

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BUDGET COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT NELSON TOWN HALL
ON 23rd FEBRUARY, 2017**

PRESENT –

The Worshipful Mayor Councillor R. E. Carrol (in the Chair)

Councillors

G. Adam
M. Adams
Nadeem Ahmed
M. Ammer
E. Ansar
Mohammed Arshad
Musawar R. Arshad
N. H. Ashraf
W. Blackburn
N. Butterworth
D. Clegg
S. E. Cockburn-Price
J. Cooney
T. A. Cooney
L. M. Crossley
M. S. Foxley
M. Goulthorp
A. R. Greaves
K. Hartley
J. M. P. Henderson
M. Horsfield
M. Iqbal
Y. Iqbal

D. E. Lord
N. T. McCollum
P. A. McCormick
N. McEvoy
A. Mahmood
B. Newman
J. A. Nixon
B. N. Parker
J. Purcell
G. Roach
M. Sakib
K. E. Shore
J. K. Starkie
C. Teall
K. Turner
C. Wakeford
G. Waugh
D. Whalley
D. M. Whipp
P. White
S. Wicks
N. Younis

(Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Nawaz Ahmed, L. Davy and S. Petty).



65. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were reminded of the requirement to declare any pecuniary or substantial non-pecuniary items of business.

66. RECORDED VOTES

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

67. STANDING ORDERS

In accordance with normal practice Council suspended Standing Order 14.3 to allow Group Leaders to speak on minute numbers 69(a) and (b) for longer than 5 minutes.

**68. ROBUSTNESS OF BUDGET ESTIMATES 2017/18
AND ADEQUACY OF RESERVES**

The Financial Services Manager submitted a report on the robustness of the Council's budget estimates for 2017/18 and the adequacy of financial reserves in accordance with Section 25 of the Local Government Act, 2003.

The report pointed out, that the Council should have regard to the report when making decisions on the 2017/18 budget and the associated level of Council Tax. The Council was required to consider the report in order to acknowledge the risks and uncertainties faced by the Council and determine that adequate provision had been made for these, both as part of the budget estimates and also in determining the adequacy of reserves.

Statements from the Financial Services Manager were set out in Appendix A to the report and it was pointed out that these statements were predicated on Management Team's proposed budget which was presented elsewhere on the agenda. It was noted that should there be material changes to the proposed budget that impacted on the robustness of the estimates or the adequacy of reserves, it may be necessary for the Financial Services Manager to amend the statements provided at Appendix A attached to the report.

It was moved by Councillor M. Iqbal, seconded by Councillor D. M. Whipp –

RESOLVED

That the statements from the Financial Services Manager set out in Appendix A attached to the report be taken into account when determining the budget and level of Council Tax for 2017/18.

**69. CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2017/20
AND GENERAL FUND REVENUE BUDGET AND SETTING OF
THE COUNCIL TAX 2017/18**

(a) Capital Programme 2017/20

Council considered a report from Management Team on the proposed Capital Programme for 2017/2020. Details of the Medium-Term Capital Programme for the same period along with various prudential indicators were also submitted for consideration.

(b) General Fund Revenue Budget and Setting of the Council Tax 2017/18

Management Team submitted a report which asked Council to consider the proposed General Fund Revenue Budget for 2017/18; sought agreement on the level of Council Tax to be set for 2017/18; and gave details of the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan for the period 2017/20 to highlight the significant budget deficit and the need to take early action to reduce expenditure to a sustainable level.

MOTION

It was moved by Councillor M. Iqbal and seconded by Councillor A. R. Greaves –

- (1) That the forecast outturn position on the Council's Capital Programme for 2016/17, as shown at Appendix A and detailed in the report be noted.

- (2) That the proposed Capital Programme for 2017/18, as shown at Appendix B in the report, be approved.
- (3) That delegated authority be granted to the Financial Services Manager to determine the most appropriate method of financing the Capital Programme for 2017/18 to ensure the use of resources was optimised by the Council.
- (4) That the indicative programmes for 2018/19 and 2019/20, as shown in Appendix B in the report, be noted and it be acknowledged that these would be subject to review as part of the development of future years capital programmes.
- (5) That the Prudential Indicators as shown in Appendix C in the report, be approved.
- (6) That Area Committees be advised that when considering their capital allocations, they seek to maximise external resources, to have regard to the Council's key objectives and to only use the funding allocated for capital purposes.
- (7) That the General Fund Minimum Working Balance of £1.0m for 2017/18 be maintained.
- (8) That a grant of £1,426,200 be granted to Pendle Leisure Trust for 2017/18.
- (9) That the Labour/Liberal Democrat Groups General Fund Revenue Budget for 2017/18, as set out in **Appendix 1** to these Minutes, be approved.
- (10) That the budget calculations 2017/18, the Council Tax calculations 2017/18 and the Council Tax Declaration, as set out in **Appendix 2** to these Minutes, be approved.

AMENDMENT

It was moved by Councillor J. Cooney and seconded by Councillor P. White –

That the Conservative Group's General Fund Revenue Budget for 2017/18 and 2018/19 as set out in **Appendix 3(a)** to these Minutes, be approved.

In accordance with minute 66 above a recorded vote was taken on this issue.

Those Members voting in favour of the Motion were Councillors:

Nadeem Ahmed, Musawar Arshad, N. Butterworth, R. E. Carrol, S. E. Cockburn-Price, J. Cooney, T. A. Cooney, L. M. Crossley, M. S. Foxley, M. Goulthorp, M. Horsfield, N. T. McCollum, P. A. McCormick, N. McEvoy, J. Nixon, J. Purcell, J. K. Starkie, K. Turner, C. Wakeford, G. Waugh and P. White.

Those Members voting against the Motion were Councillors:

G. Adam, M. Adams, M. Ammer, E. Ansar, Mohammed Arshad, N. H. Ashraf, W. Blackburn, D. Clegg, A. R. Greaves, K. Hartley, J. M. P. Henderson, M. Iqbal, Y. Iqbal, D. E. Lord, A. Mahmood, B. Newman, B. N. Parker, G. Roach, M. Sakib, K. E. Shore, C. Teall, D. Whalley, D. M. Whipp, S. Wicks and N. Younis.

21 in favour and 25 against.

Upon being put to the vote the amendment was **LOST**.

At this point the Conservative Group indicated that they would like to move some amendments. The Worshipful the Mayor then adjourned the meeting for a period of fifteen minutes.

The meeting reconvened at 8.35 p.m.

AMENDMENT

It was moved by Councillor D. M. Whipp and seconded by Councillor P. White –

That £7,700 be included in the General Fund Revenue Budget for 2017/18 to subsidise the last bus of the night to Barnoldswick.

Upon being put to the vote the amendment was **CARRIED**.

In accordance with minute 66 above a recorded vote was taken on this issue.

Those Members voting in favour of the Motion were Councillors:

G. Adam, M. Adams, Nadeem Ahmed, M. Ammer, E. Ansar, Mohammed Arshad, Musawar Arshad, N. H. Ashraf, W. Blackburn, N. Butterworth, R. E. Carrol, D. Clegg, S. E. Cockburn-Price, J. Cooney, T. A. Cooney, L. M. Crossley, M. S. Foxley, M. Goulthorp, A. R. Greaves, K. Hartley, J. M. P. Henderson, M. Horsfield, M. Iqbal, Y. Iqbal, D. E. Lord, N. T. McCollum, P. A. McCormick, N. McEvoy, A. Mahmood, B. Newman, J. Nixon, B. N. Parker, J. Purcell, G. Roach, M. Sakib, K. E. Shore, J. K. Starkie, C. Teall, K. Turner, C. Wakeford, G. Waugh, D. Whalley, D. M. Whipp, P. White, S. Wicks and N. Younis.

46 in favour.

AMENDMENT

It was moved by Councillor P. White and seconded by Councillor M. Iqbal –

That the Communications and Tourism functions be reconfigured by £30,337 in year 1, and by £108,500 in year 2.

Upon being put to the vote the amendment was **LOST**.

In accordance with minute 66 above a recorded vote was taken on this issue.

Those Members voting in favour of the Motion were Councillors:

Nadeem Ahmed, Musawar Arshad, N. Butterworth, R. E. Carrol, S. E. Cockburn-Price, J. Cooney, T. A. Cooney, L. M. Crossley, M. S. Foxley, M. Goulthorp, M. Horsfield, N. T. McCollum, P. A. McCormick, N. McEvoy, J. Nixon, J. Purcell, J. K. Starkie, K. Turner, C. Wakeford, G. Waugh and P. White.

Those Members voting against the Motion were Councillors:

G. Adam, M. Adams, M. Ammer, E. Ansar, Mohammed Arshad, N. H. Ashraf, W. Blackburn, D. Clegg, A. R. Greaves, K. Hartley, J. M. P. Henderson, M. Iqbal, Y. Iqbal, D. E. Lord, A. Mahmood, B. Newman, B. N. Parker, G. Roach, M. Sakib, K. E. Shore, C. Teall, D. Whalley, D. M. Whipp, S. Wicks and N. Younis.

21 in favour and 25 against.

AMENDMENT

It was moved by Councillor P. White and seconded by Councillor J. Cooney –

That Members allowances be reduced by £13,500.

Upon being put to the vote the amendment was **LOST**.

In accordance with minute 66 above a recorded vote was taken on this issue.

Those Members voting in favour of the Motion were Councillors:

Nadeem Ahmed, Musawar Arshad, N. Butterworth, R. E. Carrol, S. E. Cockburn-Price, J. Cooney, T. A. Cooney, L. M. Crossley, M. S. Foxley, M. Goulthorp, M. Horsfield, N. T. McCollum, P. A. McCormick, N. McEvoy, J. Nixon, J. Purcell, J. K. Starkie, K. Turner, C. Wakeford, G. Waugh and P. White.

Those Members voting against the Motion were Councillors:

G. Adam, M. Adams, M. Ammer, E. Ansar, Mohammed Arshad, N. H. Ashraf, W. Blackburn, D. Clegg, A. R. Greaves, K. Hartley, J. M. P. Henderson, M. Iqbal, Y. Iqbal, D. E. Lord, A. Mahmood, B. Newman, B. N. Parker, G. Roach, M. Sakib, K. E. Shore, C. Teall, D. Whalley, D. M. Whipp, S. Wicks and N. Younis.

21 in favour and 25 against.

AMENDMENT

It was moved by Councillor P. White and seconded by Councillor J. K. Starkie –

That the proposed closure of the Council office in Barnoldswick and the proposed withdrawal of the cash collection in Nelson (£41,500) not be agreed and therefore not be included in the General Fund Revenue Budget for 2017/18.

Upon being put to the vote the amendment was **LOST**.

In accordance with minute 66 above a recorded vote was taken on this issue.

Those Members voting in favour of the Motion were Councillors:

Nadeem Ahmed, Musawar Arshad, N. Butterworth, R. E. Carrol, S. E. Cockburn-Price, J. Cooney, T. A. Cooney, L. M. Crossley, M. S. Foxley, M. Goulthorp, M. Horsfield, N. T. McCollum,

Special Budget Council (23.02.2017)

P. A. McCormick, N. McEvoy, J. Nixon, J. Purcell, J. K. Starkie, K. Turner, C. Wakeford, G. Waugh and P. White.

Those Members voting against the Motion were Councillors:

G. Adam, M. Adams, M. Ammer, E. Ansar, Mohammed Arshad, N. H. Ashraf, W. Blackburn, D. Clegg, A. R. Greaves, K. Hartley, J. M. P. Henderson, M. Iqbal, Y. Iqbal, D. E. Lord, A. Mahmood, B. Newman, B. N. Parker, G. Roach, M. Sakib, K. E. Shore, C. Teall, D. Whalley, D. M. Whipp, S. Wicks and N. Younis.

21 in favour and 25 against.

AMENDMENT

It was moved by Councillor P. White and seconded by Councillor G. Waugh –

That the Council continues to contribute towards PCSOs (£66,000) and maintains the budget for Community Safety initiatives in the General Fund Revenue Budget for 2017/18.

Upon being put to the vote the amendment was **LOST**.

In accordance with minute 66 above a recorded vote was taken on this issue.

Those Members voting in favour of the Motion were Councillors:

Nadeem Ahmed, Musawar Arshad, N. Butterworth, R. E. Carrol, S. E. Cockburn-Price, J. Cooney, T. A. Cooney, L. M. Crossley, M. S. Foxley, M. Goulthorp, M. Horsfield, N. T. McCollum, P. A. McCormick, N. McEvoy, J. Nixon, J. Purcell, J. K. Starkie, K. Turner, C. Wakeford, G. Waugh and P. White.

Those Members voting against the Motion were Councillors:

G. Adam, M. Adams, M. Ammer, E. Ansar, Mohammed Arshad, N. H. Ashraf, W. Blackburn, D. Clegg, A. R. Greaves, K. Hartley, J. M. P. Henderson, M. Iqbal, Y. Iqbal, D. E. Lord, A. Mahmood, B. Newman, B. N. Parker, G. Roach, M. Sakib, K. E. Shore, C. Teall, D. Whalley, D. M. Whipp, S. Wicks and N. Younis.

21 in favour and 25 against.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the forecast outturn position on the Council's Capital Programme for 2016/17, as shown at Appendix A and detailed in the report be noted.
- (2) That the proposed Capital Programme for 2017/18, as shown at Appendix B attached to the report, be approved.
- (3) That delegated authority be granted to the Financial Services Manager to determine the most appropriate method of financing the Capital programme for 2017/18 to ensure the use of resources was optimised by the Council.

Special Budget Council (23.02.2017)

- (4) That the indicative programmes for 2018/19 and 2019/20, as shown in Appendix B attached to the report, be noted and it be acknowledged that these would be subject to review as part of the development of future years capital programmes.
- (5) That the Prudential Indicators as shown in Appendix C attached to the report, be approved.
- (6) That Area Committees be advised that when considering their capital allocations, they seek to maximise external resources, to have regard to the Council's key objectives and to only use the funding allocated for capital purposes.
- (7) That the General Fund Minimum Working Balance of £1.0m for 2017/18 be maintained.
- (8) That a grant of £1,426,200 be granted to Pendle Leisure Trust for 2017/18.
- (9) That the Labour/Liberal Democrat Groups General Fund Revenue Budget for 2017/18, as set out in **Appendix 1** to these Minutes, be approved.
- (10) That the budget calculations 2017/18, the Council Tax calculations 2017/18 and the Council Tax Declaration, as set out in **Appendix 2** to these Minutes, be approved.

In accordance with minute 66 above a recorded vote was taken on this issue.

Those Members voting in favour of the Motion were Councillors:

G. Adam, M. Adams, M. Ammer, E. Ansar, Mohammed Arshad, N. H. Ashraf, W. Blackburn, D. Clegg, A. R. Greaves, K. Hartley, J. M. P. Henderson, M. Iqbal, Y. Iqbal, D. E. Lord, A. Mahmood, B. Newman, B. N. Parker, G. Roach, M. Sakib, K. E. Shore, C. Teall, D. Whalley, D. M. Whipp, S. Wicks and N. Younis.

Those Members that abstained from voting on the Motion were Councillors:

Nadeem Ahmed, Musawar Arshad, N. Butterworth, R. E. Carrol, S. E. Cockburn-Price, J. Cooney, T. A. Cooney, L. M. Crossley, M. S. Foxley, M. Goulthorp, M. Horsfield, N. T. McCollum, P. A. McCormick, N. McEvoy, J. Nixon, J. Purcell, J. K. Starkie, K. Turner, C. Wakeford, G. Waugh and P. White.

25 in favour and 21 abstained.

70. NOTICES OF MOTION

(a) Article 50

It was 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.

AMENDMENT

It was moved by Councillor A. R. Greaves, seconded by Councillor M. Iqbal –

This Council notes that the European Union (Notification of Withdrawal) Bill has completed its passage through the House of Commons and is at present in the House of Lords.

This Council believes that the Bill should be amended in the interests of residents, workers and businesses in Pendle so as to provide for:

- All existing residents of the United Kingdom who are citizens of other EU countries to retain all their existing residency and other rights in this country.
- Continued United Kingdom membership of the single market.
- The ability of citizens of the UK to live, work and operate a business in any part of the EU.
- The terms of a deal following negotiations under Article 50 to be subject to a decision of Parliament as to whether to accept the deal, to reject the deal and withdraw from the EU, or to continue membership of the EU; such a decision to be subject to a UK wide referendum.

In the meantime, this Council resolves to provide all necessary and appropriate support to residents of Pendle who are citizens of other European countries.

Upon being put to the vote the amendment was declared **LOST**.

In accordance with Rule 17.4.1 of the Procedure at Full Council and at the request of Councillors P. White and J. Cooney a recorded vote was taken on this issue.

Those Members voting in favour of the Motion were Councillors:

G. Adam, M. Adams, M. Ammer, E. Ansar, Mohammed Arshad, N. H. Ashraf, D. Clegg, A. R. Greaves, K. Hartley, M. Iqbal, Y. Iqbal, D. E. Lord, M. Mahmood, B. Newman, G. Roach, M. Sakib, K. E. Shire, D. M. Whipp, S. Wicks and N. Younis.

Those Members voting against the Motion were Councillors:

Nadeem Ahmed, Musawar Arshad, W. Blackburn, N. Butterworth, R. E. Carrol, S. E. Cockburn-Price, J. Cooney, T. A. Cooney, M. S. Foxley, M. Goulthorp, J. M. P. Henderson, M. Horsfield, N. T. McCollum, P. A. McCormick, N. McEvoy, J. Nixon, B. Parker, J. Purcell, J. K. Starkie, C. Teall, K. Turner, C. Wakeford, G. Waugh, D. Whalley and P. White.

20 in favour and 25 against.

RESOLVED

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

It was 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.

AMENDMENT

It was moved by Councillor P. White, seconded by Councillor J. Cooney –

Council notes that the impact of the Government freeze on school budgets will see a real term reduction of 8% in Lancashire schools and that proposed changes in the National Funding Formula (NFF) will see two thirds of schools in the county losing funding on top of the across the board reductions, and that potential ‘gainers’ from NFF changes will still lose overall. Council is extremely concerned at the impact that this will have on the education of children in the county and the damage that will be caused to schools. Council therefore resolves:

- (1) To write to the Secretary of State for Education expressing our concern and requesting that the Government reviews its policies to cash limit school budgets, cut Education Support Grant and impose inequitable changes to the National Funding Formula.
- (2) That Andrew Stephenson MP be asked to support this resolution.

Upon being put to the vote the amendment was declared **LOST**.

In accordance with Rule 17.4.1 of the Procedure at Full Council and at the request of Councillors N. H. Ashraf and M. Iqbal a recorded vote was taken on this issue.

Those Members voting in favour of the Motion were Councillors:

Nadeem Ahmed, Musawar Arshad, N. Butterworth, R. E. Carrol, S. E. Cockburn-Price, J. Cooney, T. A. Cooney, M. S. Foxley, M. Goulthorp, M. Horsfield, N. T. McCollum, P. A. McCormick, N. McEvoy, J. Nixon, J. Purcell, J. K. Starkie, K. Turner, C. Wakeford, G. Waugh and P. White.

Those Members voting against the Motion were Councillors:

G. Adam, M. Adams, M. Ammer, E. Ansar, Mohammed Arshad, N. H. Ashraf, W. Blackburn, A. R. Greaves, K. Hartley, J. M. P. Henderson, M. Iqbal, Y. Iqbal, D. E. Lord, A. Mahmood, B. Newman, B. N. Parker, M. Sakib, K. E. Shore, C. Teall, D. Whalley, D. M. Whipp, S. Wicks and N. Younis.

20 in favour and 23 against.

RESOLVED

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

MOTION

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.

It was moved by Councillor J. Cooney and seconded by Councillor P. White and –

RESOLVED

That this motion be **withdrawn**.

(d) Voter ID

MOTION

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:

- (1) 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.
- (2) 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.

It was moved by Councillor M. Iqbal and seconded by Councillor A. R. Greaves and –

RESOLVED

That this motion be **withdrawn and be discussed further by representatives of the three political groups.**

(e) New Homes Bonus Scheme

It was 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.

RESOLVED

Accordingly.

(f) Wycoller Country Park

It was 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.

RESOLVED

Accordingly.

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

It was 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.

RESOLVED

- (1) 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.
- (2) That the Health and Social Care Scrutiny Panel monitor developments of the NHS Sustainability and Transformation Plan and Council be kept informed where developments directly affect the residents of Pendle.

Appendix 1(a) Labour/Lib Democrat Groups General Fund Revenue Budget for 2017/18

Appendix 1(b) Leader's Budget Speech

Appendix 2 Budget Calculations 2017/18, Council Tax Calculations 2017/18 and Council Tax Declaration

Appendix 3(a) Conservative Group General Fund Revenue Budget for 2017/18

Appendix 3(b) Conservative Group Narrative

The Worshipful the Mayor _____