

Notes of Key Decisions/Actions

Meeting: Council

Date: Wednesday, 23 February 2022

Agenda Item	Decision
1 Minutes	The minutes of the meeting held on 19 January 2022 were agreed by the members present and then signed by the Mayor.
2 Declarations of Interest	Councillor England advised he was a member of Herts Valley Hospital which was mentioned in one of his written questions.
3 Public Participation	There was no public participation.
4 Announcements	<p>4.1 By the Mayor:</p> <p>The Mayor welcomed new Councillor Anne Foster and Councillor Simy Dhyani.</p> <p>4.2 By the Chief Executive:</p> <p>The Chief Executive confirmed the results of the by elections on Thursday 3rd February were as follows:</p> <p>Berkhamsted West Ward: Anne Foster, Liberal Democrats</p> <p>Berkhamsted Town Council West Ward: Anne Foster, Liberal Democrats</p> <p>Boxmoor Ward: Simy Dhyani, Liberal Democrats</p> <p>4.3 By the Group Leaders: _</p> <p>Councillor Williams gave apologies on behalf of Councillors Bassadone and Chapman.</p> <p>Councillor Tindall gave apologies on behalf of Councillors Barry-Mears, McDowell, Pringle and Townsend.</p> <p>4.4 Council Leader and Members of the Cabinet:</p> <p>Full details are in the minutes under Announcements of the Leader and Cabinet.</p>
5	The following Motion was proposed by Councillor Timmis and seconded by

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Motions	<p>Councillor Tindall:</p> <p>I move that Dacorum Borough Council strongly opposes Luton Airport's further planned expansion, from 18 million passengers per annum to 32 million passengers per annum by 2040, with the resulting negative impacts of increased noise, emissions and surface transport. This disproportionately impacts the Watling Ward villages in Dacorum, and more widely our Borough and much of Hertfordshire. Given National Climate Change goals, air travel awareness, and noise and environmental pollution levels, it cannot be justified. This cannot go unchallenged and so Dacorum Borough Council will therefore commit to oppose the expansion of the airport at every opportunity.</p> <p>A recorded vote was held:</p> <p>For: 37 (Adeleke, Allen, Anderson, Banks, Barrett, Beauchamp, Bhinder, Birnie, Cloughton, Dhyani, Douris, Elliot, England, Freedman, Griffiths, Guest, Harden, Hearn, Hobson, Hollinghurst, Johnson, Link, Sobaan Mahmood, Suqlain Mahmood, Peter, Ransley, Riddick (Mayor), Rogers, Silwal, Stevens, Sutton, Taylor, Timmis, Tindall, Williams, Wilkie and Wyatt Lowe)</p> <p>Against: 1 (Arslan)</p> <p>Abstain: 1 (Foster)</p> <p>Therefore the Motion was carried.</p>
6 Questions	Full details can be found in the minutes under Questions.
7 Business from the last council meeting	None.
8 Cabinet referrals	<p><u>Resolved:</u></p> <p>That the following be approved:</p> <p><u>15 February 2022</u></p> <p><u>Item 8.1 CA/07/22 SENIOR OFFICER PAY POLICY</u></p> <p>Decision</p> <p>(1) That Cabinet recommends to Council that it adopts the Pay Policy for 2022/23 as set out in appendix 1 to the cabinet report.</p> <p>(2) That Cabinet recommends to Council that authority be delegated to the Chief Executive in conjunction with the Council's Monitoring Officer to approve any amendments to the Pay Policy throughout the financial year 2022/2023, which may be required as a result of legislative</p>

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	<p>changes.</p> <p><u>Item 8.2 CA/10/22 CUSTOMER SERVICE STRATEGY</u></p> <p>Decision</p> <p>(1) Approves the outline plan for phase two implementation and recommends to Council the drawdown from reserves of £150,000 to complete the phase 2 work.</p> <p>(2) Approves the principle of a new Head of Transformation post to lead the on-going transformational change programme, including the Customer Strategy, and recommends to Council the drawdown from reserves of £180,000 to fund the post.</p> <p><u>Item 8.3 CA/11/22 TREASURY MANAGEMENT- MID YEAR REVIEW</u></p> <p>Decision</p> <p>That Council accepts this report on mid-year treasury management performance and prudential indicators for 2021/22</p> <p><u>Item 8.4 CA/12/22 BUDGET REPORT</u></p> <p>Councillor Tindall proposed an amendment to the budget and this was seconded by Councillor England. The amendment was as follows:</p> <p>To use the Negative RSG Contribution of £900,000 as follows –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. To set up a specific reserve to be available to kick-start initiatives for carbon reduction in Council domestic properties - £450,000 b. To set up a specific reserve for the purchase of electric vehicles in and for the Council and facilitate development of propulsion - £450.000 <p>A recorded vote was held on the alternate budget:</p> <p>For: 15 (Allen, Cloughton, Dhyani, England, Foster, Freedman, Hobson, Hollinghurst, Link, Ransley, Stevens, Symington, Taylor, Tindall and Wilkie)</p> <p>Against: 17 (Anderson, Banks, Barrett, Beauchamp, Birnie, Douris, Elliot, Griffiths, Guest, Harden, Hearn, Johnson, Riddick (Mayor), Rogers, Timmis, Williams and Wyatt-Lowe)</p> <p>Abstain: 0</p> <p>Absent for vote: 4 (Adeleke, Arslan, Peter and Silwal)</p> <p>Therefore the amendment failed.</p> <p>A recorded vote was then held on the preliminary budget:</p>

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	<p>For: 20 (Anderson, Arslan, Banks, Barrett, Beauchamp, Birnie, Douris, Elliot, Griffiths, Guest, Harden, Hearn, Johnson, Peter, Riddick (Mayor), Rogers, Silwal, Timmis, Williams and Wyatt-Lowe). Against: 1 (Hollinghurst) Abstain: 14 (Allen, Claughton, Dhyani, England, Foster, Freedman, Hobson, Link, Ransley, Stevens, Symington, Taylor, Tindall and Wilkie) Absent for vote: 1 (Adeleke)</p> <p>Therefore it was resolved that the following be approved;</p> <p>Decision</p> <p>General Fund Revenue Estimate</p> <p>a) set a Dacorum Borough Council General Fund Council Tax requirement of £12.836m, and a provisional amount of £13.851m for the combined Borough Council and Parish Councils' requirement for 2022/23;</p> <p>b) approve a Band D Council Tax increase of £5 (2.4%) for Dacorum Borough Council;</p> <p>c) approve the base estimates for 2022/23, as shown in Appendix A1, and the indicative budget forecasts for 2022/23 – 2025/26, as shown in Appendix A2;</p> <p>d) approve the forecast balances of Revenue Reserves as shown in Appendix J, and approve section 11 of this report as the updated Reserves Strategy;</p> <p>e) approve increases in Fees and Charges for 2022/23 as set out in Appendices C3, D3, and E3;</p> <p>f) approve and adopt the Treasury Management Strategy for 2022/23, attached at Appendix K;</p> <p>g) approve and adopt the Capital Strategy for 2022/23, attached at Appendix L;</p> <p>h) note that this budget paper, if approved by Council, will form part of the Medium Term Financial Strategy.</p> <p>Capital Programme</p> <p>i) approve the Capital Programme for 2022/23 to 2026/27, as detailed in Appendix I;</p> <p>j) approve the financing proposals in Appendix I subject to an annual review of the financing options by the Chief Finance Officer, in consultation</p>

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	<p>with the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Resources, during the preparation of the Statement of Accounts.</p> <p>Housing Revenue Account (HRA)</p> <p>k) set dwelling rents according to the new MHCLG Rent Standard, which provides for a rent increase of CPI+1% (4.1% in total). The average dwelling rents is proposed to be £111.23 in 2022/23 (based on 52 weeks);</p> <p>l) approve the HRA estimate for 2022/23 as shown in Appendix F.</p> <p>Employer Terms and Conditions</p> <p>m) note that the hourly rate of all Council employees continues to exceed the rate proposed by the rates of the Living Wage Foundation, for 2022/23 (to be reviewed annually thereafter).</p> <p>Statement by Chief Finance Officer</p> <p>n) approve the statement by the Chief Finance Officer regarding the robustness of the budget estimates and level of reserves as set out in Appendix M.</p> <p>In addition, Dacorum Borough Council is to set aside £135k towards the Wendover Canal Trust restoration project. This is made up of a £25k initial payment to the trust and £110k that will be set aside to fund the final £110k once all other funding requirements have been achieved.</p> <p><u>Item 8.5 CA/13/22 Q3 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE</u></p> <p>Decision</p> <p>Approval of the revised capital programme to move £5.78m slippage identified at Quarter 3 into financial year 2022/23 as detailed in Appendix C of the cabinet report.</p> <p><u>Item 8.6 CA/14/22 MEMBERS CODE OF CONDUCT</u></p> <p>Decision</p> <p>That Council approves the annexed Code of Conduct for Councillors.</p> <p><u>Item 8.7 CA/15/22 COMMITTEE TIMETABLE</u></p> <p>Decision</p> <p>That Council approves the Meeting Timetable for 2022/23 as set out in Appendix A to the cabinet report.</p>

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<p>9 Council Tax Declaration 2022/23</p>	<p>A recorded vote was held:</p> <p>For: 32 (Adeleke, Allen, Anderson, Banks, Barrett, Beauchamp, Birnie, Claughton, Dhyani, Douris, Elliot, England, Foster, Freedman, Griffiths, Guest, Harden, Hearn, Hobson, Johnson, Link, Peter, Riddick (Mayor), Rogers, Silwal, Stevens, Symington, Taylor, Timmis, Tindall, Wilkie, Williams and Wyatt-Lowe)</p> <p>Against: 0</p> <p>Abstain: 1 (Hollinghurst)</p> <p>Therefore the Council Tax Declaration for 2022/23 was agreed.</p>
<p>10 Overview and Scrutiny referrals</p>	<p>There were no overview and scrutiny referrals.</p>
<p>11 Audit committee referral</p>	<p>The Council agreed that Dacorum opt into the national auditor arrangement scheme, overseen by the Public Sector Audit Appointments (PSAA), for procurement of External Audit appointments for financial years 2023/24 to 2027/28.</p>
<p>12 Changes to committee membership</p>	<p>The following changes to committee membership were agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Remove Councillor Allen from the Finance and Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee. ➤ Add Councillor Dhyani to the Finance and Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee. ➤ Remove Councillor McDowell from the Strategic Planning and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee. ➤ Add Councillor Foster to the Strategic Planning and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
<p>13 Change to committee dates</p>	<p>There were no changes to committee dates.</p>
<p>14 Call in and urgency procedure</p>	<p>The Council noted the following urgent Portfolio Holder Decision:</p> <p>PH/001/22 - Additional Resilience Grant (ARG) Policy update</p>

The meeting ended at 10.31 pm