

BOROUGH OF RUSHMOOR

MEETING OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL held at the Council Offices,
Farnborough on Thursday, 25th February, 2016 at 7.00 p.m.

THE WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR (CR. M.J. TENNANT, B.Sc.)
THE DEPUTY MAYOR (CR. JACQUI VOSPER)

CR. MRS. D.B. BEDFORD	CR. R. HUGHES
CR. D.M.T. BELL	CR. BARBARA J. HURST, B.A., M.A.
a CR. T.D. BRIDGEMAN, B.A. (Hons.)	a CR. A. JACKMAN, B.Sc.
CR. SUE CARTER	CR. B. JONES, M.Sc., A.R.C.S.,
CR. M.S. CHOUDHARY, B.A., M.A.	M.N.E.I.M.M.E., C.Eng., M.I.E.T.,
CR. SOPHIA CHOUDHARY, L.L.B.	M.B.C.S., C.I.T.P.
CR. D.E. CLIFFORD, M.P.A., M.C.M.I.	CR. G.B. LYON, B.A. (Oxon)
CR. R. COOPER	CR. J.H. MARSH, C.Eng., M.I.Mech.E.
CR. LIZ CORPS, N.N.D., A.T.D.	CR. S.J. MASTERSON
CR. A.H. CRAWFORD, J.P., B.Sc.,	CR. P.J. MOYLE
A.R.C.S., Dip.Man. (Open).	CR. K.H. MUSCHAMP
CR. P.I.C. CRERAR, B.A. (Hons.),	CR. A.R. NEWELL
M.Arch., M.A.	CR. J.J. PREECE
CR. K. DIBBLE, M.A.F.M., B.I.F.M.	CR. M.J. ROBERTS, B.Sc., F.R.S.A.
CR. SUE DIBBLE	CR. P.F. RUST, A.I.M.E.E., M.I.S.M.
CR. R.L.G. DIBBS	CR. M.D. SMITH
CR. JENNIFER M. EVANS, B.Sc.,	CR. M. STAPLEHURST
M.Sc.	CR. L.A. TAYLOR
CR. A.M. FERRIER	CR. P.G. TAYLOR, A.C.I.B.
CR. D.S. GLADSTONE	CR. B.A. THOMAS
CR. C.P. GRATTAN	CR. D.M. WELCH

a Honorary Alderman C. Balchin J.P.
a Honorary Alderman R.J. Debenham, M.B.E.
Honorary Alderman R.J. Kimber
Honorary Alderman G.J. Woolger

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Crs. T.D. Bridgeman and A. Jackman.

Before the meeting was opened, the Mayor's Chaplain, the Reverend Steve Stewart, led the meeting in prayers.

36. **MINUTES –**

It was MOVED by Cr. P.J. Moyle; SECONDED by Cr. K.H. Muschamp and

RESOLVED: That, the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on 10th December, 2015 and the Extraordinary Meeting of the Council held on 27th January, 2016 (copies having been circulated previously) be taken as read, approved and signed as correct records.

37. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS –

- (1) The Mayor paid tribute to Ms. Mandy Speirs, a member of staff in Democratic and Customer Services, who had tragically and suddenly passed away at the end of January. The Mayor thanked Members who had attended Ms. Speirs' funeral to pay their respects.
- (2) The Mayor reminded Members that his Charity Jazz Ball would take place on 4th March, 2016 and thanked Members for their support of this fundraising event.
- (3) The Mayor announced that the meeting would be the last one to be attended by Mr. David Quirk, Corporate Director, before he retired at the end of the month after 28 years' service at the Council and a total of 42 years in public service. On behalf of the Council, the Mayor wished Mr. Quirk a long and happy retirement. Members paid tribute to Mr. Quirk and thanked him for his service to the Council and to the Borough.

Mr. Quirk thanked Members for their kind words and best wishes.

38. STANDING ORDER 8 – QUESTIONS –

The Mayor reported that no questions had been submitted in pursuance of Standing Order 8(3).

39. NOTICE OF MOTION – CHARGING MARKET RENTS ON SOCIAL HOUSING –

The Council was asked to consider the following Motion, which had been submitted by Cr. Jennifer Evans in accordance with the provisions of Standing Order 9 (1). It was **MOVED** by Cr. Jennifer Evans; **SECONDED** by Cr. K. Dibble
- That

"This Council calls upon the Government to think again about charging market rents to hard-working households to stay in social housing, if they earn over £30,000 a year in total. This policy will have serious implications for families in Rushmoor, where there is a shortage of both social housing and affordable private rented accommodation. This policy will also act as a disincentive for people to find work, or to increase their hours of work if in lower paid jobs."

Speaking in support of her Motion, Cr. Evans said that there was no flexibility in this Government proposal, which meant that a family earning above £30,000, no matter what its composition, would be penalised. Cr. Evans also queried what safeguard there would be for a household on insecure low wage employment and earning the £30,000 threshold limit when redundancy or ill health occurred and there was a drop in earnings. She then questioned whether rental agreements would be re-written every time there was a change in circumstances. Cr. Evans posed the question of what this would do to a person's sense of security and well-being.

Cr. Evans stated that the Local Government Association had calculated that this policy would force 60,000 tenants out of their social rented accommodation. She further stated that, in Rushmoor, as in other areas, there was already difficulty in finding decent, affordable accommodation, so the Government's proposal would exacerbate the problem. Cr. Evans referred to the report 'Settled and Safe' which had been launched by Rushmoor Citizens' Advice Bureau. The report highlighted the cost of finding accommodation with agents' fees, rent deposits and other add-ons which meant that people typically had to find £1,800 before they could move into a property. Cr. Evans felt that the gulf between the 'haves' and the 'have nots' was widening all the time. It was calculated that young people would not be able to buy their own home until they were in their late 30s or early 40s. Therefore, they were forced to rent in an increasingly uncertain market. Social housing currently provided a secure and stable base for the fortunate few. Cr. Evans stated that research had shown that unequal societies were bad for all members, rich and poor and that growing inequality in communities in terms of secure jobs, decent housing and reasonable wages was creating problems for the future when much of the responsibility for dealing with the outcomes would be given to local authorities. Cr. Evans urged Members to support the Motion and to make the case to central government that this latest policy was counter-productive and should be re-thought.

During discussion, Members spoke of the high cost of starter homes, the impact of right to buy on housing associations and the lack of clarity regarding the New Homes Bonus. Reference was also made to the potential effect on the aspirations of hard-working families. It was understood that the original Government proposal was to have put the threshold at £60,000, but that this had been lowered to £30,000. Members also referred to the fact that this was a draft proposal on which the Government was consulting and that nothing had yet been decided. It might be that, following the consultation exercise, £30,000 might be considered to be too low.

During the debate, it was MOVED by Cr. P.G. Taylor and SECONDED by Cr. P.J. Moyle that the Motion be referred to the Community Policy and Review Panel for thorough investigation.

During further debate, it was suggested that, in addition to investigating the 'pay to stay' proposal, the Panel should also consider the importance of social housing to the communities of Rushmoor.

The Motion was then put to the Meeting. There voted FOR: 25; AGAINST: 10 and the Motion for reference to the Community Policy and Review Panel was **DECLARED CARRIED**.

40. **MAYOR-ELECT AND DEPUTY MAYOR-ELECT 2016/17 –**

The Chairman of the Licensing and General Purposes Committee, (Cr. A.M. Ferrier), reported that the Committee had considered the nominations for the Mayor-Elect and the Deputy Mayor-Elect for 2016/17 at its meeting on 25th January, 2016. Having regard to the criteria adopted by the Council, the Committee had agreed to recommend that:

- (i) Cr. Jacqueline Mary Vosper be selected as Mayor-Elect for the Municipal Year 2016/17; and
- (ii) Cr. Sophia Choudhary be selected as Deputy Mayor-Elect for the Municipal Year 2016/17.

It was MOVED by Cr. A.M. Ferrier; SECONDED by Cr. P.J. Moyle – That the Recommendations of the Licensing and General Purposes Committee be approved in respect of the Mayor-Elect and Deputy Mayor-Elect.

There voted FOR: 34; AGAINST: 0 and the Motion was **DECLARED CARRIED**.

41. **RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CABINET AND COMMITTEES –**

(1) **Revenue Budget, Capital Programme and Council Tax Level –**

The Leader of the Council (Cr. P.J. Moyle) introduced the Report of the Cabinet meeting held on 2nd February, 2016, which recommended the approval of the Revenue Budget, Capital Programme and Council Tax level 2016/17. It was MOVED by Cr. P.J. Moyle; SECONDED by Cr. P.G. Taylor – that approval be given to the recommendations in the Revenue Budget and Capital Programme budget booklet 2016/17 as follows:

- (i) the General Fund Revenue Budget Summary;
- (ii) the detailed General Fund Revenue Budget;
- (iii) the additional items for inclusion in the budget;
- (iv) the Council Tax Requirement of £5,664,404 for this Council;
- (v) the Council Tax level for Rushmoor Borough Council's purposes of £187.73 for a Band D property in 2016/17;
- (vi) the Capital Programme;
- (vii) the Head of Financial Services' report under Section 25 of the Local

Government Act 2003; and

- (viii) the holding of reserves as previously detailed in Report No. FIN1603.

Following debate, the Motion was put to the meeting. On a Recorded Vote, there voted FOR: Crs. Diane Bedford, D.M.T. Bell, Sue Carter, M.S. Choudhary, Sophia Choudhary, D.E. Clifford, R. Cooper, Liz Corps, P.I.C. Crerar, R.L.G. Dibbs, A.M. Ferrier, D.S. Gladstone, R. Hughes, Barbara Hurst, G.B. Lyon, J.H. Marsh, S.J. Masterson, P.J. Moyle, K.H. Muschamp, A.R. Newell, M.D. Smith, M. Staplehurst, P.G. Taylor, B.A. Thomas and D.M. Welch (25); AGAINST: Crs. A.H. Crawford, Keith Dibble, Sue Dibble, Jennifer Evans, C.P. Grattan, B. Jones, J.J. Preece, M.J. Roberts, P.F. Rust and L.A. Taylor (10); and ABSTAINED: The Deputy Mayor (Cr. Jacqui Vosper) and the Mayor (Cr. M.J. Tennant) (2) and the Recommendations were **DECLARED CARRIED**.

(2) **Annual Treasury Management Strategy 2016/17 and Prudential Indicators for Capital Finance –**

The Cabinet Member for Corporate Services (Cr. P.G. Taylor) introduced the Report of the Cabinet Meeting held on 2nd February, 2016, which recommended the approval of the Treasury Management Strategy, Annual Borrowing Strategy, Annual Investment Strategy, Prudential Indicators for Capital Finance and the Minimum Revenue Provision Statement.

It was MOVED by Cr. P.G. Taylor; SECONDED by Cr. P.J. Moyle – That approval be given to the Treasury Management Strategy, Annual Borrowing Strategy, Annual Investment Strategy, Prudential Indicators and the Minimum Revenue Provision Statement.

There voted FOR: 33; AGAINST: 0 and the Recommendation was **DECLARED CARRIED**.

(3) **Pay Policy Statement –**

The Chairman of the Licensing and General Purposes Committee (Cr. A.M. Ferrier) introduced the Report of the Licensing and General Purposes Committee meeting held on 25th January, 2016 which recommended that approval should be given to the Pay Policy Statement 2016/17.

It was MOVED by Cr. A.M. Ferrier; SECONDED by Cr. S.J. Masterson – that approval be given to the Pay Policy Statement 2016/17.

There voted FOR: 35; AGAINST: 0 and the Recommendation was **DECLARED CARRIED**.

42. **THE COUNCIL TAX 2016/17 –**

It was MOVED by Cr. P.J. Moyle; SECONDED by Cr. P.G. Taylor - That

- (i) it be noted that the Council calculated the amount of £30,172.66 as its Council Tax Base for the year 2016/17 in accordance with Section 31B(3) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 as amended by the Localism Act 2011 (the 'Act');
- (ii) the following amounts be calculated by the Council for the year 2016/17 in accordance with Section 31 and Sections 34 to 36 of the Act:
 - (a) £79,150,657 - being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) of the Act
 - (b) £73,486,253 - being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act.
 - (c) £5,664,404 - 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 31A(4) of the Act, as its Council Tax requirement for the year.
 - (d) £187.73 - being the amount at (ii)(c) above, all divided by the amount at 1 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.

Valuation Bands

A	£125.15
B	£146.01
C	£166.87
D	£187.73
E	£229.45
F	£271.17
G	£312.88
H	£375.46

being the amounts given by multiplying the amount at (ii)(d) 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;

- (iii) it be noted that for the year 2016/17 Hampshire County Council, the Police and Crime Commissioner for Hampshire and Hampshire Fire and Rescue Authority 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 the dwellings shown below:

Precepting Authority	Valuation Bands	
Hampshire County Council	A	£719.52
	B	£839.44
	C	£959.36
	D	£1079.28
	E	£1319.12
	F	£1558.96
	G	£1798.80
	H	£2158.56

Precepting Authority	Valuation Bands	
Police and Crime Commissioner for Hampshire	A	£106.97
	B	£124.80
	C	£142.63
	D	£160.46
	E	£196.12
	F	£231.78
	G	£267.43
	H	£320.92

Precepting Authority	Valuation Bands	
Hampshire Fire and Rescue Authority	A	£41.73
	B	£48.69
	C	£55.64
	D	£62.60
	E	£76.51
	F	£90.42
	G	£104.33
	H	£125.20

- (iv) having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at (ii)(e) and (iii) above, the Council, in accordance with Sections 30 and 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the following amounts as the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2016/17 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

Valuation Bands	
A	£993.37
B	£1158.94
C	£1324.50
D	£1490.07
E	£1821.20
F	£2152.33
G	£2483.44
H	£2980.14

On a Recorded Vote, there voted FOR: Crs. Diane Bedford, D.M.T. Bell, Sue Carter, M.S. Choudhary, Sophia Choudhary, D.E. Clifford, R. Cooper, Liz Corps, P.I.C. Crerar, R.L.G. Dibbs, A.M. Ferrier, D.S. Gladstone, R. Hughes, Barbara Hurst, G.B. Lyon, J.H. Marsh, S.J. Masterson, P.J. Moyle, K. H. Muschamp, A.R. Newell, M.D. Smith, M. Staplehurst, P.G. Taylor, B.A. Thomas and D.M. Welch (25); AGAINST: Crs. A.H. Crawford, Keith Dibble, Sue Dibble, Jennifer Evans, C.P. Grattan, B. Jones, J.J. Preece, M.J. Roberts, P.F. Rust and L.A. Taylor (10); and ABSTAINED: the Deputy Mayor (Cr. Jacqui Vosper) and the Mayor (Cr. M.J. Tennant) (2) and the Recommendations were **DECLARED CARRIED**.

43. **QUESTIONS FOR THE CABINET –**

The Mayor reported that no questions had been submitted for Cabinet Members.

44. **REPORTS OF CABINET AND COMMITTEES –**

(1) **Cabinet –**

It was MOVED by Cr. P.J. Moyle; SECONDED by Cr. K.H. Muschamp and

RESOLVED: That the Report of the Meeting of the Cabinet held on 15th December, 2015 (Para. Nos. 224 - 227) be received.

(2) **Cabinet –**

It was MOVED by Cr. P.J. Moyle; SECONDED by Cr. K.H. Muschamp and

RESOLVED: That the Report of the Meeting of the Cabinet held on 12th January, 2016 (Para. Nos. 228 – 232) be received.

(3) **Cabinet –**

It was MOVED by Cr. P.J. Moyle; SECONDED by Cr. R.L.G. Dibbs and

RESOLVED: That the Report of the Meeting of the Cabinet held on 2nd February, 2016 (Para. Nos. 233 – 239) be received.

(4) **Licensing and General Purposes Committee –**

It was MOVED by Cr. A.M. Ferrier; SECONDED by Cr. S.J. Masterson and

RESOLVED: That the Report of the Meeting of the Licensing and General Purposes Committee held on 30th November, 2015 (Para. Nos. 240 – 243) be received.

(5) **Development Management Committee –**

It was MOVED by Cr. G.B. Lyon; SECONDED by Cr. R.L.G. Dibbs and

RESOLVED: That the Report of the Meeting of the Development Management Committee held on 9th December, 2015 (Para. Nos. 244 – 251) be received.

(6) **Standards and Audit Committee –**

It was MOVED by Cr. J.H. Marsh; SECONDED by Cr. A.M. Ferrier and

RESOLVED: That the Report of the Meeting of the Standards and Audit Committee held on 14th December, 2015 (Para. Nos. 252 - 255) be received.

(7) **Licensing and General Purposes Committee –**

It was MOVED by Cr. A.M. Ferrier; SECONDED by Cr. S.J. Masterson and

RESOLVED: That the Report of the Meeting of the Licensing and General Purposes Committee held on 25th January, 2016 (Para. Nos. 256 – 261) be received.

NOTE: Cr. M.S. Choudhary declared a prejudicial interest in respect of Report Para. No. 260 (Cab Sharing Arrangements for Farnborough International Airshow 2016) and, in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct, left the meeting during the discussion thereon.

(8) **Development Management Committee –**

It was MOVED by Cr. G.B. Lyon; SECONDED by Cr. B.A. Thomas and

RESOLVED: That the Report of the Meeting of the Development Management Committee held on 3rd February, 2016 (Para. Nos. 262 – 269).

45. **REPORTS OF POLICY AND REVIEW PANELS –**

RESOLVED: That the Reports of the undermentioned meetings of the Policy and Review Panels be received:

POLICY AND REVIEW PANEL	DATE OF MEETING	PARA. NOS. RECEIVED
Environment	26th January, 2016	270 – 273
Leisure and Youth	1st February, 2016	274 – 278
Community	4th February, 2016	279 – 283

Borough Services	8th February, 2016	284 – 286
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The Meeting closed at 8.52 p.m.
