

Council Meeting - 3 March 2009

Council Meeting



Date	3 March 2009
Venue	Lowther Pavilion, Lytham
Members	Mayor (Councillor Susan Fazackerley) Deputy Mayor (Councillor Janine Owen) Brenda Ackers, Ben Aitken, Christine Akeroyd, Keith Beckett, John Bennett, Karen Buckley, David Chedd, Maxine Chew, Elizabeth Clarkson, Peter Collins, John Coombes, Michael Cornah, Fabian Craig-Wilson, John Davies, Barbara Douglas, Kevin Eastham, David Eaves, Trevor Fiddler, Patricia Fieldhouse, Tony Ford, Richard Fulford-Brown, Lyndsey Greening, Peter Hardy, Kathleen Harper, Paul Hayhurst, Howard Henshaw, Ken Hopwood, Keith Hyde, Angela Jacques, Cheryl Little, Kiran Mulholland, Linda Nulty, Elizabeth Oades, Barbara Pagett, Albert Pounder, Dawn Prestwich, John Prestwich, Simon Renwick, Louis Rigby, Paul Rigby, Elaine Silverwood, John Singleton, Roger Small, Heather Speak, Thomas Threlfall.
Officers	Phil Woodward, Dave Joy, Ian Curtis, Tracy Scholes, Bernard Hayes, Clare Platt, Allan Oldfield, Paul Walker, Jamie Dixon, Paul O'Donoghue, Joanna Scott, Jackie Wilding, David Bennett, Peter Welsh, Lyndsey Lacey, Hazel Wood, Andy Cain, Christopher Kitchin, Jo Christianson
Others	Mr DDE Birchall, Reverend P Law-Jones

112. Declarations of interest

Members were reminded that any personal/prejudicial interests should be declared as required by the Council's Code of Conduct adopted in accordance with the Local Government Act 2000.

Councillors Oades, Nulty, Speak, Silverwood and Hardy declared a personal interest in item number 7 and anything relating to Kirkham Baths.

113. Confirmation of Minutes

RESOLVED:

To approve the minutes of the Council meeting held on 26 January 2009 as a correct record for signature by the Mayor, subject to noting the absence of Councillor P Hardy from the meeting.

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114. Mayor's announcements

- The Mayor conveyed to members the sad news of the death of Alderman Milton Lane - a man who overcame great personal difficulties to complete his mayoral year and was an example to all by his courage and fortitude. Details of his funeral arrangements would be sent to members when they become known.
- The Mayor reported that 'Fylde's Got Talent' was a tremendous success and over £1,500 was raised for the mayoral charities. The Mayor passed on her thanks to the Deputy Mayor who had worked for nine months in preparation of the event which was a huge credit to her.
- The Mayor mentioned that Councillor Tony Ford's team, which included Councillors Halewood and Chedd, swimming in the Lytham St Annes Lions Swimathon had raised £431 for Brian House, the Mayor's Charities and Lions nominated charities. Almost £200 was raised from Fylde Borough Council colleagues. The aquatic trio would like to thank their fellow councillors for their support and were available for the reception of any further donations to add to the £8,500 the Lions hope to raise from the event.
- The Mayor thanked councillors for their support at the Town Hall Challenge. This was another enjoyable evening and the Fylde team were honourable runners-up. She also asked for members who had sponsored her to arrange to pay the Mayors attendant as soon as possible.

115. Chief Executive's Communications

The Chief Executive reported that there were no communications to bring to Members' attention at this meeting.

116. Questions form Members of the Council

There were no questions.

117. Questions for members of the Public

There were no questions.

118. Medium Term Financial Strategy Update, Including General Fund, Capital Programme and Treasury Management for 2008/09 - 2012/13

The Mayor introduced agenda item 7 by announcing a minor amendment to procedure and made reference to the 'Debate and Voting Procedures' document that had been distributed prior to the meeting. The Mayor went on to explain that it was only Part A of the process which would differ from the usual debating protocol as Part B was in keeping with existing Standing Orders. The Mayor proposed (seconded by the Deputy Mayor) and the Meeting agreed to suspend Rule 13 of the Standing Orders for Part A of agenda item 7.

The Leader of the Council, Councillor John Coombes, gave a presentation on the Medium Term Financial Strategy which outlined what the Council had achieved during the previous 12

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months and looked at emerging priorities and other areas where capacity might be increased should resources become available.

Councillor Roger Small portfolio holder for Corporate Resources and Finance presented the report on the Medium Term Financial Strategy (including General Fund, Capital Programme and Treasury Management) report by the Director of Finance and Cabinet's proposals for 2009/10 Revenue Budget.

The report set out the impact of the Cabinet's recommendations approved on the 19th February 2009, which included details of the various savings, growth items and level of Council Tax for the financial year commencing 1st April, 2009.

Councillor Small explained that following the receipt of the details of the Council Tax precepts from all relevant precepting authorities, the Council had a statutory duty to approve a resolution which set the Council Tax for the following financial year.

Councillor Roger Small proposed the recommendations of Cabinet subject to the following:

1. To enable the transfer of Kirkham Baths to YMCA the Council is requested to approve:
 - (i) An addition to the Capital Programme of £60k being financed by additional borrowing from 2009/10;
 - (ii) An annual increase on the Revenue Budget of £10k per annum from 2010/11 to meet the additional costs of:
 - Extra annual revenue contribution of £6k to the YMCA; and,
 - Debt repayments (over 25 years) of £4k per annum
 - (iii) To set Management Team a further savings target of £10k per annum from 2010/11 to meet the additional Revenue budget costs set out in (ii) above.

This was seconded by Councillor John Coombes, Leader of the Council.

After a full and detailed debate it was RESOLVED:

That approval be given to:

- (i) The Revenue Budget and forecast for 2009/10 (including the Draft Fees & Charges Schedule for 2009/10) as set out in Appendix C;
- (ii) The Savings Options as set out in Appendix D. In addition Management Team be tasked to achieve a further savings target of £10k per annum from 2010/11 onwards;
- (iii) Growth Options as set out in Appendix E with additional revenue expenditure of £10k to part fund the Kirkham Pool transfer to the YMCA from 2010/11 onwards;
- (iv) The Revised Estimates for 2008/09 of £10,979,285 and the General Fund Budget for 2009/10 of £11,113,930 which include the amendments listed in Appendix B; and,
- (v) An increase of Council Tax of 4.99% with a Band D of £177.44 for Council Tax 2009/10 excluding Parish Precepts.

Capital Programme

- (vi) Approve the Capital Programme, for the years 2008/09 to 2012/13, as set out in Appendix F with an additional scheme of £60k in respect of Kirkham Baths financed by additional borrowing; and,

Treasury Management

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- (vii) Approve the Prudential indicators and Limits contained within Appendix G of the report;
 - (viii) Approve the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Statement which sets out the Council's policy on MRP within Appendix G; and,
 - (ix) Approve the Treasury Management Strategy including the Investment Strategy and the Treasury Prudential Indicators, contained within Appendix H.
2. That it be noted that, the Director of Finance (Section 151 Officer) under delegated authority calculated the following amounts for the year 2009/10 in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 1992 (as amended) made under Section 33(5) of the Act:

(a) 30,051 being the amount calculated by the Council in accordance with Regulation 3, as its Council Tax base for the year; and,

(b) Part of the Council's area

All areas	30,051
Unparished Area - Lytham	7,711
Bryning with Warton	1,265
Elswick	437
Freckleton	2,111
Greenhalgh with Thistleton	176
Kirkham	2,291
Little Eccleston	208
Medlar with Wesham	1,132
Newton with Clifton	1,055
Ribby with Wrea	754
St Annes	10,571
Singleton	449
Staining	851
Treales, Roseacre & Wharles	219
Weeton with Preese	280

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Westby with Plumpton	541
Total	30,051

being the amounts calculated by the Council in accordance with Regulation 6, 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.

(ii) the following amounts being calculated by the Council for the year 2009/10 in accordance with Sections 32 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992:

(a) £38,560,007 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;

(b) £27,053,058 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;

(c) £11,506,949 being the amount by which the aggregate at (ii)(a) above exceeds the aggregate at (ii)(b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 32(4) of the Act as its budget requirement;

(d) £5,652,580 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, revenue support grant or additional 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 increased by amount of any sum which the Council estimates will be transferred from its collection fund to its general fund pursuant to a direction under Section 98(4) of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 or reduced by the amount of any sum which the Council estimates will be transferred from its general fund to its collection fund pursuant to a direction under Section 98(5) of the Local Government Finance Act 1988;

(e) £194.81 being the amount at (ii)(c) above less the amount at (ii)(d) above as divided by the amount at (i)(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) £1,901,054 being the aggregate amount of all Parish Precepts and Special Items referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act, the details of which are as follows:

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Part of the Council's area

	Parish Amount	Special Expenses
	£	£
Bryning-with-Warton	56,000	0
Elswick	21,500	0
Freckleton	94,258	0
Greenhalgh-with-Thistleton	7,000	0
Kirkham	22,419	154,209
Little Eccleston-with-Larbreck	6,682	0
Medlar-with-Wesham	44,045	0
Newton-with-Clifton	50,908	0
Ribby-with Wrea	45,000	0
Singleton	15,002	0
Staining	42,600	0
St.Annes	89,250	708,159
Treales, Roseacre & Wharles	6,456	0
Weeton-with-Preese	13,000	0
Westby-with-Plumpton	8,000	0
Unparished Area (Lytham)	0	516,566
	522,120	1,378,934

(g) £131.55 being the amount at (ii)(e) above less the result given by dividing the amount at (ii)(f) above by the amount at (i)(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 its area to which no special item relates;

(h) Part of the Council's area

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	£
Bryning-with-Warton	175.82
Elswick	180.75
Freckleton	176.20
Greenhalgh-with-Thistleton	171.32
Kirkham	208.65
Little Eccleston-with-Larbreck	163.68
Medlar-with-Wesham	170.46
Newton-with-Clifton	179.80
Ribby-with Wrea	191.23
Singleton	164.96
Staining	181.61
St.Annes	206.98
Treales, Roseacre & Wharles	161.03
Weeton-with-Preese	177.98
Westby-with-Plumptions	146.34
Unparished Area (Lytham)	198.54

being the amounts given by adding to the amount of (ii)(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 (i)(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 item relates;

(i) Part of the Council's area

	A £	B £	C £	D £	E £	F £	G £	H £
Bryning-with-Warton	117.21	136.75	156.28	175.82	214.89	253.96	293.03	351.64
Elswick	120.50	140.58	160.67	180.75	220.92	261.08	301.25	361.50
Freckleton	117.47	137.04	156.62	176.20	215.36	254.51	293.67	352.40
Greenhalgh-with-Thistleton	114.21	133.25	152.28	171.32	209.39	247.46	285.53	342.64
Kirkham	139.10	162.28	185.47	208.65	255.02	301.38	347.75	417.30
Little Eccleston-with-Larbreck	109.12	127.31	145.49	163.68	200.05	236.43	272.80	327.36
Medlar-with-Wesham	113.64	132.58	151.52	170.46	208.34	246.22	284.10	340.92
Newton-with-Clifton	119.87	139.84	159.82	179.80	219.76	259.71	299.67	359.60
Ribby-with Wrea	127.49	148.73	169.98	191.23	233.73	276.22	318.72	382.46
Singleton	109.97	128.30	146.63	164.96	201.62	238.28	274.93	329.92
Staining	121.07	141.25	161.43	181.61	221.97	262.33	302.68	363.22
St.Annes	137.99	160.98	183.98	206.98	252.98	298.97	344.97	413.96
Treales, Roseacre & Wharles	107.35	125.25	143.14	161.03	196.81	232.60	268.38	322.06
Weeton-with-Preese	118.65	138.43	158.20	177.98	217.53	257.08	296.63	355.96
Westby-with-Plumptions	97.56	113.82	130.08	146.34	178.86	211.38	243.90	292.68
Unparished Area (Lytham)	132.36	154.42	176.48	198.54	242.66	286.78	330.90	397.08

being the amounts given by multiplying the amounts at (ii)(g) and (ii)(h) above by the number which, in the proportion set out in Section 5(1) of the Act, is

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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.

- iii) note that for the year 2009/10 the major precepting authorities have stated 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 dwellings shown below.

	Lancashire County Council	Lancashire Police Authority	Lancs Combined Fire Authority	Total
A	738.87	94.72	41.61	875.20
B	862.01	110.51	48.54	1,021.06
C	985.16	126.29	55.48	1,166.93
D	1,108.30	142.08	62.41	1,312.79
E	1,354.59	173.65	76.28	1,604.52
F	1,600.88	205.23	90.15	1,896.26
G	1,847.17	236.80	104.02	2,187.99
H	2,216.60	284.16	124.82	2,625.58

- iv) that, having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 2 ii) (i) and 2 (iii) above where the Council, in accordance with Section 30(2) of the Act, hereby sets the following amounts as the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2009/10 for each of the categories of the dwellings shown below:

Part of the Council's area: Valuation Band

	A £	B £	C £	D £	E £	F £	G £	H £
Bryning-with-Warton	992.41	1,157.81	1,323.21	1,488.61	1,819.41	2,150.22	2,481.02	2,977.22
Elswick	995.70	1,161.64	1,327.60	1,493.54	1,825.44	2,157.34	2,489.24	2,987.08
Freckleton	992.67	1,158.10	1,323.55	1,488.99	1,819.88	2,150.77	2,481.66	2,977.98
Greenhalgh-with-Thistleton	989.41	1,154.31	1,319.21	1,484.11	1,813.91	2,143.72	2,473.52	2,968.22
Kirkham	1,014.30	1,183.34	1,352.40	1,521.44	1,859.54	2,197.64	2,535.74	3,042.88
Little Eccleston-with-Larbreck	984.32	1,148.37	1,312.42	1,476.47	1,804.57	2,132.69	2,460.79	2,952.94
Medlar-with-Wesham	988.84	1,153.64	1,318.45	1,483.25	1,812.86	2,142.48	2,472.09	2,966.50
Newton-with-Clifton	995.07	1,160.90	1,326.75	1,492.59	1,824.28	2,155.97	2,487.66	2,985.18
Ribby-with Wrea	1,002.69	1,169.79	1,336.91	1,504.02	1,838.25	2,172.48	2,506.71	3,008.04
Singleton	985.17	1,149.36	1,313.56	1,477.75	1,806.14	2,134.54	2,462.92	2,955.50
Staining	996.27	1,162.31	1,328.36	1,494.40	1,826.49	2,158.59	2,490.67	2,988.80
St. Annes	1,013.19	1,182.04	1,350.91	1,519.77	1,857.50	2,195.23	2,532.96	3,039.54
Treales, Roseacre & Wharles	982.55	1,146.31	1,310.07	1,473.82	1,801.33	2,128.86	2,456.37	2,947.64
Weeton-with-Preese	993.85	1,159.49	1,325.13	1,490.77	1,822.05	2,153.34	2,484.62	2,981.54
Westby-with-Plumpton	972.76	1,134.88	1,297.01	1,459.13	1,783.38	2,107.64	2,431.89	2,918.26
Non Parished Area (Lytham)	1,007.56	1,175.48	1,343.41	1,511.33	1,847.18	2,183.04	2,518.89	3,022.66

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- v) that the proposed charges for services to be provided by the Council in 2009/10 be approved; and,
- vi) the Council's Section 151 Officer be authorised to take all steps that may be necessary to collect the Council Tax and National Non-Domestic Rates for 2009/10, the Council Tax, Community Charge, National Non-Domestic Rates outstanding from previous years, and all other revenues and monies due to the Council and to disburse monies from the appropriate accounts.

During the Course of the debate the following opposition amendment was moved and defeated -

- 1.1 That the proposed Cabinet Saving options of £1,176,000 be replaced by £1,275,000 (the difference being detailed in Table 1 attached) for 2009/10;*
- 1.2 That the proposed Cabinet Growth options of £115,000 be replaced by £214,000 (the difference being detailed in Table 1 attached) for 2009/10; and,*
- 1.3 The proposed General Fund Budget for 2009/10 be £11,113,930.*
- 1.4 In approving the Budget the Opposition Members would like to request that a number of issues be reviewed or addressed by the Council:*
 - (i) That Lancashire County Council be approached by Officers regarding the possible transfer of Lytham Library to the County Council;*
 - (ii) That a report be produced by Officers to establish if Lytham Windmill and Life Boat Station can be made self sustaining. Failing this, a review is undertaken to ascertain if these costs*
 - (iii) That Officers undertake a review regarding the additional finance provided to the Local Strategic Partnership and Community Partnership on top of the Second Homes monies. The Opposition Group believe that these two partnerships should be financed only through the Second Homes allocation.*
 - (iv) That Officers undertake a review of the financial arrangements in relation to the Human Resources Service Level Agreement with Blackpool Borough Council and provide a detailed report to Members; and*
 - (v) That, in view of the uncertainty over staff numbers, functions and service delivery options, no work should be undertaken on the Accommodation Project in the forthcoming financial year, with consequential slippage in the capital programme. Officers should report at the end of the year on an update of accommodation requirements in the light of changes in staffing and service modifications; and,*
 - (vi) That this Council starts immediate discussions with Wyre Borough Council, in conjunction with the NW Centre of Excellence, with a view to exploring the financial and operational benefits of establishing a single workforce to provide all services to both Councils, as has already been implemented successfully by several Districts elsewhere in the country;*

Opposition Group Amendment - Budget Council 03.03.09

TABLE 1

Savings

Amendments to proposed savings

Remove charge to customers for Grey & Green wheeled bins

2009/10 2010/11 2011/12 Ongoing

25 25 25 25

New Savings to be included

Remove Press Officer Post (currently SLA with Blackpool BC)

-35 -35 -35 -35

Reduce the Mayoralty Costs

-40 -40 -40 -40

Reduce Member Development

-6 -6 -6 -6

Reduce Modernisation of Local Government budget

-41 -41 -41 -41

Increase in Interment Charges

-2 -2 -2 -2

-99 -99 -99 -99

New Growth Items to be included

Reinstate part-time Dog Warden Service Post (deleted in 08/09)

10 10 10 10

One Off grant to help pay towards transitional staffing issues associated with the transfer of Kirkham Pool

89

99 10 10 10

Adjusted Forecast Call on Reserves

0 -89 -89 -89

TABLE 2

Opposition Group Budget Proposals 03.03.09
General Fund Budget Forecast Position 2008/09 to 2011/12

	2008/09 £000	2009/10 £000	2010/11 £000	2011/12 £000
Net Budget Requirement as per March 2008 Council Meeting	10,900	10,694	10,932	10,932
2008/09 In-Year Savings identified	- 377			
Forecast changes as per appendix B	576	1,473	1,418	1,614
Capitalisation	- 120	8	8	8
Proposed Savings		- 1,275	- 1,476	- 2,176
Proposed Growth Items		214	32	32
	10,979	11,114	10,914	10,410
Financed by:				
Government Grant	5,751	5,741	5,859	6,000
Council Tax (incl annual Tax Base Increases & Collection Fund Deficit)	5,026	5,266	5,598	5,878
	10,777	11,007	11,457	11,878
Call on Reserves	202	107	- 543	- 1,468
General Fund Reserves				
Balance of General Fund Reserves (as at 31 March 2008)	863	669	562	1,105
In Year Use of Ringfenced & Other Earmarked Reserves	8			
Less Transfer to Revenue in Year	- 202	- 107	543	1,468
Year End Balance	669	562	1,105	2,573
Band D Council Tax (Excl Parish Precepts)	£169.01	£177.44	£186.29	£195.59
Council Tax Increase	4.99%	4.99%	4.99%	4.99%

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119. Community Safety - Development of Close Circuit Television (CCTV) Capacity

Councillor Fieldhouse portfolio holder for Social Wellbeing introduced the report on Community Safety - Development of close circuit television (CCTV) Capacity. The Council had £44,000 in its capital budget in the current financial year together with an additional allocation of £22,000 in 2009/10 within the capital allocation. The Local Strategic Partnership had also allocated £80,000, in the current financial year, towards the development of CCTV in the Borough.

During the summer months a small working group deliberated on the best way to utilise this funding. The conclusion reached by the Group was that a monitored CCTV system was the favoured option. However, this option required an initial capital outlay together with on-going revenue costs to support it over a five-year period. The precise cost implications were presented to Cabinet in November and it agreed to consider the budgetary shortfall for CCTV in its budget deliberations.

An offer had now been received from the Community Safety Partnership to underwrite some elements of funding up to 2011/12 subject to the Borough Council agreeing to mainstream the on-going revenue maintenance costs from 2012/13. The LSP/CDRP will continue to fund the B.T. line rental costs until 2013/14. There is currently no budget provision for such ongoing revenue maintenance costs.

The Council RESOLVED:

1. To approve an increase to the capital programme of £25,000 in 2008/09, fully funded by a contribution from the Local Strategic Partnership;
2. To approve a further increase to the capital programme of £40,000 in 2008/09, fully funded by a contribution from the Safer Lancashire Board;
3. To accept the offer of the Community Safety Partnership to underwrite the projected shortfall in providing a monitored CCTV system in the townships of St. Annes and Kirkham; this will therefore require Council to:
4. To approve fully funded revenue budget increases of £37,821 in 2009/10, £38,484 in 2010/11, £39,859 in 2011/12, and £6,713 in 2011/12 and 2012/13, fully funded from the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership and the Local Strategic Partnership, as detailed in Table 2 of the report;
5. To approve un-funded revenue budget increases of £33,146 in 2012/13 and 2013/14, and £39,859 from 2014/15 onwards.

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