



Council

Thursday, 2 March 2017

MINUTES

Present:

Councillor Joe Baker (Mayor), Councillor Jennifer Wheeler (Deputy Mayor) and Councillors Tom Baker-Price, Roger Bennett, Natalie Brookes, Juliet Brunner, David Bush, Michael Chalk, Debbie Chance, Greg Chance, Anita Clayton, Brandon Clayton, Matthew Dormer, John Fisher, Andrew Fry, Bill Hartnett, Pattie Hill, Gay Hopkins, Wanda King, Jane Potter, Gareth Prosser, Antonia Pulsford, Mark Shurmer, Rachael Smith, Yvonne Smith, Paul Swansborough, David Thain, Pat Witherspoon and Nina Wood-Ford

Officers:

Kevin Dicks, Claire Felton and Jayne Pickering

Committee Services Officers:

Jess Bayley and Amanda Scarce

73. WELCOME

The Mayor welcomed all those present and formally opened the meeting. In so doing he advised all those present that due to public interest the meeting was being recorded. Those live streaming the meeting were reminded of the Council's protocol around the recording of meetings.

74. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies for absence.

75. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Debbie Chance declared an other disclosable interest in Minute Item 77; Health Commission Final Report, in her capacity as an employee of University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust.

Whilst it was acknowledged that all present would have had some form of contact with the Alexandra Hospital, there were no formal declarations of interest made.

76. HEALTH COMMISSION - MINUTES

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Chair

The minutes of the meetings of the Health Commission held on 12th, 14th and 19th January 2017 were submitted for Members' consideration.

RESOLVED that

the minutes of the meetings of the Health Commission held on 12th, 14th and 19th January 2017 be approved as correct records and signed by the Chair.

77. HEALTH COMMISSION - FINAL REPORT

The Council considered the final report of the Health Commission, a group set up by the Council comprising members of the Executive Committee. This had met in public on three occasions to gather evidence from health service commissioners, providers and residents about the potential impact of the options from the Joint Services Review of Health on the Alexandra Hospital. The meetings had co-incided with the three Worcestershire Clinical Commissioning Groups' consultation about the future of Worcestershire Acute Hospitals NHS Trust's services.

In presenting the report, the Leader of the Council thanked all Councillors who had been involved in the work of the Commission and also the officers who had worked very hard within tight timescales to support it. The report included recommendations to the Council to inform its response to the consultation. The Leader commented that residents wanted safe services which were local and accessible, with a plan and a trust which was viable and sustainable. He provided a detailed summary of the supporting evidence behind each of the recommendations whilst making reference to the report. The Leader concluded his presentation by outlining the Council's wholehearted support of the staff employed by the NHS at both the Alexandra Hospital and throughout the country and he thanked them for their dedication and commitment.

Councillor Juliet Brunner also took the opportunity to thank Members and officers for their hard work and those residents who had given up their time to either attend the meetings or to complete a questionnaire. She also reiterated her thanks and support to the staff at the Alexandra Hospital. However, she shared her disappointment about the number of people who had responded to the Health Commission's survey in comparison with those who had previously signed the petition to retain services at the Alexandra Hospital.

A number of Members took the opportunity to comment on the work of the Health Commission and the need to support residents and ensure that appropriate services were available to all. Comments were also made in respect of the consultation process and the

length of time which had elapsed since the first notice of motion had been proposed by the Council in July 2012.

RESOLVED that

- 1) Redditch Borough Council re-affirms its position as detailed in the Notice of Motion from the Council meeting on 23rd July 2012 which was carried unanimously (as detailed in Appendix B to the report);**
- 2) In light of Section 29A and continuous changes of senior personnel managing Worcestershire Acute Hospitals Trust, that all previous options be reconsidered and a new plan developed;**
- 3) The Worcestershire Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) take into account the following concerns raised by Members:**
 - a) Redditch and Bromsgrove CCG and WAHT have not submitted evidence when requested by the Commission in a timely manner. The Commission therefore feels that its concerns have not been given due regard as befits their role as the democratic representatives of the Borough;**
 - b) Members should have received separate submissions from Redditch and Bromsgrove CCG and WAHT at its meeting on 12th January. The purchaser/provider relationship was not therefore clear to either elected Members or members of the public present at (or viewing the live streaming of) the meeting of the Health Commission;**
 - c) the Worcestershire CCGs' proposals are totally undermined by the decision not to explore Option 2 in 2015. The Health Commission has evidence that another trust was interested in providing services at the Alexandra Hospital;**
 - d) significant concerns over the patient care capacity problems currently being experienced at Worcestershire Royal Hospital and its ability to cope moving forward; and**
 - e) car parking capacity problems being experienced by patients and visitors at Worcestershire Royal Hospital;**
- 4) WAHT's approach to communication with the public be improved to include greater promotion of the Trust's concessionary travel and car parking policy;**
- 5) The Worcestershire Clinical Commissioning Groups and Worcestershire Acute Hospitals Trust take into account**

projected housing growth in Redditch, Bromsgrove and Stratford Districts, as detailed in the relevant Local Plans and as detailed in the 3 Councils' submission to the Joint Services Review in 2013, and reviews the proposals in light of these (see Appendix O);

- 6)
 - a) the Worcestershire CCGs, WAHT and the Worcestershire Health and Care Trust note Members' concerns in respect of the Herefordshire and Worcestershire Sustainability and Transformation Plan and the implications for Redditch residents; and
 - b) the Redditch and Bromsgrove CCG, WAHT and the Worcestershire Health and Care Trust work more proactively with the Council to develop and implement this plan in order to meet the needs of Redditch residents recognising the role of the Council in the preventative agenda.
- 7) The Redditch and Bromsgrove CCG and WAHT work with the Council to identify actions that can be taken by all service providers to address the high rate of respiratory illness experienced in the Redditch area;
- 8) The Council write to NHS England and NHS Improvement urging that the proposed changes to WAHT services are not implemented until:
 - a) the concerns raised by patients as detailed in the completed surveys and minutes of the Health Commission meetings, have been addressed; and
 - b) the £29m capital investment detailed in the Worcestershire CCGs' consultation report has been secured.
- 9) The Council writes to NHS England and NHS Improvement expressing Members' concerns about the Trust and the Worcestershire CCGs' consultation process, the viability of the Trust, and its ability to provide quality and safe services (as evidenced by Section 29A), the time it has taken to review hospital services, which Members feel has been too long, and the overall inadequacy of the plan for future services;
- 10) The Council writes to Central Government urging them to review funding arrangements for the NHS and Social Care; and
- 11) The Council writes to Central Government/NHS England requesting that there be a substantial recruitment and

training initiative for new doctors and nurses to work within the NHS.

A named vote was requested in respect of Recommendation 12
Members voting FOR the resolution: Councillors Joe Baker, Natalie Brookes, Debbie Chance, Greg Chance, John Fisher, Andy Fry, Bill Hartnett, Pattie Hill, Wanda King, Mark Shurmer, Rachael Smith, Yvonne Smith, Paul Swansborough, Jennifer Wheeler, Pat Witherspoon and Nina Wood-Ford (16)

Members voting AGAINST the resolution: 0

Members ABSTAINING from voting on the resolution: Councillors Tom Baker-Price, Roger Bennett, Juliet Brunner, David Bush, Michael Chalk, Anita Clayton, Brandon Clayton, Matthew Dormer, Gay Hopkins, Jane Potter, Gareth Prosser, Antonia Pulsford, David Thain (13)

RESOLVED that

- 12) the following answers be provided to the first eight questions in the CCGs' Consultation Survey:**

Question	Response
1. a To provide high quality health services which deliver the highest standards of care to patients.	Strongly agree
1. b To work within the budget available to deliver services which are as near people's homes as possible.	Strongly disagree
1. c To ensure that all services are staffed appropriately to provide safe care at all times.	Strongly agree
2.a To develop countywide centres of excellence for various planned care services. Some services will be at the Alexandra Hospital and some at Worcestershire Royal Hospital.	Strongly disagree
2.b To centralise all inpatient children's facilities	Strongly disagree

at the Worcestershire Royal Hospital.	
2.c To provide better access to home nursing and consultant-led clinics to prevent as many children as possible from being admitted to hospital.	Tend to agree
2.d To centralise all hospital births in the county at the Worcestershire Royal Hospital. Where women would have the choice of midwife or consultant-led care.	Strongly disagree
2.e To centralise all emergency surgery at the Worcestershire Royal Hospital.	Strongly disagree
2.f To retain Accident and Emergency Departments at both the Alexandra Hospital (adults over 16 years old only) and Worcestershire Royal Hospital.	Strongly disagree
2.g To introduce urgent care centres at both hospitals which will treat adults and children 24 hours a day.	Not sure See point 8.
3. Please tell us why you agree with the proposals.	1.a With high quality services delivered locally. 1.c To enable adequate staffing a review needs to include staffing from other trusts including Birmingham. 2.c Providing consultant services are delivered locally (see the Council's own survey at question 5 and verbal feedback).
4. Please tell us why you disagree with the proposals.	1.b The budget proposed is inadequate. We do not believe the

	<p>services should be delivered by WAHT alone.</p> <p>2.a Based on the public response to the Council's own survey, see question 5.</p> <p>2.b Based on the public response to the Council's own survey, see question 5.</p> <p>2.d Based on the public response to the Council's own survey, see question 5.</p> <p>2.e Based on the public response to the Council's own survey, see question 5 and from verbal feedback.</p> <p>2.f But would have strongly agreed had all ages (i.e. under 16s) been treated at the Alexandra Hospital.</p>
5.a Do you think the NHS should provide transport services to enable patients, visitors and staff to travel between the three hospital sites?	<p>Yes</p> <p>See point 8.</p>
5.b Do you think the NHS should subsidise the costs of transport to hospital even though this means there would be less money for treatments?	<p>No</p> <p>See point 8.</p>
5.c Would you be likely to use a hospital transport service if you or a friend or member of your family were being treated at one of the three Worcestershire hospitals?	<p>Not applicable</p>
Questions 6 and 7	<p>Not applicable</p>
8. Now thinking about all the proposals in this document, is there anything further that we should consider to improve or enhance the healthcare provided by	<p>The questions are confusing and would appear to capture the CCGs' proposals.</p> <p>Reference 2.g It is confusing to the public what an Urgent Care Centre is.</p>

Worcestershire hospitals.	Reference 5.a & b, transport services should be provided but not at the expense of patient care. To avoid the need for additional transport, services should be provided locally.
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78. URGENT BUSINESS - COUNCIL TAX RESOLUTIONS

The Council Tax Resolutions was accepted as an item of urgent business – not having met the publication deadline – and was considered at the meeting as such, with the approval of the Mayor, in accordance with the Council’s constitutional rules and the powers vested in the Chair by virtue of Section 100(B)(4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972 to agree matters of urgency being discussed by reason of special circumstances. In this case the special circumstances were that an error had been made in the calculations for the Council Tax Resolutions agreed at Council on 20th February 2017. The item needed to be considered to enable Members to approve the revised and correct calculations before publication of the Council Tax bills for the new financial year.

The Council considered the report of the Director of Finance and Resources which set out calculation errors in the Council tax resolutions agreed at the Council meeting on 20th February 2017. The errors did not affect the budget agreed by the Council but needed to be corrected in order for the Council Tax bills to be issued on time.

In accordance with the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014, a named vote was taken and voting was recorded as follows:

Members voting FOR the resolution: Councillors Joe Baker, Natalie Brookes, Debbie Chance, Greg Chance, John Fisher, Andy Fry, Bill Hartnett, Pattie Hill, Wanda King, Mark Shurmer, Rachael Smith, Yvonne Smith, Jennifer Wheeler, Pat Witherspoon and Nina Wood-Ford (15)

Members voting AGAINST the resolution: Councillors Tom Baker-Price, Juliet Brunner, David Bush, Michael Chalk, Anita Clayton, Brandon Clayton, Matthew Dormer, Gay Hopkins, Jane Potter, Gareth Prosser, Antonia Pulsford, Paul Swansborough, David Thain (13)

Members ABSTAINING from voting on the resolution: 0

RESOLVED that

the amendments to the Council Tax Resolutions as set out at Appendix 1 attached to these minutes be approved.

The Meeting commenced at 7.00 pm
and closed at 8.02 pm

REDDITCH BOROUGH COUNCIL
Council Tax Setting 2017/18

RESOLVED that

1. that it be noted at its meeting on 17th January 2017, the Executive Committee calculated the Council Tax Base 2017/18
 - (a) for the whole Council area as 25,509.11 [Item T in the formula in Section 31B of the Local Government Act 1992, as amended (the "Act")]; and
 - (b) for dwellings in those parts of its area to which a Parish precept relates; this being Feckenham Parish as 363.26.
2. Calculate the Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2017/18 (excluding Parish precepts) is **£5,795,925**.
3. That the following amounts be calculated for the year 2017/18 in accordance with sections 31 to 36 of the Act:
 - (a) £60,246,887 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) (*i.e. Gross expenditure*)
 - (b) £54,339,544 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A (3) of the Act. (*i.e. Gross income*)
 - (c) **£5,804,225** being the amount by which the aggregate of 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. (Item R in the formula in Section 31B of the Act).
 - (d) **£227.54** being the amount at 3 (c) above (Item R), all divided by Item T (1(a) 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).
 - (e) £8,300 being the aggregate amount of all special items (Feckenham Parish precept) referred to in Section 34 (1) of the Act.
 - (f) **£227.21** being the amount at 3 (d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 3 (e) above by Item T (1 (a) above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34 (2) of the Act, as the

REDDITCH BOROUGH COUNCIL
Council Tax Setting 2017/18

basic amount of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no Parish precept relates.

- (g) £250.06 being the amount given by adding to the amount at 3(f), the amount of the special item relating to the Parish of Feckenham 3(e), divided by the amount in 1(b) above.
- (h) The amounts below 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 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 dwelling listed in different valuation bands.

Valuation Band	Proportion of Band D tax paid	Parish of Feckenham £	All other parts of the Council's area £
A	6/9	166.71	151.47
B	7/9	194.49	176.72
C	8/9	222.28	201.96
D	1	250.06	227.21
E	11/9	305.63	277.70
F	13/9	361.20	328.19
G	15/9	416.77	378.68
H	18/9	500.12	454.42

4. It be noted that for the year 2017/18, Worcestershire County Council, Police & Crime Commissioner for West Mercia and Hereford and Worcester Fire and Rescue Authority have issued precepts to the Council in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 for each category of dwelling in the Council's area as indicated below:

REDDITCH BOROUGH COUNCIL
Council Tax Setting 2017/18

	Valuation Bands							
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Worcestershire County Council	770.21	898.57	1,026.94	1,155.31	1,412.05	1,668.78	1,925.52	2,310.62
Police & Crime Commissioner for West Mercia	126.40	147.47	168.54	189.60	231.74	273.87	316.01	379.20
Hereford and Worcester Fire and Rescue Authority	53.02	61.86	70.69	79.53	97.20	114.88	132.55	159.06

5. Having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 4(h) and 5 above, that Redditch Borough Council in accordance with Sections 30 and 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 hereby sets the amounts shown below as the amounts of Council Tax for 2017/18 for each part of its area and for each of the categories of dwellings:

Valuation Band	Proportion of Band D tax paid	Parish of Feckenham £	All other parts of the Council's area £
A	6/9	1,116.34	1,101.10
B	7/9	1,302.39	1,284.62
C	8/9	1,488.45	1,468.13
D	1	1,674.50	1,651.65
E	11/9	2,046.62	2,018.69
F	13/9	2,418.73	2,385.72
G	15/9	2,790.85	2,752.76
H	18/9	3,349.00	3,303.30

6. That the Executive Director Finance & Resources be authorised to make payments under Section 90(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 from the Collection Fund by ten equal instalments between April 2017 to March 2018 as detailed below:

REDDITCH BOROUGH COUNCIL
Council Tax Setting 2017/18

	Precept £	Surplus on Collection Fund £	Total to pay £
Worcestershire County Council	29,470,930	37,644	29,508,574
Police & Crime Commissioner for West Mercia	4,767,493	6,360	4,856,402
Hereford & Worcester Fire	2,028,740	2,616	2,031,356

7. That the Executive Director Finance & Resources be authorised to make transfers under Section 97 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 from the Collection Fund to the General Fund the sum of £5,811,690 being the Council's own demand on the Collection Fund (£5,795,925) and Parish Precept (£8,300) and the distribution of the Surplus on the Collection Fund (£7,465).
8. That the Executive Director Finance & Resources be authorised to make payments from the General Fund to Feckenham Parish Council the sums listed above (£8,300) by instalment on 1 April 2017 in respect of the precept levied on the Council.
9. That the above resolutions 3 to 5 be signed by the Chief Executive for use in legal proceedings in the Magistrates Court for the recovery of unpaid Council Taxes.
10. Notices of the making of the said Council Taxes signed by the Chief Executive are given by advertisement in the local press under Section 38(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.