



Council Minutes

Minutes of the Council meeting held at the Civic Centre, Poulton-le-Fylde on Thursday 6 March, 2014.

Councillors present:

The Mayor, Councillor Hodgkinson
The Deputy Mayor, Councillor Anderson

Councillor Amos	Councillor M Gandhi	Councillor Shewan
Councillor E Anderton	Councillor R Gandhi	Councillor Smith
Councillor M Anderton	Councillor Gibson	Councillor B Stephenson
Councillor Lady Atkins	Councillor Greenhough	Councillor E Stephenson
Councillor Balmain	Councillor Henderson	Councillor Swift
Councillor Bannister	Councillor Hewitt	Councillor T Taylor
Councillor Beavers	Councillor K Jones	Councillor V Taylor
Councillor Berry	Councillor Kay	Councillor Turner
Councillor Birch MBE	Councillor Lawrenson	Councillor A Vincent
Councillor Bowen	Councillor Lees	Councillor M Vincent
Councillor Bridge	Councillor Martin	Councillor Walmsley
Councillor Brooks	Councillor McCann	Councillor Williams
Councillor Catterall	Councillor McKay	Councillor Wilson
Councillor Collinson	Councillor Murphy	
Councillor I Duffy	Councillor Ormrod	
Councillor R Duffy	Councillor Robinson	

Apologies: Councillors Hargreaves, MacNaughton, Moon, Newsham, Pimbley, Rogers and Treece-Birch.

Officers present:

Garry Payne (Chief Executive)
Philippa Davies (Corporate Director, Resources)
Michael Ryan (Corporate Director, People and Places)
Stephanie Collinson (Communications Officer)
Roy Saunders (Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager)
Howard Rawding (Head of Finance)

Also present: 2 representatives of the press and 4 members of the public.

COU. 94 **Confirmation of Minutes**

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 23 January 2014 be confirmed as a correct record.

COU. 95 **Declarations of Interest**

The Chief Executive reminded Members that on 6th September 2012 the Council had passed a resolution granting a dispensation under Section 33 of the Localism Act 2011 enabling all Councillors to speak and vote on issues relating to the setting of the Council Tax. Councillors did not therefore need to individually declare an interest in agenda items 9 or 10 just because they were Council Tax payers.

No interests were declared.

COU. 96 **Announcements**

- (1) The Mayor announced that Councillor Cocker's funeral would be at 9.45am on Friday 7 March 2014 at St Chads Church in Poulton.
- (2) The Mayor reminded Members of the following Mayoral Charity Events:
 - the Spring Ball to be held at the Marine Hall on 21 March 2014;
 - a musical concert to be held at Cleveleys Community Centre on 23 April 2014; and
 - a golf tournament to be held at Fleetwood Golf Club on 2 May 2014.

COU. 97 **Public Questions Statements or Petitions**

None

COU. 98 **Questions "On Notice" from Councillors**

None

COU. 99 **Pay Policy Statement 2014/15**

The Leader of the Council (Councillor Gibson) and the Corporate Director of Resources submitted a report on the Council's Pay Policy Statement for 2014/15 financial year.

RESOLVED that the Pay Policy Statement for 2014/15, attached as appendix 1 of the report, be approved.

COU. 100 **Business Plan 2014/15**

The Leader of the Council (Councillor Gibson) and the Chief Executive submitted a report on a refreshed Business Plan for the financial year 2014/15.

Councillor Martin said that the Labour Group broadly supported the Business Plan recommended in the report but, proposed an amendment to three elements of it, as follows:-

- (1) That, under the Healthy Places theme, the first objective be amended to:
“We will improve economic growth, encourage appropriate housing and bring quality employment through delivery of:
 - *A new Local Plan to manage and deliver development over the next 15 years*
 - *A Local Growth Plan – including maximising rural business potential.”*
- (2) That an additional measure be included in the Healthy Places theme on “the number of training opportunities and apprenticeships created”.
- (3) That, under the Healthy Organisation theme, the following words be added to the project referring to developing and promoting the use of electronic contact channels: *“whilst retaining non-electronic channels of communication so that members of the public without access to electronic channels were not excluded”*.

The amendment was seconded by Councillor B Stephenson.

Councillor Martin proposed that a recorded vote be held on the amendment. Councillors B Stephenson, Shewan and Beavers indicated their support for a recorded vote, in accordance with Procedure Rule 19.2.

The following Members voted in support of the amendment proposed by Councillor Martin:

Councillors E Anderton, M Anderton, Beavers, I Duffy, R Duffy, Hewitt, Lees, Martin, Shewan, Smith, B Stephenson, E Stephenson and T Taylor.

The following Members voted against the amendment:

Councillors Amos, Anderson, Lady Atkins, Balmain, Bannister, Berry, Birch, Bowen, Bridge, Brooks, Catterall, Collinson, M Gandhi, R Gandhi, Gibson, Greenhough, Henderson, Hodgkinson, Jones, Kay, D Lawrenson, McCann, McKay, Murphy, Ormrod, Robinson, Swift, V Taylor, Turner, A Vincent, M Vincent, Walmsley, Williams and Wilson.

The amendment was therefore lost by 13 votes to 34.

Councillor Gibson then proposed, as an amendment, that the words *“in conjunction with the usual traditional channels”* be added to the first project listed under the Healthy Organisation theme.

The amendment was seconded by Councillor A Vincent and was supported unanimously.

It was therefore **RESOLVED** that the refreshed Business Plan for 2014/15, as set out in Appendix 1 to the report be approved, subject to the words “in conjunction with the usual traditional channels” being added to the first project listed under the Health Organisation theme.

**COU
101**

REVENUE BUDGET, CAPITAL PROGRAMME AND COUNCIL TAX 2014/15

The Corporate Director of Resources (Section 151 Officer) submitted a report on the Revenue Budget, Council Tax and Capital Programme, which had previously been considered by the Cabinet at its meeting on 19 February 2014.

The Leader of the Council (Councillor Gibson) submitted a report on the Council Tax for 2014/15.

The Mayor proposed, under Procedure Rule 16(c) and in line with the usual convention, that agenda items 9 and 10 be taken together, so that issues relating to the budget and the formal setting of the Council Tax could be dealt with during one debate. The Council indicated its consent to such an approach.

The Mayor also proposed, in accordance with Procedure Rule 17.4, that the Leader when proposing the Budget and the Leader of the Opposition, when proposing any amendments to it, would not be time limited. However, all other speakers in the debate would, as usual, be limited to a maximum of five minutes each. The Council indicated its consent.

The Leader (Councillor Gibson) introduced the Budget proposals approved by the Cabinet on 19 February 2014 and formally proposed the recommendations on the budget and the setting of the Council Tax for 2014/15, as set out in his report (on pages 24 and 25 of the agenda). In doing so, he stated his intention, to update the Capital Programme at the earliest opportunity and certainly no later than the first quarterly review report which would be considered by the Cabinet in July, reflecting an increase in the budgetary provision for Garstang Leisure Centre from £250,000 to £300,000.

The Resources Portfolio Holder (Councillor A. Vincent) formally seconded the recommendations.

The Leader of the Opposition (Councillor Martin) proposed an amendment to substitute the following alternative Labour Group budget, in place of the budget proposed by Councillor Gibson:

Labour Group Alternative Budget Proposals 2014/15

	Proposal	Revenue Income	Revenue Expenditure
1	Extend solar power scheme to Marine Hall and Fleetwood Depot - on lease generating up to 25% saving on bills	£14,000.00	
2	Payment of chairs pro rata	£2,000.00	
3	Lease of space - Jubilee Gardens car park	£30,000.00	
4	Outsourcing dog warden/animal welfare (current 104k)		£6,000.00
5	Advertising in car parks	£40,000.00	

6	Staff trolley	£ -	£ -
7	Consultation through Third sector (current £13725)	£1,000.00	
8	Investigate further concessions	£12,000.00	
9	Community volunteering scheme - 8 wards		£60,000.00
10	Apprenticeships 2 x £16,500 each p.a.		£33,000.00
		£99,000.00	£99,000.00

The proposed amendment was seconded by Councillor Beavers.

The Mayor proposed that Procedure Rule 17.6(b) be suspended to allow a single debate to be held on the amendment proposed by Councillor Martin and the substantive budget recommended by the Cabinet and proposed by Councillor Gibson, followed by a series of votes at the end. The Council indicated its consent.

Councillor Gibson proposed that recorded votes be held on each of the proposals relating to the budget and the Council Tax. He explained that new legislation had recently been passed requiring all local Councils to amend their Constitutions to make it a requirement that recorded votes were held on all such decisions. He said that a report on the necessary amendments to the Constitution would be submitted to the next Council meeting. There was general support for the proposal to have recorded votes on each of the decisions to be made, in accordance with Procedure Rule 19.2.

The proposed amendment and the substantive proposal were then debated.

At the conclusion of the debate, the following Members voted in support of the amendment proposed by Cllr Martin:

Councillors E Anderton, M Anderton, Beavers, I Duffy, R Duffy, Hewitt, Lees, Martin, Shewan, Smith, B Stephenson, E Stephenson and T Taylor.

The following Members voted against the amendment:

Councillors Amos, Anderson, Lady Atkins, Balmain, Bannister, Berry, Birch, Bowen, Bridge, Brooks, Catterall, Collinson, M Gandhi, R Gandhi, Gibson, Greenhough, Henderson, Hodgkinson, Jones, Kay, D Lawrenson, McCann, McKay, Murphy, Ormrod, Robinson, Swift, V Taylor, Turner, A Vincent, M Vincent, Walmsley, Williams and Wilson.

The amendment was therefore lost, by 13 votes to 34.

A vote was then taken on the Cabinet's recommendations on the budget for 2014/15 and the level of the Council Tax for 2014/15, as set out in paragraph 3.1 of the Leader's report and the supporting documentation included in the report of the Corporate Director of Resources submitted under agenda item 9, which formed the substantive motion proposed by Councillor Gibson.

The following Members voted in favour of the proposal:

Councillors Amos, Anderson, Lady Atkins, Balmain, Bannister, Berry, Birch, Bowen, Bridge, Brooks, Catterall, Collinson, M Gandhi, R Gandhi, Gibson, Greenhough, Henderson, Hodgkinson, Jones, Kay, D Lawrenson, McCann, McKay, Murphy, Ormrod, Robinson, Swift, V Taylor, Turner, A Vincent, M Vincent, Walmsley, Williams and Wilson.

The following Members voted against the proposal:

Councillors E Anderton, M Anderton, Beavers, I Duffy, R Duffy, Hewitt, Lees, Martin, Shewan, Smith, B Stephenson, E Stephenson and T Taylor.

The proposals were therefore carried, by 34 votes to 13

A vote was then taken on the proposals for the formal setting of the Council Tax for 2014/15, as set out in the recommendations in paragraphs 3.2, 3.3 and 3.4 of the report of the Leader of the Council.

The following Members voted in support of the proposals:

Councillors Amos, Anderson, E Anderton, M Anderton, Lady Atkins, Balmain, Bannister, Beavers, Berry, Birch, Bowen, Bridge, Brooks, Catterall, Collinson, I Duffy, R Duffy, M Gandhi, R Gandhi, Gibson, Greenhough, Henderson, Hewitt, Hodgkinson, Jones, Kay, D Lawrenson, Lees, Martin, McCann, McKay, Murphy, Ormrod, Robinson, Shewan, Smith, B Stephenson, E Stephenson, Swift, T Taylor, V Taylor, Turner, A Vincent, M Vincent, Walmsley, Williams and Wilson.

No Members voted against the proposal, which was therefore carried unanimously, by 47 votes to 0, and it was

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the formal Council Tax resolution as agreed by Cabinet 19 February 2014 and, as set out in Appendix 1 of the report of the Leader of the Council to this meeting, be approved, as follows:
 - (a) That the following be approved:-
 - (i) The Revised Revenue Budget for the year 2013/14 and the Revenue Budget for 2014/15, noting the withdrawal of the Rural Parish Grant and Localised Council Tax Support from April 2014.
 - (ii) For the purpose of proposing an indicative Council Tax for 2015/16, 2016/17 and 2017/18, taking into account the Medium Term Financial Plan at Appendix 2, that the intention to freeze council tax in 2015/16 be noted recognising that any future increase in Council Tax, whilst no more than 1% each year, will remain within the principles determined by the Government as part of the

legislation relating to Local Referendums allowing the veto of excessive Council Tax increases.

- (iii) Members continuing commitment to the approach being taken regarding the efficiency savings, detailed within the Council's 'Annual Efficiency Statement' at Appendix 1.
 - (iv) Any increases in the base level of expenditure and further additional expenditure arising during 2014/15 should be financed from existing budgets or specified compensatory savings, in accordance with the Financial Regulations and Financial Procedure Rules.
 - (v) The use of all other Reserves and Balances as indicated in Appendices 4 and 5.
 - (vi) The manpower estimates for 2014/15.
 - (vii) In accordance with the requirements of the Prudential Code for Capital Finance, those indicators included at Appendix 7.
 - (viii) The Revised Capital Budget for 2013/14 and the Capital Programme for 2014/15 onwards.
- (b) That it be noted that, in accordance with the Council's Scheme of Delegation, as agreed by Council at their meeting of 24th February 2005:
- (i) The amount of 34,116.36 has been calculated as the 2014/15 Council Tax Base for the whole area [(Item T in the formula in Section 31B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended (the "Act"))]; and
 - (ii) A Council Tax Base, for dwellings in those parts of its area to which a Parish precept relates, has been calculated as indicated below.

Barnacre-with-Bonds	847.10
Bleasdale	59.70
Cabus	568.70
Catterall	763.84
Cloughton-on-Brock	261.75
Fleetwood	5,976.17
Forton	480.39
Garstang	1,642.14
Great Ecclestone	529.57
Hambleton	944.95
Inskip-with-Sowerby	313.15
Kirkland	135.66

Myerscough and Bilsborrow	391.19
Nateby	218.52
Nether Wyresdale	302.33
Out Rawcliffe	253.27
Pilling	753.26
Preesall	1,805.19
Stalmine-with-Staynall	529.72
Upper Rawcliffe-with-Tarnacre	265.79
Winmarleigh	129.65

(c) The Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2014/15 (excluding Parish precepts) is £6,146,403.

(d) That the following amounts be calculated for the year 2014/15 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Act:-

(i)	£74,375,602	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.
(ii)	£67,757,088	Being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act.
(iii)	£6,618,514	Being the amount by which the aggregate at (d)(i) above exceeds the aggregate at (d)(ii) 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).
(iv)	£194.00	Being the amount at (d)(iii) above (Item R) all divided by Item T ((b)(i) above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year (including Parish precepts).
(v)	£472,111	Being the aggregate amount of all special items (Parish precepts) referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act and as detailed in Appendix 6.

(vi)

£180.16

Being the amount at (d)(iv) above less the result given by dividing the amount at (d)(v) above by Item T ((b)(i) 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 Parish precept relates.

- (e) That the Council's basic amount of Council Tax for 2014/15 is not considered excessive in accordance with principles approved under Section 52ZB of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.
- (2) That this Council's Band D equivalent Council Tax for the 2014/15 financial year of £180.16 together with parish precepts, as submitted in the report on the Budget, be approved for each of the valuation bands as follows:

Valuation Bands

	Band A	Band B	Band C	Band D	Band E	Band F	Band G	Band H
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Barnacre-with-Bonds	122.47	142.87	163.29	183.70	224.53	265.34	306.17	367.40
Bleasdale	134.60	157.03	179.46	201.90	246.77	291.63	336.50	403.80
Cabus	127.14	148.33	169.52	190.71	233.09	275.47	317.85	381.42
Catterall	165.50	193.07	220.66	248.24	303.41	358.57	413.74	496.48
Claughton-on-Brock	156.28	182.31	208.36	234.41	286.51	338.59	390.69	468.82
Fleetwood	132.38	154.44	176.50	198.57	242.70	286.82	330.95	397.14
Forton	137.46	160.36	183.27	206.18	252.00	297.81	343.64	412.36
Garstang	145.95	170.27	194.59	218.92	267.57	316.22	364.87	437.84
Great Eccleston	137.10	159.95	182.80	205.65	251.35	297.05	342.75	411.30
Hambleton	137.75	160.70	183.66	206.62	252.54	298.45	344.37	413.24
Inskip-with-Sowerby	138.91	162.05	185.21	208.36	254.67	300.96	347.27	416.72
Kirkland	169.25	197.45	225.66	253.87	310.29	366.70	423.12	507.74
Myerscough and Bilsborrow	140.56	163.98	187.41	210.84	257.70	304.55	351.40	421.68
Nateby	124.62	145.39	166.16	186.93	228.47	270.01	311.55	373.86
Nether Wyresdale	148.71	173.49	198.27	223.06	272.63	322.20	371.77	446.12
Out Rawcliffe	131.30	153.17	175.06	196.94	240.71	284.47	328.24	393.88
Pilling	160.82	187.62	214.42	241.23	294.84	348.44	402.05	482.46
Preesall	139.20	162.39	185.59	208.79	255.19	301.58	347.99	417.58
Stalmine-with-Staynall	140.41	163.80	187.21	210.61	257.42	304.21	351.02	421.22
Upper Rawcliffe-with-Tarnacre	132.65	154.75	176.86	198.97	243.19	287.40	331.62	397.94
Winmarleigh	133.57	155.82	178.09	200.35	244.88	289.39	333.92	400.70
All other areas of the Borough	120.11	140.12	160.14	180.16	220.20	260.23	300.27	360.32

- (3) That it be noted that for the year 2014/15 the major precepting authorities have stated the following amounts in precepts, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for each of the categories of dwellings in the Council's area as shown below:-

Valuation Bands

	Band A £	Band B £	Band C £	Band D £	Band E £	Band F £	Band G £	Band H £
Lancashire County Council	738.49	861.58	984.66	1107.74	1353.90	1600.07	1846.23	2215.48
Police and Crime Commissioner for Lancashire	103.97	121.30	138.63	155.96	190.62	225.28	259.93	311.92
Lancashire Combined Fire Authority	42.43	49.51	56.58	63.65	77.79	91.94	106.08	127.30

- (4) That having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at (2) and (3) above, and in accordance with Sections 30 and 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, the following amounts are set as the Council Tax for the year 2014/15 for each part of its area and for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:-

Valuation Bands

	Band A £	Band B £	Band C £	Band D £	Band E £	Band F £	Band G £	Band H £
Barnacre with Bonds	1007.36	1175.26	1343.16	1511.05	1846.84	2182.63	2518.41	3022.10
Bleasdale	1019.49	1189.42	1359.33	1529.25	1869.08	2208.92	2548.74	3058.50
Cabus	1012.03	1180.72	1349.39	1518.06	1855.40	2192.76	2530.09	3036.12
Catterall	1050.39	1225.46	1400.53	1575.59	1925.72	2275.86	2625.98	3151.18
Cloughton-on-Brock	1041.17	1214.70	1388.23	1561.76	1908.82	2255.88	2602.93	3123.52
Fleetwood	1017.27	1186.83	1356.37	1525.92	1865.01	2204.11	2543.19	3051.84
Forton	1022.35	1192.75	1363.14	1533.53	1874.31	2215.10	2555.88	3067.06
Garstang	1030.84	1202.66	1374.46	1546.27	1889.88	2233.51	2577.11	3092.54
Great Eccleston	1021.99	1192.34	1362.67	1533.00	1873.66	2214.34	2554.99	3066.00
Hambleton	1022.64	1193.09	1363.53	1533.97	1874.85	2215.74	2556.61	3067.94
Inskip with Sowerby	1023.80	1194.44	1365.08	1535.71	1876.98	2218.25	2559.51	3071.42
Kirkland	1054.14	1229.84	1405.53	1581.22	1932.60	2283.99	2635.36	3162.44
Myerscough and Bilsborrow	1025.45	1196.37	1367.28	1538.19	1880.01	2221.84	2563.64	3076.38
Nateby	1009.51	1177.78	1346.03	1514.28	1850.78	2187.30	2523.79	3028.56
Nether Wyresdale	1033.60	1205.88	1378.14	1550.41	1894.94	2239.49	2584.01	3100.82
Out Rawcliffe	1016.19	1185.56	1354.93	1524.29	1863.02	2201.76	2540.48	3048.58
Pilling	1045.71	1220.01	1394.29	1568.58	1917.15	2265.73	2614.29	3137.16
Preesall	1024.09	1194.78	1365.46	1536.14	1877.50	2218.87	2560.23	3072.28
Stalmine with Staynall	1025.30	1196.19	1367.08	1537.96	1879.73	2221.50	2563.26	3075.92
Upper Rawcliffe with Tarnacre	1017.54	1187.14	1356.73	1526.32	1865.50	2204.69	2543.86	3052.64
Winmarleigh	1018.46	1188.21	1357.96	1527.70	1867.19	2206.68	2546.16	3055.40
All other areas of the Borough	1005.00	1172.51	1340.01	1507.51	1842.51	2177.52	2512.51	3015.02

COU. Notices of Motion 102

None

COU. Exclusion of the Public and Press 103

RESOLVED that the public and press be excluded from the meeting whilst agenda 13 "Disposal of Former Ashdell Nursery and Former Thornton Depot" was considered on the grounds that their presence would involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in category 3 ("Information relating to the financial affairs of any particularly person – including the authority holding that information) of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the

Local Government (Access to Information) Variation Order 2006 and that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.

COU. 102 Disposal of Former Ashdell Nursery and Former Thornton Depot

The Resources Portfolio Holder (Councillor A Vincent) and the Chief Executive submitted a report on proposed heads of terms for the disposal of the former Ashdell Nursery and Thornton Depot sites.

RESOLVED that the disposal of the former Ashdell Nursery and Thornton Depot sites in a single transaction to Melrose Investments Limited on the basis of the Heads of Terms, attached as Appendix 1 to the report, be approved.

The meeting started at 7.00pm, the public and press were excluded at 8.39pm and the meeting finished at 8.44pm

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