



MEETING OF THE SPECIAL BUDGET COUNCIL

TO BE HELD ON
THURSDAY 23rd FEBRUARY, 2017
AT 7.00 p.m.

IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER AT NELSON TOWN HALL

Minutes of all meetings held since the last Council meeting can be accessed via the Council's website www.pendle.gov.uk followed by the "Council" tab.

Members are reminded that it is now not necessary to submit amendments in writing prior to the start of the meeting. Members are however urged wherever possible to continue to do this so that the effect of amendments can be fully understood.

For further information please contact **Jane Watson on telephone 661648.**

PHILIP MOUSDALE, CORPORATE DIRECTOR

If you would like this information in a way which is better for you, please telephone us.



اگر آپ یہ معلومات کسی ایسی شکل میں چاہتے ہیں، جو کہ
آپ کے لئے زیادہ مفید ہو تو براہ مہربانی ہمیں بتائیے۔

Under the Openness of Local Government Bodies 2014, people attending open meetings can film, audio record, take photographs or use social media. Oral commentary is not allowed during meetings as it would be disruptive. If you are attending a meeting you need to be aware that you may be filmed by others attending. This is not within our control.



A G E N D A

1. Apologies

2. Declarations of Interest

Members are reminded of the legal requirements concerning the declaration of interests.

A Member must declare a disclosable pecuniary interest which he/she has in any item on the agenda. A Member with a disclosable pecuniary interest in any item may not participate in any discussion of the matter at the meeting and must not participate in any vote taken on the matter at the meeting.

In addition the Council's Standing Orders require a Member with a disclosable pecuniary interest to leave the room where the meeting is held while any discussion or voting takes place.

Members are advised that when the Council adopted the present Code of Conduct it granted a general dispensation to all members of the Council to speak and vote when considering the setting of the Council Tax under the Local Government Finance Act 1992.

3. Recorded Votes

Members are reminded that in accordance with Rule 17 of the Procedure at Full Council all votes on budget issues will be recorded. This includes all motions and amendments.

4. Standing Orders

In accordance with normal practice the Council is invited to suspend Standing Order 14.3 to allow Group Leaders to speak on items 6 and 7 for longer than 5 minutes.

5. Robustness of Estimates and Adequacy of Financial Reserves

Enc. The Financial Services Manager submits the attached report which the Council is asked to consider and have regard to when making decisions in respect of the proposed Budget for 2017/18 and associated Council Tax calculations.

6. Capital Programme 2017-2020

To approve the Capital Programme for 2017-2018 and note the indicative programmes for 2018/19 and 2019/20.

Enc. The Financial Services Manager submits the attached report on behalf of Management Team.

7. General Fund Revenue Budget and Setting of the Council Tax 2017/18

To set the General Fund Budget Requirement and Council Tax for the Borough for 2017/18.

Enc. The Financial Services Manager submits the attached report on behalf of Management Team.

8. Notices of Motion

(a) Article 50

To be moved by Councillor J. Cooney, seconded by Councillor P. White –

This Council notes the recent publication of the bill to Withdraw from the European Union in Parliament which will trigger the process of the UK leaving the European Union.

This Council urges all MP's and Members of the House of Lords, regardless of their political affiliations, to respect the will of the British people and vote in favour of the bill.

(b) School Budget Cuts in Pendle

To be moved by Councillor D. M. Whipp, seconded by Councillor D. E. Lord –

Pendle Council –

- (1) Notes that the funding for school budgets is now determined by central Government, and that research by the National Union of Teachers (NUT) and the Association of Teachers and Lecturers (ATL) show that secondary and primary schools in Pendle are due to have an annual cut in their budgets of approximately £5.7m in real terms by 2020. This is caused partly by the cap on school budgets between now and then, and the proposed new “fair funding formula” – both policies of the present Conservative Government.
- (2) Notes that some of the worst hit primary schools average £443 per pupil, ranging from £184 to £1,195 (this at Roughlee C of E School) and that the differences bear no relationship to type of school or degree of disadvantage and appear to be wholly arbitrary.
- (3) Notes that some of the worst hit primary schools are in more disadvantaged areas (West Street Community Primary £995 per pupil, Whitefield Infants £715 and Lomeshaye Junior £564); and some in rural schools (Roughlee £1,195, Salterforth £734, Newchurch-In-Pendle St. Mary's C of E £722 and Blacko £525) but that every school in Pendle will suffer a cut in spending per pupil with likely cuts in the number of teachers.
- (4) Considers that the proposed cuts to secondary school budgets, including huge reductions of £782,488-763 per pupil – at Pendle Vale College £639,849-£763 per pupil – at Marsden heights Community College and £453,311-£463 per pupil at Colne Park High School, risk having a disastrous effect on the already low GCSE results in Pendle.
- (5) Expresses its alarm at the effect these budget cuts are likely to have on the education of Pendle children.
- (6) Calls on the Government to withdraw these proposals immediately and to reconsider its approach to funding schools so as to maintain overall real terms funding per pupil, to make a new funding formula fair to all schools; and to ensure that all school budgets are protected from real terms cuts during the rest of this Parliament up to 2020.
- (7) Requests the support for this resolution from the governing body of each school in Pendle, and each Town and Parish Council in Pendle.

- (8) Requests the Member of Parliament for Pendle to take this matter up with the Government as a matter of urgency.

This resolution to be sent to the Prime Minister, the Secretary of State for Education, the MP for Pendle, Lancashire County Council, the chair of each governing body of schools in Pendle, each Town and Parish Council in Pendle, the local branches of the NUT, ALT and NAHT, and the local press..

(c) M65 Motorway

To be moved by Councillor J. Cooney, seconded by Councillor C. Wakeford –

That this Council resolves to write to the Department of Transport, Lancashire County Council and Transport for the North to request a review of the M65 motorway including a review of all potential extension options; to Scotch Corner, M606, M621 and the M1.

An extension of the M65 is a vital link for infrastructure to link East and West in the North of England. The benefits of the extension to the whole region would be considerable. East Lancashire communities are amongst the most deprived in the UK and improved transport links would provide improved infrastructure for business. The economic and social impact of the extension would extend across the North connecting millions of people in the North East with millions of people in the North West and provide relief to the congested M62.

(d) Voter ID

To be moved by Councillor M. Iqbal

Council notes:

The Government has proposed that in 2018 all voters in Pendle will need to supply a piece of photographic evidence to prove their identity if they are going to be allowed to vote at polling stations. This change is being introduced to deal with the potential issue of voter impersonation although there have been no proven examples of this crime within Pendle.

This change will significantly inconvenience all law abiding electors and, in some cases, will prevent them from voting because they will not be able to provide the relevant documentation. It will involve the Council in additional expensive bureaucracy and will also present serious operational problems for polling clerks who will be expected to check pieces of documentation while a large queue of angry voters builds up.

Council resolves:

On behalf of all law abiding electors in Pendle, this Council calls upon the Returning Officer to make these concerns known to the Electoral Commission.

To ask Andrew Stephenson MP, to support this action and ask HM Government to stop this unnecessary attack on the democratic rights of their constituents.

(e) New Homes Bonus Scheme

To be moved by Councillor A. Greaves, seconded by Councillor D. Clegg –

Pendle Council declares its strong concern at the Government response to the consultation on proposed changes to the New Homes Bonus Scheme. In particular it notes that the changes to

the payment period from six years to four years, and the new baseline for new homes (0.4% of existing stock) under which no New Homes Bonus will be paid, are likely to mean the loss of some £3million in the next five years.

It further notes that these changes come at the last minute in the Council's current budget process, and that there will be a loss of £150,000 from the revenue budget in the coming year.

It calls on the Government to withdraw these proposals which will be highly detrimental to local services to the residents of Pendle.

This Council requests and requires the MP for Pendle Andrew Stephenson to take immediate action to stop these changes from happening.

(f) Wycoller Country Park

To be moved by Councillor D. Whipp, seconded by Councillor D. Lord –

Pendle Council notes that Lancashire County Council has not been able to find an alternative owner and service provider for Wycoller Country Park.

It therefore calls on Lancashire County Council to continue to own and maintain Wycoller Country Park, on behalf of residents and visitors, and to continue to provide services to the public including the warden service, school visits, car parks, Aisled Barn and toilets.

(g) NHS Sustainability and Transformation Plan for Lancashire and South Cumbria

To be moved by Councillor K. Hartley, seconded by Councillor A. Greaves –

Pendle Council notes the latest position on the NHS Sustainability and Transformation Plan for Lancashire and South Cumbria, and on local health services, in particular as they affect residents of Pendle.