

EASTLEIGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting of the Council held at the Civic Offices, Leigh Road, Eastleigh on Monday, 25 February 2008 at 7:00 pm

PRESENT:

The Mayor, Councillor Smith (Chairman); Councillors Airey, Bloom, A Broadhurst, Mrs Broadhurst, Caldwell, Craig, Cross, Davidovitz, Day, Mrs Fraser, Goodall, Holden-Brown, Holes, House, Mrs Hughes, Irish, Kyrle, Luffman, McNulty, Mignot, Millar, Norgate, Noyce, Olson, Pepper, Pretty, Skinner, Sortwell, Tennent, Thomas, Thornton, Wall, Mrs Wellfare, Mrs Welsh, Winstanley, Wray and Wright

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Davies-Dear, Head, Moore, Roling, Mrs Sollitt and Spearey

686. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor was sad to report the passing of Gordon Pigney, who was made a Citizen of Honour in 1997 for his voluntary work with Eastleigh Community Service, Albert Hughes, husband of Councillor June Hughes, and the Chief Executive's father. Council stood for a minute's silence.

The Mayor also advised that he had supported three of the Borough's Carnival Queen's by attending a special event at Disneyland, Paris.

687. MINUTES**RESOLVED -**

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 24 January 2008 be confirmed as a correct record.

688. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were invited to declare interests in relation to items of business on the agenda. Any interests declared are recorded in the relevant minute below.

689. RECOMMENDATIONS (INCLUDING CALL-INS) REQUIRING DECISION(a) GENERAL FUND REVENUE BUDGET 2008/09

Consideration was given to the recommendations contained in Minute 669 of the Cabinet meeting held on 7 February 2008, taking into account the Minutes of the Joint Meeting of the Scrutiny Panels held on 29 January 2008, concerning the 2008/09 Budget.

Members received a budget presentation from the Leader of the Council, together with contributions from Cabinet Members on aspects of the Budget.

RESOLVED -

- (1) That the revised Budget for 2007/08 be approved;**
- (2) That the net revenue Budget requirement for 2008/09 at be set at £13,511,970;**
- (3) That the items of new expenditure provision as detailed in Appendix B to the Cabinet report be approved;**
- (4) That the Aggregate External Finance be noted;**
- (5) That the Borough Council element of the Council Tax be increased by 2.1%, being 1% less than RPIX as at December 2007;**
- (6) That the Special Expenses for Parish and Non-Parish areas, as set out in paragraphs 37 and 38 of the Cabinet report be approved;**
- (7) That the revenue financing of the Community Investment Programme (CIP) of £60,000 be approved; and**
- (8) The impact on the Council's General Fund balance be noted.**

(NOTE: The Conservative and Labour Groups put forward amendments to the Budget at the meeting, which were debated, voted on and subsequently lost.)

(b) COUNCIL TAX 2008/09

In light of the Revenue Budget resolution, consideration was given to a report of the Corporate Director (CFO) and the Head of Financial Services giving details of precepts received from Local Councils and from the major precepting bodies, namely Hampshire Police Authority and Hampshire County Council.

RESOLVED -

- (1) That the revenue estimates for 2008/2009, as agreed by the Cabinet and summarised in the Minutes of the Cabinet of 7 February 2008, be approved.**
- (2) That any expenses incurred by the Council in performing in part of its area a function performed elsewhere in its area by a Parish /Town Council shall not be treated as special expenses for the purpose of Section 35 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, except in the case of the following special items relating to the non-parished area the aggregate amount of which is £654,275 and which is shown as part of the total of special items at paragraph (4) (f) below:-**

- (a) Playing Fields at Hiltingbury, Fryern, Bishopstoke and Doncaster Farm
- (b) Crestwood and Cranbury Community Centres
- (c) Allotments
- (d) Cemeteries
- (e) Town Centre Christmas Lighting
- (f) Children's Play Areas
- (g) Public Toilets
- (h) Bus Shelters
- (i) Bowls Facilities
- (j) Eastleigh Town Centre Christmas Event
- (k) Police Community Support Officers

and the following special items relating to individual Parishes, the aggregate amount of which is £66,286 and which is also shown as part of special items at paragraph (4) (f) below:

- (l) Cemeteries
- (m) Children's Play Areas
- (n) Allotments
- (o) Public Toilets
- (p) Bus Shelters

- (3) That it be noted that at its meeting on 22 November 2007 the Council calculated the following amounts for the year 2008/2009 in accordance with Regulations made under Section 33 (5) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992:-

- (a) 43445.08 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) Part of the Council's Area

	Tax Base £
Bishopstoke	3,344.08
Botley	1,927.21
Bursledon	2,249.40
Fair Oak & Horton Heath	3,632.32
Hamble-Le-Rice	1,900.16
Hedge End	6,981.84
Hound	2,452.51
West End	4,390.04
Non-Parished Area	16,567.52
	43,445.08

being the amount calculated by the Council, in accordance with Regulation 6 of the Regulations, as the amount of its council tax base for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate.

- (4) That the following amounts be now calculated by the Council for the year 2008/2009 in accordance with Sections 32 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992:-
- | | | |
|-----|-------------|--|
| (a) | £55,716,450 | being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32(2)(a) to (e) of the Act. (Total gross expenditure) |
| (b) | £40,234,090 | being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32(3)(a) to (c) of the Act. (Total gross income) |
| (c) | £15,482,360 | being the amount by which the aggregate at 4(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 4(b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 32(4) of the Act, as its budget requirement for the year. (Net expenditure, including parishes) |
| (d) | £7,722,910 | being the aggregate of the sums which the Council estimates will be payable for the year into its general fund in respect of redistributed non-domestic rates and revenue support grant, increased by 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 Section 97(3) of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 (Council Tax Surplus) and adjusted by the amount of any sum which the Council estimates will be transferred from its collection fund to its general fund pursuant to the Collection Fund (Community Charges) |

(England) Directions 1994 under section 98(4) of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 (Community Charge Surplus)

- (e) £178.60 being the amount at 4(c) above less the amount at 4(d) above, all divided by the amount at 3(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
- (f) £2,690,954 being the aggregate amount of all special items referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act
- (g) £116.66 being the amount at 4(e) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 4(f) above by the amount at 3(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 the whole district before taking account of special items for particular parts of the Council's area.
- (h) Parts of the Council's Area – Band D Council Taxes

Parish

	£ p
Bishopstoke	149.00
Botley	210.55
Bursledon	155.52
Fair Oak and Horton Heath	203.89
Hamble-Le-Rice	206.23
Hedge End	199.65
Hound	228.03
West End	189.68
All other parts of the Council's Area	156.15

being the amounts given by adding to the amount at 4(g) above to 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 3(b) above, calculated by

the Council, in accordance with Section 34(3) of the Act, as 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.

(i) **Parts of the Council's Area – Council Tax Bands A - H**

Part of the Council's Area	Valuation Bands							
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
	£ p	£ p	£ p	£ p	£ p	£ p	£ p	£ p
Parish								
Bishopstoke	99.33	115.89	132.44	149.00	182.11	215.22	248.33	298.00
Botley	140.36	163.77	187.15	210.55	257.33	304.13	350.91	421.10
Bursledon	103.68	120.96	138.25	155.52	190.08	224.64	259.20	311.04
Fair Oak and Horton Heath	135.92	158.58	181.24	203.89	249.20	294.51	339.81	407.78
Hamble le Rice	137.49	160.40	183.32	206.23	252.06	297.89	343.72	412.46
Hedge End	133.10	155.29	177.47	199.65	244.01	288.38	332.75	399.30
Hound	152.02	177.36	202.70	228.03	278.70	329.38	380.05	456.06
West End	126.45	147.53	168.61	189.68	231.83	273.99	316.13	379.36
All other parts of the Council's area	104.10	121.45	138.80	156.15	190.85	225.55	260.25	312.30

being the amounts given by multiplying the amounts at 4(g) and (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 dwellings listed in different valuation bands.

- (5) That it be noted that for the year 2008/2009 the Hampshire County Council, Hampshire Fire and Rescue and the Hampshire Police Authority have stated the following amounts regarding precepts to be issued to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:-

Precepting Authority	Valuation Bands							
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
	£ p	£ p	£ p	£ p	£ p	£ p	£ p	£ p
Hampshire County Council	666.00	777.00	888.00	999.00	1221.00	1443.00	1665.00	1998.00
Hampshire Police Authority	90.36	105.42	120.48	135.54	165.66	195.78	225.90	271.08
Hampshire Fire and Rescue	38.82	45.29	51.76	58.23	71.17	84.11	97.05	116.46

- (6) That, having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 4(i) 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 2008/2009 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:-

Part of the Council's Area	Valuation Bands							
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Parish	£ p	£ p	£ p	£ p	£ p	£ p	£ p	£ p
Bishopstoke	894.51	1043.60	1192.68	1341.77	1639.94	1938.11	2236.28	2683.54
Botley	935.54	1091.48	1247.39	1403.32	1715.16	2027.02	2338.86	2806.64
Bursledon	898.86	1048.67	1198.49	1348.29	1647.91	1947.53	2247.15	2696.58
Fair Oak and Horton Heath	931.10	1086.29	1241.48	1396.66	1707.03	2017.40	2327.76	2793.32
Hamble Le Rice	932.67	1088.11	1243.56	1399.00	1709.89	2020.78	2331.67	2798.00
Hedge End	928.28	1083.00	1237.71	1392.42	1701.84	2011.27	2320.70	2784.84
Hound	947.20	1105.07	1262.94	1420.80	1736.53	2052.27	2368.00	2841.60
West End	921.63	1075.24	1228.85	1382.45	1689.66	1996.88	2304.08	2764.90
All other parts of the Council's area	899.28	1049.16	1199.04	1348.92	1648.68	1948.44	2248.20	2697.84

- (7) The amount of Band D Council Tax levied in respect of special expenses in each Parish is as follows:

Parish	Parish Precept £ p	Special Expenses £ p	Total £ p
Bishopstoke	23.92	8.42	32.34
Botley	92.93	0.96	93.89
Bursledon	37.30	1.56	38.86
Fair Oak and Horton Heath	85.98	1.25	87.23
Hamble-Le-Rice	83.95	5.62	89.57
Hedge End	82.99	0.00	82.99
Hound	107.73	3.64	111.37
West End	71.05	1.97	73.02
All other parts of the Borough	0.00	39.49	39.49

- (8) It should be noted that the Local Government Act 2003 inserted Section 13A into the Local Government Finance Act 1992, giving the Council the power to reduce the amount of tax payable in particular cases, or by determining a class of case in which liability is to be reduced. Such a reduction may be made in the circumstances where the Council considers it fit, and includes the power to fully reduce an amount to nil.

NOTE
(not part of the Resolutions)

- (1) **The basic amount of Council Tax for Borough Council expenditure for all dwellings in the Borough, excluding special items, is £116.66.**
- (2) **The average Council Tax for the Borough, including special expenses is £133.25.**

(c) CIP SCHEMES APPROVAL

Consideration was given to Minute 670 of the Cabinet meeting held on 7 February 2008.

RESOLVED -

That the recommendations contained in Minute 670 be agreed.

(d) TREASURY MANAGEMENT FOR THE YEARS 2008/09 TO 2010/11

Consideration was given to Minute 671 of the Cabinet meeting held on 7 February 2008.

RESOLVED -

That the recommendations contained in Minute 671 be agreed.

(e) EASTLEIGH ALCOHOL HARM REDUCTION STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

Consideration was given to Minute 672 of the Cabinet meeting held on 7 February 2008.

RESOLVED -

That the recommendations contained in Minute 672 be agreed.

690. REVIEW OF SCRUTINY

Consideration was given to the report of the Review of Scrutiny Working Group concerning the recent review of the Council's scrutiny process.

The Review of Scrutiny Working Group was a member-led working group supported by officers and tasked by the Performance Review Scrutiny Panel with producing an improvement plan for the scrutiny process. The report contained a number of recommendations for approval but also contained examples of good practice which also needed to be adopted for the future improvement of overview and scrutiny.

Cabinet considered the report at its meeting on 7 February 2008 and endorsed the recommendations subject to Recommendation 8 being amended to read:

“Attendance by Cabinet Members is not always necessary at Scrutiny Panel meetings but volunteered written comments would be welcomed where they would provide value to the work of the Panel and the relevant Cabinet Member(s) could be given an open invitation to attend in a voluntary capacity”

and Recommendation 2(b) being referred back to Performance Review Scrutiny Panel for further consideration. Members of the Panel reconsidered the recommendation and the following amendment was proposed:

“The Council’s audit function and inspection of Council’s risk management arrangements should be moved from Resources Scrutiny Panel to a new Audit and Risk Management Committee”.

RESOLVED -

- (1) That Recommendations 1, 2a, 3-7, 9-19, as set out in Appendix A to the report, be approved;**
- (2) That Recommendation 8 as amended by Cabinet be approved; and**
- (3) That Recommendation 2b, amended to read “The Council’s audit function and inspection of Council’s risk management arrangements should be moved from Resources Scrutiny Panel to a new Audit and Risk Management Committee”, be approved.**

691. CABINET STATEMENTS

There were no Cabinet Statements on this occasion.

692. MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

There were no Members’ Questions on this occasion.

693. RESOLVED ITEMS - FOR NOTING AND QUESTIONS ONLY

RESOLVED -

That the Minutes of the following meetings be received:

Cabinet - Thursday 7 February 2008

Joint Meeting of the Scrutiny Panels - Tuesday 29 January 2008

The meeting finished at 10:55 pm

M3508