Finance

-

COU52 2019/20 REVISED CAPITAL PROGRAMME (MINUTE EXB 54 REFERS)

The Council considered a report of the Operational Director, Finance, on proposed revisions to the 2019/20 Capital Programme.

RESOLVED: That Council approve the revised Capital Programme as set out in paragraph 3.2 of the report.

Operational  
Director - Finance

COU53 REVIEW OF POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING

## PLACES AND INCORPORATING THE WARD BOUNDARY REVIEW (MINUTE EXB 57 REFERS)

The Council considered a report of the Returning Officer, on the results of the formal Polling District, Places and Stations Review, which highlighted recommended changes to the polling scheme and put forward a revised polling scheme for approval.

RESOLVED: That Council adopt the amendments to the scheme detailed in the appendix attached to the report, for the period 2019/2024.

Returning Officer

## COU54 HALTON DELIVERY AND ALLOCATIONS LOCAL PLAN (DALP) - SUBMISSION TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE - KEY DECISION

The Council considered a report of the Strategic Director, Enterprise, Community and Resources, on the Halton Delivery and Allocations Local Plan (DALP) – Submission to the Secretary of State.

### Reason(s) For Decision

The next stage in the production of the Halton DALP was for the document to be submitted to the Secretary of State for examination. Full Council approval was sought to proceed to the examination stage for the draft of the DALP.

### Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

No alternative options had been considered at this stage. Submitting the DALP for examination was the next step in the process of the Local Plan production and was in accordance with the associated legal regulations covering the production of Development Plan Documents.

### Implementation Date

The DALP would be submitted to the Secretary of State as soon as practicably possible following approval by Council, with the examination phase commencing in Spring 2020, to be followed by adoption in Winter 2020/21. After its adoption, the DALP and saved policies from the Core Strategy 2013 would then be used for development management purposes in the determination of planning applications and to direct development to the most appropriate locations in accordance with the adopted Spatial Strategy for the Borough.

RESOLVED: That Council approve

- 1) the Delivery and Allocations Local Plan Proposed Submission Document (August 2019) is submitted to the Secretary of State under Regulation 22 of the Town and Country Planning Act (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2012 (see section 3.8 – 3.11);
- 2) delegated authority to make minor editorial amendments to the DALP be granted to the Operational Director for Policy, Planning and Transport in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Physical Environment (see section 3.12);
- 3) delegated authority is granted to officers (in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Physical Environment) representing the Local Planning Authority at examination to enter into discussions with relevant parties, and to suggest appropriate wording and policy map changes, as may be required to satisfy the examining Inspector on matters concerning the soundness of the Delivery and Allocations Local Plan (see section 3.17); and
- 4) from the point of submission to Government, material weight is given to the Delivery and Allocations Local Plan Proposed Submission Document (August 2019) as a material consideration in decisions made under the planning Acts. As the DALP represents an appropriate development strategy for the Borough and has undergone public consultation, the DALP is capable of being a material consideration in planning decisions.

Strategic Director  
- Enterprise,  
Community and  
Resources

#### COU55 MINUTES OF THE POLICY AND PERFORMANCE BOARDS AND THE BUSINESS EFFICIENCY BOARD

The Council considered the reports of the following Boards in the period since the meeting of Council on 16 October 2019:-

- Children, Young People and Families;
- Employment, Learning and Skills and Community;
- Health;

- Safer;
- Environment and Urban Renewal;
- Corporate Services; and
- Business Efficiency.

#### COU56 COMMITTEE MINUTES

The Council considered the reports of the following Committees in the period since the meeting of Council on 16 October 2019:-

- Development Control;
- Regulatory; and
- Appeals Panel

*Meeting ended at 6.52 p.m.*