



Date: 24 February 2015

Hinckley & Bosworth
Borough Council

A Borough to be proud of

To: All Members of Council

Copy to all other Members of the Council

(other recipients for information)

Dear Councillor,

Please see overleaf a Supplementary Agenda for the meeting of the **COUNCIL** on **THURSDAY, 19 FEBRUARY 2015** at **6.30 pm**.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R Owen'.

Rebecca Owen
Democratic Services Officer

COUNCIL - 19 FEBRUARY 2015

SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA

7. LEADER OF THE COUNCIL'S POSITION STATEMENT (Pages 1 - 2)

To receive the Leader of the Council's Position Statement.

9. COUNCIL TAX SETTING (Pages 3 - 8)

Final report of the Deputy Chief Executive (Corporate Direction).

18. MOTIONS RECEIVED IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULES 13.1 AND 13.2

The following are amended versions of the Motions printed on the face of the original agenda.

(a) Motion received from Councillor Gould, seconded by Councillor Hulbert:

“That this Council commits to spend £100 of overall revenue income for each home built in the Barwell and Earl Shilton Sustainable Urban Extensions on capital projects in the respective settlements.

- Specifically this council commits to spending £250,000 (in addition to Section 106 contributions obtained for the purpose) upon a replacement building for the Jubilee Hall, Byron Close, Barwell in consultation with Barwell Parish Council;
- Commit £160,000 on facilities in Earl Shilton in consultation with Earl Shilton Town Council.

(b) Motion received from Councillor Gould, seconded by Councillor Bill:

This Council requests that the Chief Executive respond to each and every consultation relating to the Birmingham-Leicester line requesting the opening of a station at Elmesthorpe to serve the communities of Barwell and Earl Shilton and seeking commitments from Blaby District Council and the LLEP to secure that objective.

Further, this Council reaffirms its request to the Chief Executive to also include in his response a request for a twice hourly service for both Elmesthorpe and Hinckley.

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Position Statement of Leader of Council - 19 February 2015

Mr Deputy Mayor, Fellow Councillors, Officers, members of the public and media

Tonight's meeting is significant mainly because it is setting the Council's budget and council tax for 2015/16 and, therefore, sets the tone for the next five years. The Medium Term Financial Strategy will be developed on the back of these decisions and come to Council on 17 March.

For the fifth year running, we are recommending a freeze in the council tax and will be committing over £500,000 into revenue reserves, to help cushion what we know will be continuing austerity from Westminster, whoever is in power after 7 May. That shows how carefully we have managed the Council's resources and how efficiently officers have worked in maintaining our services, despite over 40% cuts in funding over the last 4 years from Government.

Not only that, two major projects of regeneration are well underway: the Crescent (now very visible), which we expect to be completed ahead of time and certainly before Christmas this year, and the new Leisure Centre, also on target for opening by late Spring next year. The planning of these two projects took some time - particularly the Crescent - but both are being delivered at no extra cost to the taxpayer and offering significant benefit in respect of facilities and economic growth.

Another recent, but ongoing, threat to our finances is the state of the County Council, which yesterday announced cuts of £32 million for 2015/16, whilst setting a council tax increase of 1.99%, in line with the increases from Police and Fire and Rescue Services. One of the cuts already announced and effective from April this year will have a significant impact on District Councils in the county - the withdrawal of recycling credits for green waste. For this Council, this is a loss of £350,000 a year! For the coming year, thanks to our sound management and the way we have stimulated local growth, our planning fee income will cover that gap - a gap, however, which will increase in future years.

It is somewhat galling, therefore, that in these times when we are encouraged to work more closely together in local government, the County Council has responded to the criticisms we made last December by stating that their only concern is their own financial position; services to our public and working together are clearly not their priority! This Council, on the other hand, is moving forwards with our Revenues and Benefits and IT shared services, the former now beginning collaborative work with DWP and Job Centre Plus on supporting local people in the run-up to local implementation of Universal Credit. Whatever you may think of the concept, and I certainly have a view, the need for us to provide support to people under financial and other pressures is vital and I am pleased that we will be playing our part.

On a more worrying note, I learned earlier this week of the theft of the ATM machine from the wall of Barclay's bank in Groby, using a JCB. The Police have made an arrest, but at a time when similar facilities are under threat in that area – with the post office being saved recently, largely through the efforts of Cllr Cartwright – we need to work with the Police to

stamp out what seems to be a pattern of activity not just in our Borough, but across the county.

Whatever the outcome locally in May's elections, this Council will face significant challenges and we need to gear up for them. To provide that impetus at an early stage, there is cross-party agreement that we welcome a Peer Challenge, financed and conducted by the Local Government Association. This will help us learn from 'critical friends' at a very early stage in the life of the new Council. Further details will be circulated by the Chief Executive.

One thing I can say with absolute certainty is that we have first-rate staff at this council, as was shown in a recent spell of bad weather, when operatives from Jubilee Building collected all the bins, gritted footpaths, erected the market and cleaned the streets. I know that staff in other areas show similar commitment and it is only right that I recognise that fact.

Finally, can I remind Members that Fairtrade Fortnight begins next Monday 23 February. This council is proud to be a Fairtrade council and I hope that Members will continue to support this initiative.

Mr Deputy Mayor, there is much to debate and decide tonight, all of it on the basis of an incredible amount of work between officers and Members, for which this Council is now renowned. I look forward to positive outcomes at this meeting and into the future.

I commend this statement to the Council.

Councillor Stuart Bray
Leader of the Council
19 February 2015



CALCULATION OF COUNCIL TAX FOR 2015/16
REPORT OF DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE (CORPORATE DIRECTION)

WARDS AFFECTED: ALL WARDS

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To obtain approval of Council Tax for 2015/16.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That the following be approved in accordance with the Local Government Finance Act (1992) for 2015/16:

- A Council budget requirement excluding Special Expenses and Parish Councils of £9,668,339.
- A Council budget requirement including Special Expenses of £10,242,560.
- A total net budget requirement including Special Expenses and Parish Councils of £11,777,999.
- A contribution from Revenue Support Grant (including the element indicated for Local Council Tax Support) and Non Domestic Rates (indicated by the NNDR Baseline) of £3,959,742.
- A forecast transfer of £86,971 surplus from the Collection Fund to the General Fund.
- A Band D Council Tax for Borough wide services, excluding Special Expenses and Parish Council precepts, of £95.96 (the same level as the previous 5 years)
- A Band D Council Tax for Borough wide services and an average of Special Expenses Services of £112.09
- An average Band D Council Tax relating to Borough wide services and an average of Special Expenses and Parish Council services of £155.22
- The total Council Tax, including amounts for the County Council, Police and Crime Commissioner, and Combined Fire Authority and for each area and valuation band as detailed in Appendix A.

3 BACKGROUND TO REPORT

Background

- 3.1 The General Fund revenue budget for 2015/16 has been drawn up in accordance with the principles set out in the Budget Strategy (the Strategy) and in accordance with the Medium Term Financial Strategy. The key objectives of the Strategy are summarised in the General Fund revenue budget 2015/16 presented alongside this report.
- 3.2 The Council Tax Base for 2015/16 is 35,599.6 and was approved, as delegated by the Deputy Chief Executive (Corporate Direction) on 12th December 2014.

- 3.3 In addition to the Borough wide element, the Borough Council, as billing authority, has to collect Council Tax on behalf of the County Council, the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, the Fire and Rescue Service, Parish Councils and the Special Expenses Area. These other bodies issue precepts to the Borough Council specifying the amounts to be collected. These amounts are then paid over during the year in accordance with statutory timescales.
- 3.4 The full “Budget Book” detailing further details on all Council budgets is available for members in the Members’ room. Members are requested to raise any specific questions directly with the Deputy Chief Executive (Corporate Direction), Chief Officer (Finance, Customer Services and Compliance), or the relevant service manager.

Council Tax 2015/16

- 3.5 The approved budgets for this Council result in an average increase in Council Tax both excluding and including the Special Expenses area of Hinckley, of 0%. This ensures this Council is eligible for receipt of a Council Tax Freeze Grant for 2015/16 equivalent to 1% (£42,300). This amount and eligibility will be confirmed following approval of the Council Tax for 2015/16.
- 3.6 The proposed levels of increases for each of the precepting bodies are as follows:
- Leicestershire County Council - 1.99%
 - The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Leicestershire – 1.99%
 - Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Combined Fire Authority – 1.99%
- 3.7 Based on these levels the resulting Council Tax amount for each valuation band is as follows:

Valuation Band	A £	B £	C £	D £	E £	F £	G £	H £
Leicestershire County Council	722.77	843.23	963.69	1,084.15	1,325.08	1,566.00	1,806.92	2,168.30
The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Leicestershire	120.00	140.00	160.00	180.00	219.99	259.99	299.99	360.00
Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Combined Fire Authority	40.29	47.00	53.72	60.43	73.86	87.29	100.72	120.86

- 3.8 The 2015/16 Council Tax relating to the Hinckley Special Expense Area items of expenditure for Band D is £57.74, a decrease over 2014/15 due to the movement in the tax base. For Council Tax freeze purposes however, the precept of the Special Expense Area is divided by the Council Tax base for Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council. For this purpose the charge for this purpose has been frozen at £16.13.
- 3.9 The average 2015/16 Council Tax relating to Parish Council items of expenditure, including Special Expenses, for Band D is £59.26, an increase of 2.15% over 2014/15.
- 3.10 The average total amount of Council Tax due at Band D will be £1,479.80 for 2015/16, an increase of 1.87% over 2014/15. The actual percentage increase for each taxpayer will vary depending on the area in which they live.

3.11 In summary, the average band D Council Tax is made up as follows:

	2015/16 Council Tax	2014/15 Council Tax	Increase
Leicestershire County Council	£1,084.15	£1,063.00	1.99%
Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Combined Fire Authority	£60.43	£59.25	1.99%
The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Leicestershire	£180.00	£176.48	1.99%
Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council Including Special Expenses	£112.09	£112.09	0%
Parish Councils	£43.13	£41.88	2.98%
Total Council Tax	£1,479.80	£1,452.70	1.87%

5 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (KP)

The Council Tax amounts above, when applied to the approved Council Tax Base, will provide sufficient income to meet the estimated Borough wide and Special Expenses area spending and Parish, County, Police and Fire precepts.

6 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS (EH)

The Local Government Finance Act 1992 and the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 1992 (as amended) set out the requirement for the Council to confirm and formally approve its Council Tax Base and notify it to its precepting bodies.

Precept setting must be completed and submitted to the Council by the 31st March by precepting bodies. In the event this deadline is missed the Billing Authorities (Anticipation of Precepts) Regulations 1992 contain provisions for anticipating the precept, provided they have issued one in the last three years immediately previous.

7 CORPORATE PLAN IMPLICATIONS

Council Tax levels will have an indirect impact on all Corporate Plan targets

8 CONSULTATION

All budget holders, Corporate Operations Board and the Strategic Leadership Board have been consulted throughout the budget setting process.

9 RISK IMPLICATIONS

It is the Council's policy to proactively identify and manage significant risks which may prevent delivery of business objectives.

It is not possible to eliminate or manage all risks all of the time and risks will remain which have not been identified. However, it is the officer's opinion based on the information available, that the significant risks associated with this decision/project have been identified, assessed and that controls are in place to manage them effectively.

Management of Significant (Net Red) Risks		
Risk Description	Mitigating Actions	Owner
That the Council has insufficient resources to meet its aspirations and cannot set a balanced budget	<p>A budget strategy is produced to ensure that the objectives of the budget exercise are known throughout the organisation.</p> <p>The budget is scrutinised on an ongoing basis to ensure that assumptions are robust and reflective of financial performance.</p> <p>Sufficient levels of reserves and balances are maintained to ensure financial resilience</p>	S. Kohli

10 KNOWING YOUR COMMUNITY – EQUALITY & RURAL IMPLICATIONS

Precepts for parishes will fund expenditure on their services. Rural communities also benefit from services provided by other precepting authorities.

11 CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

By submitting this report, the report author has taken the following into account:

- Community Safety Implications
- Environmental Implications
- ICT Implications
- Asset Management implications
- Human Resources Implications

Background Papers: DCLG notifications
Notification of precepts

Contact Officer: Katherine Plummer, Chief Officer (Finance, Customer Services and Compliance) ext 5609

Executive Member Cllr. K.W.P. Lynch

APPENDIX A

COUNCIL TAX 2015/16

VALUATION BAND PROPORTION OF BAND D	A 6/9	B 7/9	C 8/9	D 9/9	E 11/9	F 13/9	G 15/9	H 18/9
	£p	£p	£p	£p	£p	£p	£p	£p
Parish								
HINCKLEY	985.52	1,149.78	1,314.04	1,478.28	1,806.78	2,135.29	2,463.80	2,956.56
BAGWORTH	1,009.04	1,177.21	1,345.38	1,513.55	1,849.89	2,186.23	2,522.57	3,027.10
BARLESTONE	992.42	1,157.83	1,323.23	1,488.63	1,819.43	2,150.24	2,481.04	2,977.26
BARWELL	991.76	1,157.05	1,322.35	1,487.63	1,818.21	2,148.80	2,479.38	2,975.26
BURBAGE	983.43	1,147.34	1,311.24	1,475.14	1,802.94	2,130.76	2,458.56	2,950.28
CADEBY	969.57	1,131.16	1,292.76	1,454.34	1,777.53	2,100.72	2,423.90	2,908.69
CARLTON	970.03	1,131.71	1,293.38	1,455.04	1,778.38	2,101.73	2,425.07	2,910.09
DESFORD	994.37	1,160.10	1,325.83	1,491.56	1,823.01	2,154.47	2,485.92	2,983.11
EARL SHILTON	990.18	1,155.21	1,320.25	1,485.27	1,815.32	2,145.39	2,475.44	2,970.54
GROBY	992.52	1,157.94	1,323.36	1,488.77	1,819.60	2,150.44	2,481.27	2,977.54
HIGHAM	973.53	1,135.78	1,298.04	1,460.29	1,784.79	2,109.30	2,433.80	2,920.57
MARKET BOSWORTH	979.30	1,142.51	1,305.73	1,468.94	1,795.37	2,121.80	2,448.23	2,937.88
MARKFIELD	989.75	1,154.71	1,319.67	1,484.62	1,814.53	2,144.46	2,474.37	2,969.25
NAILSTONE	974.93	1,137.42	1,299.90	1,462.38	1,787.35	2,112.33	2,437.30	2,924.77
NEWBOLD VERDON	988.28	1,153.00	1,317.71	1,482.42	1,811.84	2,141.27	2,470.69	2,964.84
OSBASTON	967.80	1,129.10	1,290.40	1,451.69	1,774.29	2,096.89	2,419.48	2,903.39
PECKLETON	980.77	1,144.23	1,307.69	1,471.14	1,798.06	2,124.98	2,451.90	2,942.29
RATBY	987.94	1,152.60	1,317.26	1,481.91	1,811.21	2,140.53	2,469.84	2,963.82
SHACKERSTONE	974.44	1,136.84	1,299.25	1,461.65	1,786.46	2,111.27	2,436.08	2,923.30
SHEEPY	973.93	1,136.26	1,298.58	1,460.90	1,785.53	2,110.18	2,434.82	2,921.79
STANTON-U-BARDON	976.95	1,139.77	1,302.60	1,465.41	1,791.06	2,116.71	2,442.35	2,930.83
STOKE GOLDING	975.26	1,137.80	1,300.34	1,462.88	1,787.96	2,113.05	2,438.12	2,925.76
SUTTON CHENEY	974.08	1,136.42	1,298.77	1,461.11	1,785.80	2,110.49	2,435.18	2,922.22
TWYCROSS	969.41	1,130.97	1,292.54	1,454.10	1,777.23	2,100.37	2,423.50	2,908.21
WITHERLEY	974.02	1,136.36	1,298.70	1,461.03	1,785.70	2,110.38	2,435.04	2,922.06

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