



MINUTES

Council

Date:	Tuesday, 5 March 2019
Venue:	Town Hall, St Annes
Members Present:	Mayor (Councillor Peter Collins) Councillors Ben Aitken, Peter Anthony, Tim Ashton, Brenda Blackshaw, Karen Buckley, Maxine Chew, Alan Clayton, Delma Collins, Michael Cornah, Chris Dixon, David Donaldson, Susan Fazackerley MBE, Trevor Fiddler, Tony Ford JP, Shirley Green, Neil Harvey, Paul Hayhurst, Angela Jacques, John Kirkham, Cheryl Little, Roger Lloyd, Kiran Mulholland, Edward Nash, Sally Nash, Jayne Nixon, Linda Nulty, Liz Oades, Sandra Pitman, Richard Redcliffe, Louis Rigby, Vince Settle, Elaine Silverwood, John Singleton JP, Roger Small, Heather Speak, Ray Thomas, Viv Willder.
Officers Present:	Allan Oldfield, Tracy Manning, Paul Walker, Paul O'Donoghue, Paul Swindells, Paul Harrison, Ian Curtis, Simon Stott, Katharine McDonnell, Sharon Wadsworth, Howard Dawson, Kassie Navarasi
Other Attendees:	Seven members of the public were present. Councillor Bamforth was in attendance via video link

Prayers

Prayers were offered by Reverend John Bannister

1. Declarations of Interest

Members were reminded that any disclosable pecuniary interests should be declared as required by the Localism Act 2011 and any personal or prejudicial interests should be declared as required by the Council's Code of Conduct for Members.

2. Budget Council Rules

The Mayor reminded members of the procedure rules for Budget Council and drew their attention to page 3 of the evening's agenda papers.

3. Confirmation of Minutes

RESOLVED: To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 11 February 2019 as a correct record for signature by the Mayor.

4. Mayor's Announcements

The Mayor advised he was attending the Shrove Tuesday debate at St Margaret's Church on the rising of the Council meeting.

5. Chief Executive's Communications

There were no communications from the Chief Executive on this occasion.

6. Questions from Members of the Council

There were no questions from members of the Council.

7. Questions from Members of the Public

There were no questions from members of the public.

Decision Items

8. Medium Term Financial Strategy Update, including General Fund, Capital Programme and Treasury Management for 2018/19 to 2022/23

Councillor Susan Fazackerley, Leader of the Council, introduced the budget for 2019/20. She advised it had been another excellent year of sound financial management. She commented how difficult it was to express differently each year, how proud she was that the Council continued to deliver quality services despite diminishing funding. She stated that it was due to the positive and effective actions of members and officers that had allowed for the robust financial position of the council, in the face of cuts, and extended her thanks to them all for their contribution.

Councillor Fazackerley advised that over the past year, the Council had attracted a number of significant grants for the Fairhaven Coastal Protection Scheme, Fairhaven Lake and Gardens restoration, St Annes Pier restoration, and Lytham Hall. She commented that these grants were hard come by and she thanked officers for all their hard work.

She also extended her thanks to the Budget Working Group for their work over the last four years and their significant contribution to the budget under consideration.

Councillor Fazackerley commented that in delivering sound, sensible budgets allowed the Council to achieve key strategic priorities for the borough, and still support community facilities such as the two pools, a theatre, as well as new facilities such as the soon to be opened, and greatly anticipated play water feature.

In concluding, Councillor Fazackerley gave her thanks to the Chief Financial Officer, Paul O'Donoghue, his deputy Paul Swindells and the finance team for their hard work in the production of the budget and the continuing good management of the council's finances, and Councillor Buckley, Chairman of the Finance and Democracy Committee.

Councillor Karen Buckley proposed the budget for 2019/20 and the Council Tax resolution before members for consideration. She advised that all the recommendations, with exception of the council tax resolution, had been considered in committee.

Councillor Buckley commented that working together as a team, adapting the structure of senior management increasing digitalisation and doing more with less had had a significant impact on the Council's budget and reserves. Councillor Buckley advised that when she had first joined the Council, the projected budget requirement for 2007 had been £11.5m. She advised that inflation had run at around 2.7% pa since that time, and prices in 2019 were 37.6% higher than 2007. Following this rational, the Council's projected budget requirement should be £15.8m, but instead it was only £10.2m for the coming year.

Councillor Buckley advised that there was a responsibility to treat public money with care, and that the Council had frozen council tax when possible, whilst still making savings at yearly outturn. The savings were invested in the Capital Investment Reserve which in later years has been used to finance capital projects. She advised that the Council was able to raise Council Tax to a maximum of £5 or 3%, whichever was the higher, on a Band D property, but for 2019/20, the decision had been made to only raise it by £5, which was the lower amount, and equated to a 2.48% increase on a Band D property. This was different to the decisions made by the majority of Lancashire councils.

The forecast for the year ahead indicated this would still provide a £1m surplus which would be reinvested for residents.

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Councillor Buckley provided a brief overview of the budget proposals for the coming year, including for the revenue budget £20,000 for ongoing community projects funding and £46,000 for events support. Whilst in the capital budget £200,000 was allocated for improvements to Snowden Road depot. There were also improvements planned for Ashton Garden; coastal signage; funding allocated to support an arts projects for coastal explorers; increased tree planting across the borough; a regeneration project in Lytham; new toilet facilities at North Beach car park; a car park barrier at Stanner bank; barriers to guard against illegal encampments; and improvements on St Annes Road West.

Councillor Buckley advised that two responses had been received to the budget consultation. The first from Singleton Parish Council with a comment regarding the allocation of funding to the coastal strip but a lack of funding for the Singleton play area. Councillor Buckley advised that the Parish Council had applied to the Community Projects fund for help with the play area, but this was turned down as the application did not meet the funding criteria, specifically that funding applications for play areas must be made by 'Friends' groups and not Town or Parish Councils.

The second response was received from Little Ecclestone with Larbreck Parish Council who stated that the budget should have been considered by the District Parish Liaison meeting, however the Chief Executive had clarified that such a consultation was required for operational matters not the budget.

Councillor Buckley concluded her presentation with thanks to Chief Financial Officer Paul O'Donoghue, Deputy Chief Financial Officer Paul Swindells and the finance team for their diligence and expertise, as well as the Senior Management Team, budget holders, officers of the council and members.

The proposal was moved by Councillor Buckley and seconded by Councillor Sue Fazackerley.

Councillors Small, Singleton, Pitman, Thomas, Little, Aitken, Redcliffe, Settle, Harvey and Fiddler spoke in support of the proposed budget.

Councillor Oades thanked all the staff for their continued work to streamline services effectively, and specifically thanked the Finance team for their work. She expressed concern regarding future uncertainty to the council's finances due to proposed government reviews on various funding streams and Brexit.

At the conclusion of the debate on the substantive motion, Councillor Oades, having indicated earlier, proposed an amendment which was seconded by Councillor Nulty. The amendment stated;

"that the £46,000 shown in the revenue budget from 2019/20 onwards, to support an Events Co-ordinator and provide financial support towards the cost of the St Annes Kite Festival, be removed and that, in future, any increase to our staffing establishment be first evaluated by the Management Team and the right sizing group."

Following a debate, Councillor Buckley summed up and then a recorded vote was taken and the amendment was LOST.

Votes for the proposal (8) – Councillors Chew, Clayton, P Collins, Mulholland, Nulty, Oades, Silverwood and Speak.

Votes against the proposal (27) – Councillors Aitken, Anthony, Ashton, Blackshaw, Buckley, D Collins, Cornah, Dixon, Donaldson, Fazackerley, Fiddler, Ford, Green, Harvey, Jacques, Kirkham, Little, E Nash, S Nash, Nixon, Pitman, Redcliffe, Settle, Singleton, Small, Thomas, and Willder.

Abstentions (2) Councillors Lloyd and Rigby

As the amendment was lost, a further amendment was moved by Councillor Oades, having indicated earlier her intention to move the same;

"(a) that, in future, an Equality Impact Assessment is carried out on the Capital Budget to ensure that Capital Funding is shared throughout the Borough in an equitable manner and

(b) That all Town and Parish Councils be advised when, and how to submit any capital bids in order that they may be assessed in a timely manner in order to be considered each year for inclusion in the budget."

The amendment was seconded by Councillor Silverwood.

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Following a debate, Councillor Buckley summed up and a recorded vote was then taken and the amendment was LOST.

Votes for the proposal (7) – Councillors Chew, Clayton, P Collins, Nulty, Oades, Silverwood and Speak.

Votes against the proposal (27) – Councillors Aitken, Ashton, Blackshaw, Buckley, D Collins, Cornah, Dixon, Donaldson, Fazackerley, Fiddler, Ford, Green, Harvey, Jacques, Kirkham, Little, Mulholland, E Nash, S Nash, Nixon, Pitman, Redcliffe, Settle, Singleton, Small, Thomas, and Willder.

Abstentions (2) Councillors Lloyd and Rigby

(During the debate for the above amendment, and before the vote, Councillor Anthony left the meeting).

As the amendment was lost, a further amendment was moved by Councillor P Collins, having indicated earlier his intention to move the same;

“That the positions of Leader of the Council and Deputy Leader of the Council be removed as soon as possible after the forthcoming elections thereby making an annual saving of £13,000.”

The amendment was seconded by Councillor Silverwood.

Following a debate, a recorded vote was taken and the amendment was LOST.

Votes for the proposal (2) – Councillors P Collins and Silverwood.

Votes against the proposal (25) – Councillors Aitken, Ashton, Blackshaw, D Collins, Cornah, Dixon, Donaldson, Fiddler, Green, Harvey, Jacques, Kirkham, Little, Lloyd, Mulholland, E Nash, S Nash, Nixon, Pitman, Redcliffe, Settle, Singleton, Small, Thomas, and Willder.

Abstentions (9) Councillor Buckley, Chew, Clayton, Fazackerley, Ford, Nulty, Oades, Rigby and Speak.

There were no further amendments and therefore a vote was taken on the substantive motion and as required by law, a recorded vote was held;

Votes for the proposal (28) – Councillors Aitken, Ashton, Blackshaw, Buckley, D Collins, Cornah, Dixon, Donaldson, Fazackerley, Fiddler, Ford, Green, Harvey, Jacques, Kirkham, Little, Lloyd, Mulholland, E Nash, S Nash, Nixon, Pitman, Redcliffe, Settle, Singleton, Small, Thomas and Willder

Votes against the proposal (5) – Councillors Chew, Nulty, Oades, Silverwood and Speak.

Abstentions (3) Councillor Clayton, P Collins and Rigby.

(Councillor Hayhurst left the meeting during the course of debate on the budget, before the amendments were moved)

The proposal was carried and it was thereby RESOLVED:

1. To approve and adopt the recommendations of the Finance and Democracy Committee as follows:

- (a) The revised estimates for 2018/19 and the revenue budget for 2019/20 as set out in Appendix E, which includes recommended transfers to the Capital Investment Reserve in 2018/19 and 2019/20 equivalent to the balance of the revenue surplus for those years, currently estimated at £1.399m in 2018/19 and £0.955m in 2019/20;
- (b) The budget proposals and changes to Reserves and Balances as set out in Appendices F & H;
- (c) The Capital Strategy 2019-22, including Prudential Indicators and Limits, set out in Appendix G; which incorporates the Treasury Management Policy, the Capital Programme, the Treasury Management Strategy, the Investment Strategy and the Minimum Revenue Provision Statement;
- (d) The updated Useable Reserves & Balances Policy as detailed in Appendix H;

- (e) An average Band D Council Tax of £206.60 for 2019/20 (excluding Town and Parish precepts), which is a 2.48% increase from the 2018/19 average Band D charge;
- (f) The Special Expenses policy as set out in Appendix I; which includes that:
- for the purposes of charging special expenses, both the special expense costs and the tax bases relating to the areas of Lytham and St Annes will each be aggregated and the Council Tax charge per property at each band level will be the same across the whole area; and
 - the annual special expense charge per property will be set for 2019/20 at the 2018/19 level plus 2.64%, that being £75.92 per band D property; and
 - the annual borough wide charge per property will be set for 2019/20 at the 2018/19 level plus 2.64%, that being £161.81 per band D property; and
 - the budget resource to be allocated to delivering concurrent services and chargeable as special expenses for 2019/20 will be set at a sum equivalent to the annual special expense charge per property (band D equivalent) multiplied by the tax base for the special expense area;
- (g) The schedule of fees and charges for 2019/20 as detailed in Appendix J.

Responses to the Budget Consultation

- (h) To note the Budget Consultation responses received at Appendix K.

Council Tax Resolution

- (i) To approve the Council Tax Resolution as follows:

Council Tax Resolution

The Council is recommended to resolve as follows:

2. It be noted that the Section 151 Officer, under delegated authority, has on 12th December 2018 calculated:

- (a) the Council Tax Base 2019/20 for the whole Council area as 30,068 [Item T in the formula in Section 31B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended (the "Act")]; and
- (b) a Council Tax Base, for dwellings in those parts of its area to which a Parish/Neighbourhood precept relates, as indicated below:

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All Areas	30,068
Unparished Areas - Lytham	7,650
Bryning-with-Warton	1,399
Elswick	425
Freckleton	1,959
Greenhalgh-with-Thistleton	196
Kirkham	2,317
Little Eccleston-with-Larbreck	207
Medlar-with-Wesham	1,358
Newton-with-Clifton	998
Ribby-with Wrea	923
Singleton	408
Staining	882
St.Annes	10,090
Treales, Roseacre & Wharles	223
Weeton-with-Preese	299
Westby-with-Plumpton	734

3. That the Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2019/20 (excluding Parish precepts) is £6,212,049.

4. That the following amounts be calculated for the year 2019/20 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Act:-

- a. **£46,003,786** Being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) of the Act taking into account all precepts issued to it by Parish Councils.
- b. **£38,792,694** Being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act.
- c. **£7,211,092** 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 31A(4) of the Act, as its Council Tax requirement for the year. (Item R in the formula in Section 31B of the Act).
- d. **£239.83** Being the amount at 4(c) above (Item R) all divided by Item T (Para 2(a) above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B(1) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year (including Parish precepts).
- e. **£2,345,864** Being the aggregate amount of all special items (Special Expenses and Parish precepts) referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act and as shown below:

	Parish Amount	Special Expenses
	£	£
Bryning-with-Warton	105,575	
Elswick	29,382	
Freckleton	103,749	
Greenhalgh-with-Thistleton	5,700	
Kirkham	214,299	
Little Eccleston-with-Larbreck	11,514	
Medlar-with-Wesham	64,000	
Newton-with-Clifton	65,495	
Ribby-with Wrea	57,632	
Singleton	19,462	
Staining	62,366	
St.Annes	217,537	766,033
Treales, Roseacre & Wharles	11,061	
Weeton-with-Preese	18,000	
Westby-with-Plumpton	13,271	
Unparished Areas - Lytham		580,788
Total	999,043	1,346,821

- f. £161.81** Being the amount at 4(d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 4(e) above by the amount at Item T (Para 2(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 items relate.

- g.** Part of the Council's area:

	£
Bryning-with-Warton	237.27
Elswick	230.94
Freckleton	214.77
Greenhalgh-with-Thistleton	190.89
Kirkham	254.30
Little Eccleston-with-Larbreck	217.43
Medlar-with-Wesham	208.94
Newton-with-Clifton	227.44
Ribby-with Wrea	224.25
Singleton	209.51
Staining	232.52
St.Annes	259.29
Treales, Roseacre & Wharles	211.41
Weeton-with-Preese	222.01
Westby-with-Plumpton	179.89
Unparished Areas - Lytham	237.73

Being the amounts given by adding to the amount of 4(f) above the amounts of the special item or items relating to dwellings in those parts of the Council's area 4(e) above divided in each case by the amount at 2(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;

- h.** The amounts set out in the table below being the amounts given by multiplying the amounts at 4(g) 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.

Council Tax for Each Part of the Council's area (Fylde Borough Council and Special Items only):

Valuation Bands								
	A £	B £	C £	D £	E £	F £	G £	H £
Bryning-with-Warton	158.18	184.54	210.91	237.27	290.00	342.72	395.45	474.54
Elswick	153.96	179.62	205.28	230.94	282.26	333.58	384.90	461.88
Freckleton	143.18	167.04	190.91	214.77	262.50	310.22	357.95	429.54
Greenhalgh-with-Thistleton	127.26	148.47	169.68	190.89	233.31	275.73	318.15	381.78
Kirkham	169.53	197.79	226.04	254.30	310.81	367.32	423.83	508.60
Little Eccleston-with-Larbreck	144.95	169.11	193.27	217.43	265.75	314.07	362.38	434.86
Medlar-with-Wesham	139.29	162.51	185.72	208.94	255.37	301.80	348.23	417.88
Newton-with-Clifton	151.63	176.90	202.17	227.44	277.98	328.52	379.07	454.88
Ribby-with-Wrea	149.50	174.42	199.33	224.25	274.08	323.92	373.75	448.50
Singleton	139.67	162.95	186.23	209.51	256.07	302.63	349.18	419.02
Staining	155.01	180.85	206.68	232.52	284.19	335.86	387.53	465.04
St Annes including special expenses	172.86	201.67	230.48	259.29	316.91	374.53	432.15	518.58
Treales, Roseacre & Wharles	140.94	164.43	187.92	211.41	258.39	305.37	352.35	422.82
Weeton-with-Preese	148.01	172.67	197.34	222.01	271.35	320.68	370.02	444.02
Westby-with-Plumpton	119.93	139.91	159.90	179.89	219.87	259.84	299.82	359.78
Lytham	158.49	184.90	211.32	237.73	290.56	343.39	396.22	475.46

4.1 To note that the County Council, the Police and Crime Commissioner for Lancashire and Lancashire Combined Fire Authority have issued precepts for 2019/20 to the Council in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 for each category of dwellings in the Council's area as indicated in the tables below.

Lancashire County Council

Band A £	Band B £	Band C £	Band D £	Band E £	Band F £	Band G £	Band H £
897.73	1,047.35	1,196.97	1,346.59	1,645.83	1,945.07	2,244.32	2,693.18

Police and Crime Commissioner for Lancashire

Band A £	Band B £	Band C £	Band D £	Band E £	Band F £	Band G £	Band H £
134.30	156.68	179.07	201.45	246.22	290.98	335.75	402.90

Lancashire Combined Fire Authority

Band A £	Band B £	Band C £	Band D £	Band E £	Band F £	Band G £	Band H £
46.32	54.04	61.76	69.48	84.92	100.36	115.80	138.96

5. That the Council, in accordance with Sections 30 and 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the aggregate amounts shown in the tables below as the amounts of Council Tax for 2019/20 for each part of its area and for each of the categories of dwellings.

Total Council Tax for the each part of the Council's Area:

Valuation Bands

Council Tax Schedule	Band A £	Band B £	Band C £	Band D £	Band E £	Band F £	Band G £	Band H £
Fylde Borough Council	107.87	125.85	143.83	161.81	197.77	233.73	269.68	323.62
Lancashire County Council	897.73	1,047.35	1,196.97	1,346.59	1,645.83	1,945.07	2,244.32	2,693.18
Lancashire Police & Crime Commissioner	134.30	156.68	179.07	201.45	246.22	290.98	335.75	402.90
Lancashire Combined Fire Authority	46.32	54.04	61.76	69.48	84.92	100.36	115.80	138.96
Sub - Total	1,186.22	1,383.92	1,581.63	1,779.33	2,174.74	2,570.14	2,965.55	3,558.66
Parish/Town Councils & Special Expenses								
Bryning-with-Warton	1,236.53	1,442.61	1,648.71	1,854.79	2,266.97	2,679.13	3,091.32	3,709.58
Elswick	1,232.31	1,437.69	1,643.08	1,848.46	2,259.23	2,669.99	3,080.77	3,696.92
Freckleton	1,221.53	1,425.11	1,628.71	1,832.29	2,239.47	2,646.63	3,053.82	3,664.58
Greenhalgh-with-Thistleton	1,205.61	1,406.54	1,607.48	1,808.41	2,210.28	2,612.14	3,014.02	3,616.82
Kirkham	1,247.88	1,455.86	1,663.84	1,871.82	2,287.78	2,703.73	3,119.70	3,743.64
Little Eccleston-with-Larbreck	1,223.30	1,427.18	1,631.07	1,834.95	2,242.72	2,650.48	3,058.25	3,669.90
Medlar-with-Wesham	1,217.64	1,420.58	1,623.52	1,826.46	2,232.34	2,638.21	3,044.10	3,652.92
Newton-with-Clifton	1,229.98	1,434.97	1,639.97	1,844.96	2,254.95	2,664.93	3,074.94	3,689.92
Ribby-with-Wrea	1,227.85	1,432.49	1,637.13	1,841.77	2,251.05	2,660.33	3,069.62	3,683.54
Singleton	1,218.02	1,421.02	1,624.03	1,827.03	2,233.04	2,639.04	3,045.05	3,654.06
Staining	1,233.36	1,438.92	1,644.48	1,850.04	2,261.16	2,672.27	3,083.40	3,700.08
St Annes including special expenses	1,251.21	1,459.74	1,668.28	1,876.81	2,293.88	2,710.94	3,128.02	3,753.62
Treales, Roseacre & Wharles	1,219.29	1,422.50	1,625.72	1,828.93	2,235.36	2,641.78	3,048.22	3,657.86
Weeton-with-Preese	1,226.36	1,430.74	1,635.14	1,839.53	2,248.32	2,657.09	3,065.89	3,679.06
Westby-with-Plumpton	1,198.28	1,397.98	1,597.70	1,797.41	2,196.84	2,596.25	2,995.69	3,594.82
Lytham	1,236.84	1,442.97	1,649.12	1,855.25	2,267.53	2,679.80	3,092.09	3,710.50

6. In accordance with Section 52ZB and the principles determined by the Secretary of State under section 52ZC of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, the Council determines that the basic amount of Council Tax for the financial year 2019/20 is **not** excessive.

As the billing authority, the Council has **not** been notified by a major precepting authority that its relevant basic amount of Council Tax for 2019/20 is excessive and consequently the billing authority is **not** required to hold a referendum in accordance with Section 52ZK Local Government Finance Act 1992.

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