

Gravesham Borough Council

Council

Tuesday, 6 March 2018

7.30 pm

Present:

The Worshipful the Mayor, Cllr Harold Craske
The Deputy Mayor, Cllr David Hurley

Councillors:	Valerie Ashenden	John Loughlin
	Gurjit Kaur Bains	Bronwen McGarrity
	Lesley Boycott	Jordan Meade
	Gurdip Ram Bungar	Lyn Milner
	John Burden	Shane Mochrie-Cox
	Julia Burgoyne	Leslie Pearton
	Colin Caller	Anthony Pritchard
	John Caller	Peter Rayner
	Lee Croxton	Alan Ridgers
	Brian Francis	Lenny Rolles
	Sandra Garside	Brian Sangha
	Greta Goatley	Peter Scollard
	Rob Halpin	Derek Shelbrooke
	Gary Harding	Lauren Sullivan
	Leslie Hills	Narinder Singh Thandi
	Karen Hurdle	Robin Theobald
	Samir Jassal	Steve Thompson
	John Knight	David Turner
	William Lambert	Jenny Wallace
	Sara Langdale	Michael Wenban

David Hughes	Chief Executive
Stuart Bobby	Director (Corporate Services)
Nick Brown	Director (Environment & Operations)
Kevin Burbidge	Director (Housing & Regeneration)
Melanie Norris	Director (Communities)
Sarah Parfitt	Assistant Director (Corporate Services)
Sarah Kilkie	Assistant Director (Communities)
Jan Guylar	Head of Legal Services, Medway Council
Alexandra Jarvis	Principal Accountant
Carlie Simmonds	Committee Services Manager

62. Minutes

The Minutes of the Council held on 5 December 2017 were signed by the Mayor.

63. Tony Larkin and William Dyke

The meeting observed a minutes silence as a mark of respect for Tony Larkin and William Dyke who had both passed away in January 2018.

64. Declaration of Interest

No declarations of interest were made.

65. Minutes of Committees

Motions that proceedings, reports and recommendations of Committees, except those reserved under Council Procedure 5.2(6) as referred to below be received and adopted and where applicable the Orders made by them be ratified and confirmed were duly proposed, seconded and resolved in each case.

Cabinet held on Monday, 8 January 2018

Overview Scrutiny Committee held on Thursday, 18 January 2018

Cabinet held on Monday, 5 February 2018

Regulatory Board (Planning) held on Wednesday, 7 February 2018

Overview Scrutiny Committee held on Thursday, 15 February 2018

Finance and Audit Committee held on Monday, 19 February 2018

The Council's attention was drawn to Minute 6 of the Finance and Audit Committee held on Monday, 19 February 2018.

66. Reserved Minutes

There were no reserved minutes.

67. Council Tax Setting 2018/19

The Council consented under Council Procedure Rule 17.4.1 to an extension of time being given to Councillor David Turner and to an equal amount being given to Cllr John Burden in his response.

Prior to voting, the Chief Executive reminded Members that all individual votes in relation to the budget and any amendments thereto would be recorded as required by legislation.

It was moved by Cllr David Turner and seconded by Cllr John Knight that –

the motion before Council as set out on pages 53-55 in the order paper be approved.

For the motion

Cllrs: Bains, Boycott, Burgoyne, Garside, Goatley, Harding, Hills, Hurdle, Hurley, Jassal, Knight, Lambert, Langdale, McGarrity, Meade, Pearton, Pritchard, Ridgers, Shelbrooke, Theobald, Turner and Wenban.

Against the motion

Cllrs: Ashenden, Bungar, Burden, C Caller, J Caller, Croxton, Francis, Halpin, Loughlin, L Milner, Mochrie-Cox, Rayner, Rolles, Sangha, Scollard, Sullivan, Thandi, Thompson and Wallace.

Abstain

The Worshipful the Mayor

The motion was declared to be carried by 22 votes.

It was therefore **resolved** that –

1. It be noted that on 10 January 2018 the Director (Corporate Services) calculated;

(a) the Council Tax Base 2018-19 for the whole Council area as **33,988.23** Band D equivalent properties as its council tax base for the year 2018-19 in accordance with Regulation 3 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 1992 made under Section 31B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 as amended by Section 74 of the Localism Act 2011.

(b) for dwellings in those parts of its area to which a Parish precept relates as set out below;

Part of the Council's area:	£
Cobham	675.14
Higham	1,571.41
Luddesdown	104.72
Meopham	3,075.57
Shorne	1,160.88
Vigo	719.26
Gravesham & Northfleet	26,681.25
Total	33,988.23

2 Calculate that the Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2018-19 (excluding Parish precepts) is £6,705,200 (£197.28 per Band D Property).

3 That the following amounts be calculated by the Council for the year 2018-19 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 as amended by Section 74 of the Localism Act 2011:

- (a) £63,004,900 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.
- (b) £55,976,580 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act.
- (c) £7,028,320 being the amount by which the aggregate at 3(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 3(b) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the Act as its Council Tax requirement for the year.

- (d) £206.79 being the amount at 3(c) above, all divided by Item 1a 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 (including Parish precepts).
- (e) £323,120 being the aggregate amount of all special items (Parish precepts) referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act.
- (f) £197.28 being the amount at 3(d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 3(e) above by Item 1a 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.

(g) Part of the Council's area:	£
Parish of:	
Cobham	221.75
Higham	252.03
Luddesdown	252.19
Meopham	226.14
Shorne	220.93
Vigo	334.38

being the amounts given by adding to the amount at 3(f) above 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 the dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate.

- (h) Part of the Council's area

		Valuation Bands							
		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Parish of:		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Cobham		147.83	172.47	197.11	221.75	271.03	320.31	369.58	443.50
Higham		168.02	196.02	224.03	252.03	308.04	364.04	420.05	504.06
Luddesdown		168.13	196.15	224.17	252.19	308.23	364.27	420.32	504.38
Meopham		150.76	175.89	201.01	226.14	276.39	326.65	376.90	452.28
Shorne		147.29	171.83	196.38	220.93	270.03	319.12	368.22	441.86
Vigo		222.92	260.07	297.23	334.38	408.69	482.99	557.30	668.76
All other parts		131.52	153.44	175.36	197.28	241.12	284.96	328.80	394.56

being the amounts given by multiplying the amounts at 3(f) and 3(g) 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.

- 4 That it be noted that for the year 2018-19 the Kent County Council has 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
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
825.12	962.64	1,100.16	1,237.68	1,512.72	1,787.76	2,062.80	2,475.36

- 5 That it be noted that for the year 2018-19 the Police and Crime Commissioner for Kent has 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
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
112.77	131.56	150.36	169.15	206.74	244.33	281.92	338.30

- 6 That it be noted that for the year 2018-19 the Kent and Medway Fire and Rescue Authority, has 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
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
50.34	58.73	67.12	75.51	92.29	109.07	125.85	151.02

- 7 That, having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 3(h), 4, 5 and 6 above, the Council, in accordance with Section 30 and 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the following amounts as the amounts of council tax for the year 2018-19 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:-

Part of the Council's area	Valuation Bands							
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Parish of:	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Cobham	1,136.06	1,325.40	1,514.75	1,704.09	2,082.78	2,461.47	2,840.15	3,408.18
Higham	1,156.25	1,348.95	1,541.67	1,734.37	2,119.79	2,505.20	2,890.62	3,468.74
Luddesdown	1,156.36	1,349.08	1,541.81	1,734.53	2,119.98	2,505.43	2,890.89	3,469.06
Meopham	1,138.99	1,328.82	1,518.65	1,708.48	2,088.14	2,467.81	2,847.47	3,416.96
Shorne	1,135.52	1,324.76	1,514.02	1,703.27	2,081.78	2,460.28	2,838.79	3,406.54
Vigo	1,211.15	1,413.00	1,614.87	1,816.72	2,220.44	2,624.15	3,027.87	3,633.44
All other parts	1,119.75	1,306.37	1,493.00	1,679.62	2,052.87	2,426.12	2,799.37	3,359.24

68. Gravesham Borough Council Pay Policy Statement 2017/18

Section 38(1) of the Localism Act 2011, which came into force on 15 January 2012, requires all English and Welsh local authorities to produce a pay policy statement for each financial year.

The Act requires the pay policy statement to include the following aspects of the Council's remuneration policy:-

- the level and elements of remuneration for each chief officer;
- a definition of 'lowest-paid employees' and the remuneration of the authority's lowest-paid employees;
- the policy on the relationship between the remuneration of the council's chief officers and other officers;
- the policy on specific aspects of chief officers' remuneration: remuneration on recruitment, increases and additions to remuneration, use of performance related pay and bonuses, termination payments and transparency; and
- the reference to 'chief officer' refers to the Head of Paid Service, Directors, Monitoring Officer, Section 151 Officer and their deputies which in Gravesham Borough Council will include all at Service Manager grade and above.

Resolved that the 2017-18 Pay Policy Statement be agreed.

69. Appointments to outside bodies

The Council **resolved** the following appointments:-

- Councillor John Knight to replace Councillor Alan Ridgers on the Cyclopark;
- Councillor John Knight to replace Councillor David Turner on the Dartford and Gravesham Community Safety Partnership. Councillor David Turner to be appointed as the substitute;
- Councillors Anthony Pritchard and Colin Caller to be reappointed to the Elizabeth Huggins Cottages Charity; and
- Councillor Jenny Wallace be appointed to the Henry Pinnock Charity.

70. To consider motions of which notice has been given under Council Procedure Rule 15.

It was moved by Cllr John Burden and seconded by Cllr Jenny Wallace that:-

This council believes action on assisting homeless people needs to be better co-ordinated between agencies within Gravesham and resolves to set up a cross party working group to work with all agencies who may have a legal, or active working interest in this matter to put in place a coordinated strategy to prevent homelessness, aid the homeless and support those that are provided accommodation after being homeless. This working group to complete its work and put in place agreed measures to deal with this before the end of November 2018.

The motion was declared to be carried unanimously.

71. To consider questions from Members of the Council of which notice has been given under Council Procedure Rule 14.

No questions have been received.

72. To receive the Mayor's Announcements

The Mayor made the following announcements:-

- thanked those staff who managed to get to work during the adverse weather ensuring that the Council remained open and its services maintained;
- thanked all participants of the Chinese Celebrations in particular the event at Twin Dynasty which raised £1000 for the Mayor's Charity;
- there will be a ceremony outside the Civic Offices on Monday 12 March 2018 at 9.50am to celebrate Commonwealth Day followed by a short reception in the Council Chamber; and
- an event was currently being organised for the evening of Friday 27 April 2018 in The Woodville currently called 'The Mayor Entertains' – further details will be circulated shortly.

Close of meeting

The meeting ended at 9.20pm