

COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COVENTRY

20th February 2007

PRESENT

Lord Mayor (Councillor Ahmed)

Deputy Lord Mayor (Councillor Batten)

Councillor Adalat	Councillor Lee
Councillor Arrowsmith	Councillor Ms. McKay
Councillor Asif	Councillor Maton
Councillor Bains	Councillor McNicholas
Councillor Benefield	Councillor Matchet
Councillor Mrs. Bigham	Councillor Mutton
Councillor Blundell	Councillor Nellist
Councillor Charley	Councillor H. Noonan
Councillor Chater	Councillor M. Noonan
Councillor Cliffe	Councillor O'Neill
Councillor Clifford	Councillor Patton
Councillor Crookes	Councillor Ms. Reece
Councillor Mrs. Dixon	Councillor Ridge
Councillor Duggins	Councillor Ridley
Councillor Field	Councillor Sawdon
Councillor Foster	Councillor Skinner
Councillor Gazey	Councillor Skipper
Councillor Mrs. Griffin	Councillor Taylor
Councillor Mrs. Harper	Councillor Townshend
Councillor Harrison	Councillor Mrs. Waters
Councillor Harvard	Councillor Williams
Councillor Ms. Hunter	Councillor Windsor
Councillor Mrs. Johnson	
Councillor Kelly	
Councillor Kelsey	
Councillor Lakha	

Apologies: Councillor Mrs Lancaster
Councillor Mrs Lucas
Councillor Mulhall
Councillor Mrs Rutter

83. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 16th January 2007, were signed as a true record.

84. Death of Former Lord Mayors

The Lord Mayor referred to the recent deaths of former Councillors Kenneth Benfield and Harry Richards who were Lord Mayors in 1978 and 1979 respectively.

Both served the City with great dignity and dedication. Members noted that letters of condolence had been sent on behalf of the City Council to former Councillor Benfield and Richards families.

85. Death of Richard Heard

The Lord Mayor referred to the recent death of Mr Richard Heard, Managing Director of Birmingham International Airport.

Members noted that a letter of condolence had been sent on behalf of the Council to Mrs Heard.

86. Petitions

RESOLVED that the following petitions be referred to the appropriate City Council body or external organisation:

- (a) **Dovedale Avenue and Windmill Road – Dangers on Turning Right – 31 signatures presented by Councillor Bigham**
- (b) **Dovedale Avenue – Request for Security Fencing between Rear Gardens and Canal Towpath – 34 signatures presented by Councillor Bigham.**
- (c) **Woodway Walk and Pandora Road – Request for Repairs to Pavement – 11 signatures presented by Councillor Kelly.**
- (d) **St Bernards Walk – Request to Keep Clean – 56 signatures presented by Councillor Lakha.**
- (e) **Objection to Proposals for Second Access to Walsgrave University Hospital Through Green Belt Land – 99 signatures presented by Councillor Dixon.**

87. Declarations of Interest

The following members declared interests in the matters referred to in the minutes indicated. The relevant minutes recording the decisions also record where appropriate, the actions that Members decided to take at the meeting indicated, having regard to the National Code of Government Conduct and the City Council's Constitution:-

(a) **Interests in Recommendations for the City Council**

Personal

Member	Minute No.
Councillor Bigham	78
Councillor Kelly	78
Councillor Mutton	78
Councillor Nellist	78

Prejudicial

Member	Minute No.
Councillor Chater*	78
Councillor Sawdon*	78
Councillor Townshend*	78

* The Members indicated did not leave the meeting during consideration of these items, on the basis that the debate did not specifically relate to the matters in which they had an interest.

88. Revenue and Capital Budget 2007/08 and Council Tax Report 2007/08

Further to Minute 189/06 and 190/06 of the Cabinet, the City Council considered a report of the Management Board on the Revenue and Capital Budget requirements 2007/08 (including the Treasury Management Strategy 2006/07) which informed of the Government's final Revenue Support Grant (RSG) allocation for the Council for 2007/08 and of the implications for the revenue budget in future years. The City Council also considered a report of the Acting Director of Finance and ICT, which calculated the Council Tax levels for 2007/08 that resulted from the Collection Fund Revenue estimates for the year and made appropriate recommendations regarding Council Tax levy for the City of Coventry in 2007/08. It was noted that the figures contained in the recommendations had been based on the assumed Fire and Police Authorities' precepts for 2007/08. Amendments to the figures, were therefore, circulated at the Council meeting.

Councillor Duggins moved an amendment as detailed in Appendix A to these minutes, which was seconded by Councillor Mutton and lost.

Councillor Windsor moved the following amendment, which was seconded by Councillor Nellist and lost.

"Amendment to report ref 39, support to City Farm. To provide a £50,000 one off grant to Coventry City Farm in order to preserve this vital city wide service and with a view to assisting the Farm in procuring external funding to meet this need in the future. This to be funded from reserves."

NOTE: In respect of the above, a recorded vote was required in accordance with paragraph 4.1.71 of the City Council's Constitution. The Councillors voting for and against the recommendations were as follows:

<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Councillor Bains	Councillor Adalat	
Councillor Batten	Councillor Ahmed	
Councillor Benefield	Councillor Arrowsmith	
Councillor Bigham	Councillor Asif	
Councillor Clifford	Councillor Blundell	
Councillor Duggins	Councillor Charley	
Councillor Field	Councillor Cliffe	
Councillor Harrison	Councillor Crookes	
Councillor Harvard	Councillor Dixon	
Councillor Kelly	Councillor Foster	
Councillor Lakha	Councillor Gazey	
Councillor Ms McKay	Councillor Mrs Griffin	
Councillor Maton	Councillor Mrs Harper	
Councillor McNicholas	Councillor Ms Hunter	
Councillor Mutton	Councillor Mrs Johnson	
Councillor Nellist	Councillor Kelsey	
Councillor Patton	Councillor Lee	
Councillor Skipper	Councillor Matchet	
Councillor Townshend	Councillor H Noonan	
Councillor Windsor	Councillor M Noonan	
	Councillor O'Neill	
	Councillor Miss Reece	
	Councillor Ridge	
	Councillor Ridley	
	Councillor Sawdon	
	Councillor Skinner	
	Councillor Taylor	
	Councillor Mrs Waters	
	Councillor Williams	

Result: 20 for
 29 against

Councillor Ms McKay moved the following amendment, which was seconded by Councillor Nellist and lost.

"To remove the proposed £90,000 reduction in the social care funding to Hillfields Children's Centre."

RESOLVED that the City Council:-

- (1) Determine that its budget requirement calculated for the financial year 2007/08 in accordance with the requirements of Section 32 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 be £240,091,068 (a council tax rise for the City Council of 3.4%) as outlined in Section 6.2, Table 2 of the report submitted.**
- (2) Note the implications of the budget for the 2008/09 and 2009/10 financial years as detailed in Section 8 of the report and instruct the Management Board, to implement the strategy outlined in sections 8.7 and 8.8 of the report submitted to deliver a fully balanced budget in the medium term.**
- (3) Approve the fees and charges as detailed in Section 9 of the report.**
- (4) Note the Acting Director of Finance and ICT's comments confirming the robustness of the estimates and adequacy of reserves, as detailed in Sections 12 and 13 of the report.**
- (5) Approve the Capital Programme of £80m for 2007/08 and the future years' commitments arising from this programme of £100m in 2008/09 to 2011/12) as detailed in Section 10 and Appendix 5 of the report.**
- (6) Approve those schemes in Section 10.14, Table 15 and Appendix 5 of the report as being of high priority for inclusion in future programmes, subject to the 2008/09 budget setting process.**
- (7) Authorise the Head of Housing Policy and Services to vire between the elements of the Housing Capital Programme in line with previous years to achieve spend during the year, as detailed in Section 10.15 of the report.**
- (8) Approve the proposed Treasury Management Strategy for 2007/08 as detailed in Section 14 of the report, the revised investment policy detailed in Appendix 6 of the report, and adopt the prudential indicators and limits described in Section 15 and summarised in Appendix 7 of the report submitted.**
- (9) Note that at its meeting on 23rd January 2007 the Council's Cabinet approved the following amounts as its Council Tax base for the year 2007/08 in accordance with Regulations made under Section 33(5) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992:**
 - a) 87,386.8 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;

b)	Allesley	358.7
	Keresley	216.8

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 one or more special items relate.

(10) Calculate the following amounts for the year 2007/08 in accordance with Sections 32 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992:

- a) £712,421,669** being the aggregate of the amounts that the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32(2)(a) to (e) of the Act, other than any expenditure estimated to be incurred which will be charged to a Business Improvement District (BID) revenue account as set out in section 43(2)(a) of the Local Government Act 2003. (Gross Expenditure including the amount required for the working balance);
- b) £472,330,601** being the aggregate of the amounts that the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32(3)(a) to (c) of the Act, other than any income estimated to be received which will be credited to a BID revenue account as set out in section 43(2)(b) or (c) of the Local Government Act 2003. (Gross Income including reserves to be used to meet the Gross Expenditure);
- c) £240,091,068** being the amount by which the aggregate at 10(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 10(b) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 32(4) of the Act, as its budget requirement for the year;
- d) £134,112,296** being the aggregate of the sums which the Council estimates will be payable for the year into its general fund in respect of Formula Grant (the sum of Revenue Support Grant and National Non Domestic Rates) [£134,109,375] and the amount of the sums which the Council estimates will

be transferred in the year from its Collection Fund to its General Fund in accordance with the Act as amended by the 1994 Regulations (Council Tax Surplus) [Nil] and pursuant to the Collection Fund (Community Charge) directions under Section 98(4) of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 (Community Charge Surplus) [£2,921].

e) £1,212.75 = $\frac{10(c) - 10(d)}{9(a)} = \frac{240,091,068 - 134,112,296}{87,386.8}$

being the amount at 10(c) above, less the amount at 10(d) above, all divided by the amount at 9(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 Council Tax at Band D for the City including Parish Precepts).

f) £4,800 being the aggregate amount of all special items referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act. (Parish Precepts);

g) £1,212.70 = $\frac{10(e) - 10(f)}{9(a)} = \frac{1,212.75 - 4,800}{87,386.8}$

being the amount at 10(e) above, less the result given by dividing the amount at 10(f) above by the amounts at 9(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 the area to which no special item relates. (Council Tax at Band D for the City excluding Parish Precepts);

h)	Coventry Unparished Area	1,212.70
	Allesley	1,221.90
	Keresley	1,219.62

being the amounts given by adding to the amount at 10(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 9(b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(3)

of the Act, at 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. (Council Taxes at Band D for the City and Parish).

i)	Valuation Band	Parts to which	Parish of	Parish of
		no special item relates	Allesley	Keresley
		£	£	£
	A	808.47	814.60	813.08
	B	943.21	950.37	948.59
	C	1077.96	1086.14	1084.11
	D	1212.70	1221.90	1219.62
	E	1482.19	1493.43	1490.65
	F	1751.68	1764.97	1761.68
	G	2021.17	2036.50	2032.70
	H	2425.40	2443.80	2439.24

being the amounts given by multiplying the amounts at 10(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 dwelling listed in different valuation bands.

- (11) Note that for the year 2007-08 the West Midlands Police Authority and West Midlands Fire Authority have stated that 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 dwelling shown below:

Valuation Band	West Midlands Police Authority	West Midlands Fire Authority
	£	£
A	60.98	29.62
B	71.14	34.56
C	81.31	39.49
D	91.47	44.43
E	111.80	54.30
F	132.13	64.18
G	152.45	74.05
H	182.94	88.86

- (12) Set the following amounts as the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2007/08 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below, having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at

10(i) and 11 above, in accordance with Section 30(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992:

Valuation Band	Parts to which no special item relates	Parish of Allesley	Parish of Keresley
	£	£	£
A	899.07	905.20	903.68
B	1048.91	1056.07	1054.29
C	1198.76	1206.94	1204.91
D	1348.60	1357.80	1355.52
E	1648.29	1659.53	1656.75
F	1947.99	1961.28	1957.99
G	2247.67	2263.00	2259.20
H	2697.20	2715.60	2711.04

(NOTE: The meeting closed at 8.10 p.m.)

COUNCIL MEETING 20TH FEBRUARY 2007COUNCIL TAX SETTING, REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGET 2007/08LABOUR GROUP AMENDMENTSaving Proposals Not to be Taken

Report Ref	Description	Amount £000
2	Performing Arts Service	30
3	Locality Services	55
4	Contributions to Hillfields Early Excellence Centre	90
8	High Hedges Charge	5
10	Bereavement services Income	100
12	Environmental Health	10
13	Environmental Health and Trading Standards	50
18	Grant to Sports Trust	46
19	Grant to Coventry Sports Foundation	3
20	Grant to Belgrade	32
21	Transport Museum	19
	Chief Executive's Reorganisation – Retain Existing Capacity on Equalities and Diversity and International Support	94
	Holbrooks Library	53
	Total	587

Spending Proposals Not Supported

Report Ref	Description	Amount £000
36A	Barracks Car Park Loss of Income	(100)
37	Grant Support to Coventry Transport Museum	(200)
	Total	(300)

Spending Proposal Increased

Report Ref	Description	Amount £000
41B	Olympics	20
	Total	20

New Spending Proposals

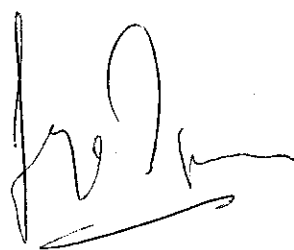
Report Ref	Description	Amount £000
39	Grant to Coventry Sports Foundation	50
	Neighbourhood Wardens (10 plus 1 team leader)	318
	Support to City Farm	25
	Learning Difficulties Disregard of £4	108
	Total	501

Change in Resources

Report Ref	Description	Amount £000
	Council Tax of 2.5%	923
	Use of Additional LABGI	(1,731)
	Total	(808)

Additional Revenue Proposal – One-off city wide bulky waste collection at a cost of £1m to be funded from reserves.

Additional Capital Proposal – Match funding of £2m to provide an Older People's Drop In Centre (not before 2008/09)

Proposed: 

Sender: J.R. Mutton