

COUNCIL

Tuesday, 1 March 2011

Present: Councillor Ken Ball (Mayor), Councillor Pat Case (Deputy Mayor), Councillors Nora Ball, Eric Bell, Julia Berry, Judith Boothman, Alistair Bradley, Terry Brown, Henry Caunce, Alan Cullens, Magda Cullens, Mike Devaney, David Dickinson, Doreen Dickinson, Dennis Edgerley, Christopher France, Anthony Gee, Peter Goldsworthy, Marie Gray, Alison Hansford, Pat Haughton, Harold Heaton, Catherine Hoyle, Keith Iddon, Kevin Joyce, Hasina Khan, Roy Lees, Laura Lennox, Adrian Lowe, Marion Lowe, Peter Malpas, June Molyneaux, Greg Morgan, Simon Moulton, Mick Muncaster, Beverley Murray, Mark Perks, Alan Platt, Debra Platt, Geoffrey Russell, Rosie Russell, Edward Smith, Joyce Snape, Ralph Snape, John Walker, Stella Walsh and Peter Wilson

11.C.159 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

11.C.160 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

(a) Minutes of the meeting of Tuesday, 7th December 2010.

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 7 December 2010 be confirmed as a correct record for signature by the Mayor.

(b) Minutes of the meeting of Tuesday, 22nd February 2011

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the extraordinary meeting of the Council held on 22 February 2011 be confirmed as a correct record for signature by the Mayor.

11.C.161 DECLARATIONS OF ANY INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest by any Members in relation to matters under consideration at the meeting.

11.C.162 MAYORAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor thanked all Members who had supported his Charity Ball in February. The event had been very well attended and had raised almost £3000 towards his Charity Appeal.

On behalf of all Members of the Council, the Mayor formally congratulated the Chief Executive, Donna Hall on her being awarded the CBE. All political party leaders joined in paying tribute to Donna's achievements which has been recognised by the awarding of one of the most prestigious of honours.

11.C.163 PUBLIC QUESTIONS

There had been no requests from any members of the public to speak at the meeting on any of the agenda items.

11.C.164 GENERAL FUND REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGET AND COUNCIL TAX 2011/2012

Members of the Council considered a report of the Executive Member (Transformation) seeking approval to the General Fund Revenue and Capital Budget and Council Tax level for 2011/12.

The report was presented by the Executive Member (Transformation) Councillor Kevin Joyce and set out the Executive's overriding objective which was to protect frontline services and to deliver a budget strategy based on a number of key principles, including:

- To continue to be a high performing Council
- To contain Council Tax increases
- To protect the Chorley community from the impact of the current economic situation
- Continuing to provide value for money
- Safeguarding frontline services and focusing on the removal of bureaucracy and managerial posts
- Looking for opportunities to share services and generate additional revenue
- Preparing for the future and the uncertainty over public finances
- To look to reduce debt and the consequent financing charges.

The Council had already achieved budget savings of £0.903m from restructures which had previously been approved. The key proposals now were to achieve further savings in the 2011/12 budget amounting to £0.294m to enable additional investment in the town centre.

This would be achieved by the following initiatives:

1. Uplifting fees and charges by an inflationary rate (excluding car parking and building control fees).
2. Increasing income from planning fees.
3. Realising cost savings by undertaking more work in house in policy and communications.
4. Reducing the scope of the Mayoralty.
5. Reducing the costs of providing Shared Assurance Services.
6. Continuing to reduce borrowing and the subsequent impact on the budget.
7. Introducing new car parking machines to maximise income received within the current price structure.

The report included a number of appendices with the detailed bases of the proposals. These were

- Appendix A – Fees and Charges for 2011/12 and the Formal Council Tax Resolution.
- Appendix B (1 - 4) – Capital Programme information
- Appendix C – Treasury Strategy and Prudential Indicators
- Appendix D – Statutory Finance Officer's Report
- Appendix E – Medium Term Financial Strategy
- Appendix F – Significant Budget Movements
- Appendix G – Special Expenses and Parish Precepts
- Appendix H – Budget Consultation
- Appendix I – Equality Impact Assessment

Councillor Alistair Bradley, Leader of the Labour Group circulated an alternative budget report which proposed no increase in Council tax; and included:

- Further savings from the Council's management and back office functions
- More targeted investment in filling the vacant shop space in the town centre

- A more flexible pricing and charging policy on car parking to promote town centre usage
- Extra and significant investment in front line spending based on the principle of its “your money in your streets”
- Reduction in Members Allowances
- Investment to fund economic regeneration.

There was a lengthy debate on the proposals contained within both budgets, in particular, the budget reductions for the Mayoralty and town centre investment including market rent rises, shop frontage improvements and car parking charges.

Councillor Alistair Bradley proposed and Councillor Peter Wilson seconded, the adoption of the Labour Group’s alternative budget.

The proposal was put to the vote which was recorded as follows

FOR: Councillors N Ball, J Berry, A Bradley, T Brown, D Edgerley, C France, A Gee, C Hoyle, H Khan, R Lees, L Lennox, A Lowe, M Lowe, J Molyneaux, B Murray, J Snape, R Snape, P Wilson.

AGAINST: Councillors E Bell, J Boothman, P Case, H Caunce, A Cullens, M Cullens, M Devaney, David Dickinson, P Goldsworthy, M Gray, A Hansford, P Haughton, H Heaton, K Iddon, K Joyce, P Malpas, G Morgan, S Moulton, M Muncaster, M Perks, A Platt, D Platt, G Russell, R Russell J Walker, S Walsh.

ABSTENTION : K Ball.

The Mayor declared the vote LOST.

The Executive Member (Transformation), Councillor Kevin Joyce then proposed and the Executive Leader, Councillor Peter Goldsworthy seconded, the adoption of the Executive’s budget proposed for 2011/12 and it was

RESOLVED -

1. That the budget proposals set out in the report be approved as follows:

- 1.1 The inflationary increase in fees and charges be approved as set out in Appendix A1.
- 1.2 That the Councils Capital Programme be approved as set out in Appendix B.
- 1.3. That the Treasury Management Strategy and its core principles be approved as set out in Appendix C.
- 1.4. That the advice of the Statutory Finance Officer in relation to the robustness of the budget and the risks contained in the budget be noted as set out in Appendix D.
- 1.5. That the Council’s Medium Term Financial Strategy be approved as set out in Appendix E.
- 1.6. That the significant budget movements from the 2010/11 budget be approved as set out in at Appendix F.

1.7 That the Special Expenses and Parish Precepts be noted as set out in Appendix G.

1.8. That the Budget Consultation Response be noted as set out in Appendix H; and

1.9 The Equality Impact Assessment be noted as set out in Appendix I.

2. That the level of Council Tax remain at the levels set in 2010/11 as formally set out below:

1. That it be noted that acting under delegated powers the Director of Finance calculated the amount of 35,565.80 as its Council Tax Base for the year 2011/12 in accordance with Regulation 3 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 1992 made under Section 33(5) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.

(a) 35,565.80 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) 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.

	(b)Part of the Council's area	2011/12
		£
Parish of:	Adlington	1,941.40
	Anderton	494.50
	Anglezarke	17.30
	Astley Village	1,094.00
	Bretherton	290.60
	Brindle	459.70
	Charnock Richard	672.40
	Clayton le Woods	4,735.80
	Coppull	2,345.80
	Croston	1,027.80
	Cuerden	39.00
	Eccleston	1,566.60
	Euxton	3,527.20
	Heapey	378.50
	Heath Charnock	799.70
	Heskin	344.50
	Hoghton	363.80
	Mawdesley	750.60
	Rivington	50.20
	Ulnes Walton	255.50
	Wheelton	396.10
	Whittle Woods	2,005.00
	Withnell	1,247.60
	All other parts of the Council's area	10,762.20
	Total	35,565.80

2. That the following amounts be now calculated by the Council for the year 2011/12 in accordance with Sections 32 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992:
- (a) £53,447,660 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) £39,704,540 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) £13,743,120 being the amount by which the aggregate at 2(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 2(b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 32(4) of the Act, as its budget requirement for the year;
 - (d) £6,766,960 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, 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;
 - (e) £196.15 being the amount at 2(c) above less the amount at 2(d) above, all divided by the amount at 1(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) £1,286,015 being the aggregated amount of all special items referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act;
 - (g) £159.99 being the amount at 2(e) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 2(f) above by the amount at 1(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 relates;

(h)Part of the Council's area		
		£
Parish of:	Adlington	173.83
	Anderton	171.34
	Anglezarke	159.99
	Astley Village	205.70
	Bretherton	191.39
	Brindle	179.48
	Charnock Richard	201.11
	Clayton le Woods	222.73
	Coppull	202.41
	Croston	189.57
	Cuerden	197.91
	Eccleston	191.15
	Euxton	208.16
	Heapey	201.04
	Heath Charnock	188.01
	Heskin	195.30
	Hoghton	178.78
	Mawdesley	194.65
	Rivington	199.83
	Ulnes Walton	180.98
	Wheelton	188.09
	Whittle le Woods	198.38
	Withnell	191.96
	All other parts of the Council's area	187.15

being the amounts given by adding to the amount at 2(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 1(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)Part of the Council's area								
Valuation Bands								
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Parish of:								
Adlington	115.89	135.21	154.51	173.83	212.45	251.09	289.72	347.66
Anderton	114.23	133.26	152.30	171.34	209.42	247.49	285.57	342.68
Anglezarke	106.66	124.44	142.21	159.99	195.54	231.10	266.65	319.98
Astley Village	137.13	160.00	182.84	205.70	251.40	297.13	342.83	411.40
Bretherton	127.59	148.86	170.12	191.39	233.92	276.46	318.98	382.78
Brindle	119.65	139.60	159.54	179.48	219.36	259.25	299.13	358.96
Charnock Richard	134.08	156.42	178.76	201.11	245.80	290.49	335.19	402.22
Clayton le Woods	148.49	173.23	197.98	222.73	272.23	321.72	371.22	445.46
Coppull	134.94	157.44	179.92	202.41	247.38	292.37	337.35	404.82
Croston	126.38	147.44	168.51	189.57	231.70	273.82	315.95	379.14
Cuerden	131.94	153.93	175.92	197.91	241.89	285.87	329.85	395.82
Eccleston	127.43	148.68	169.90	191.15	233.62	276.11	318.58	382.30
Euxton	138.77	161.91	185.03	208.16	254.41	300.68	346.93	416.32
Heapey	134.02	156.37	178.70	201.04	245.71	290.40	335.06	402.08
Heath Charnock	125.34	146.23	167.12	188.01	229.79	271.58	313.35	376.02
Heskin	130.20	151.90	173.60	195.30	238.70	282.11	325.50	390.60
Hoghton	119.19	139.05	158.92	178.78	218.51	258.24	297.97	357.56
Mawdesley	129.77	151.40	173.02	194.65	237.90	281.16	324.42	389.30
Rivington	133.22	155.43	177.62	199.83	244.23	288.65	333.05	399.66
Ulnes Walton	120.65	140.77	160.87	180.98	221.19	261.42	301.63	361.96
Wheelton	125.39	146.30	167.19	188.09	229.88	271.69	313.48	376.18
Whittle le Woods	132.26	154.30	176.34	198.38	242.46	286.55	330.64	396.76
Withnell	127.97	149.31	170.62	191.96	234.61	277.28	319.93	383.92
All other parts of the Council's area	124.77	145.56	166.35	187.15	228.74	270.33	311.92	374.30

being the amounts given by multiplying the amounts at 2(g) and 2(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.

3. That it be noted that for the year 2011/12 the Lancashire County Council, Lancashire Police Authority, and the Lancashire Combined Fire 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 dwellings shown below:

Valuation Bands								
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Precepting authority								
Lancashire County Council *	738.87	862.01	985.16	1,108.30	1,354.59	1,600.88	1,847.17	2,216.60
Lancashire Combined Fire Authority *	42.43	49.51	56.58	63.65	77.79	91.94	106.08	127.30
Lancashire Police Authority*	97.51	113.77	130.02	146.27	178.77	211.28	243.78	292.54

4. That, having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 2(i) and 3 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 2011/12 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

(i)Part of the Council's area								
	Valuation Bands							
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Parish of:	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Adlington	994.70	1,160.50	1,326.27	1,492.05	1,823.60	2,155.19	2,486.75	2,984.10
Anderton	993.04	1,158.55	1,324.06	1,489.56	1,820.57	2,151.59	2,482.60	2,979.12
Anglezarke	985.47	1,149.73	1,313.97	1,478.21	1,806.69	2,135.20	2,463.68	2,956.42
Astley Village	1,015.94	1,185.29	1,354.60	1,523.92	1,862.55	2,201.23	2,539.86	3,047.84
Bretherton	1,006.40	1,174.15	1,341.88	1,509.61	1,845.07	2,180.56	2,516.01	3,019.22
Brindle	998.46	1,164.89	1,331.30	1,497.70	1,830.51	2,163.35	2,496.16	2,995.40
Charnock Richard	1,012.89	1,181.71	1,350.52	1,519.33	1,856.95	2,194.59	2,532.22	3,038.66
Clayton le Woods	1,027.30	1,198.52	1,369.74	1,540.95	1,883.38	2,225.82	2,568.25	3,081.90
Coppull	1,013.75	1,182.73	1,351.68	1,520.63	1,858.53	2,196.47	2,534.38	3,041.26
Croston	1,005.19	1,172.73	1,340.27	1,507.79	1,842.85	2,177.92	2,512.98	3,015.58
Cuerden	1,010.75	1,179.22	1,347.68	1,516.13	1,853.04	2,189.97	2,526.88	3,032.26
Eccleston	1,006.24	1,173.97	1,341.66	1,509.37	1,844.77	2,180.21	2,515.61	3,018.74
Euxton	1,017.58	1,187.20	1,356.79	1,526.38	1,865.56	2,204.78	2,543.96	3,052.76
Heapey	1,012.83	1,181.66	1,350.46	1,519.26	1,856.86	2,194.50	2,532.09	3,038.52
Heath Charnock	1,004.15	1,171.52	1,338.88	1,506.23	1,840.94	2,175.68	2,510.38	3,012.46
Heskin	1,009.01	1,177.19	1,345.36	1,513.52	1,849.85	2,186.21	2,522.53	3,027.04
Hoghton	998.00	1,164.34	1,330.68	1,497.00	1,829.66	2,162.34	2,495.00	2,994.00
Mawdesley	1,008.58	1,176.69	1,344.78	1,512.87	1,849.05	2,185.26	2,521.45	3,025.74
Rivington	1,012.03	1,180.72	1,349.38	1,518.05	1,855.38	2,192.75	2,530.08	3,036.10
Ulnes Walton	999.46	1,166.06	1,332.63	1,499.20	1,832.34	2,165.52	2,498.66	2,998.40
Wheelton	1,004.20	1,171.59	1,338.95	1,506.31	1,841.03	2,175.79	2,510.51	3,012.62
Whittle le Woods	1,011.07	1,179.59	1,348.10	1,516.60	1,853.61	2,190.65	2,527.67	3,033.20
Withnell	1,006.78	1,174.60	1,342.38	1,510.18	1,845.76	2,181.38	2,516.96	3,020.36
All other parts of the Council's area	1,003.58	1,170.85	1,338.11	1,505.37	1,839.89	2,174.43	2,508.95	3,010.74

5. That the Statutory Finance Officer and his officers be authorised to take any action necessary to ensure collection and recovery of the Council Tax and Non-Domestic Rates.

EXPLANATION OF COUNCIL TAX SETTING RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION 1

- (a) Before we can calculate the Council Tax to be charged, we first have to calculate the Council Tax base. The Council Tax base is the amount which a Band D Council Tax of £1.00 would raise. For 2011/12 we estimate that a £1.00 Council Tax at Band D would raise £35,565.80 in the Chorley area.
- (b) This shows the "base" figure for each Parish in the area. For example, a £1.00 Band D Council Tax in Adlington would raise £1,941.40.

RESOLUTION 2

- (a) This is the grand total of money which the Council estimates it will spend on all services in 2011/12. It also includes £589,260 which Parish Councils need to run their services.
- (b) This is the grand total of money which the Council estimates it will receive from various sources in the year. This includes, for example, car park charges, investment income, government grants in respect of benefits, etc.
- (c) This is the difference between 2(a) and 2(b) and is in effect the Council's and Parishes net spending on services.
- (d) This is the amount that the Government will contribute towards the cost of our services. Also included is extra Council Tax resulting from new properties and expected collection rates in previous years.
- (e) The difference between 2(c) and 2(d) is £6,976,160 and this is the amount we need to charge Council Taxpayers. This is divided by the base (see 1(a) above) and the resulting figure of £196.15 is the average Band D Council Tax for all Borough and Parish services.
- (f) The total of all the amounts needed from Council Taxpayers by the Parish Councils in the area and for Chorley Borough Special Expenses.
- (g) This is the Band D Council Tax for Chorley Borough Council's own services, ie excluding Parish Council spending and Special Expenses
- (h) This table shows the Band D Council Tax for all parishes including the cost of the Parish Councils and Chorley Borough Council. For example, Adlington's Band D Council Tax is £159.99 for Chorley Borough services and £9.01 for Adlington Town Council services and £4.83 for Chorley Borough Special Expenses.

- (i) The rate for each property Band is calculated by reference to the Band D charge. The following ratios apply:

Band A	$\frac{6}{9}$ ths of Band D
Band B	$\frac{7}{9}$ ths of Band D
Band C	$\frac{8}{9}$ ths of Band D
Band D	$\frac{9}{9}$ ths of Band D
Band E	$\frac{11}{9}$ ths of Band D
Band F	$\frac{13}{9}$ ths of Band D
Band G	$\frac{15}{9}$ ths of Band D
Band H	$\frac{18}{9}$ ths of Band D

For Adlington Band A, for example, the charge is $\pounds 173.83 \times 6 \div 9 = \pounds 115.89$; for Band B it is $\pounds 173.83 \times 7 \div 9 = \pounds 135.21$.

RESOLUTION 3

Lancashire County Council, Lancashire Fire Authority and Lancashire Police Authority are separate bodies who have worked out their own estimates of spending and income for 2011/12 and have set taxes in a similar way to Chorley Borough Council. This resolution notes their final decision.

RESOLUTION 4

This pulls together the Council Taxes for Lancashire County Council, Lancashire Fire Authority, Lancashire Police Authority, Chorley Borough Council and the Parish Councils. For example, the Band D for Adlington is $\pounds 1,492.05$ made up as follows:

	£
Lancashire County Council (as in 3 above)	1,108.30
Lancashire Fire Authority (as in 3 above)	63.65
Lancashire Police Authority (as in 3 above)	146.27
Chorley Borough Council (as in 2(g) above)	159.99
Adlington Town Council	9.01
Special Expenses	4.83

RESOLUTION 5

Formally authorise the necessary staff to take legal action to collect arrears as and when this is necessary. ***For the vast majority of taxpayers, this is not needed***

Mayor