

# Council

22nd February 2010

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## MINUTES

### Present:

Councillor Malcolm Hall (Mayor), Councillor Kath Banks (Deputy Mayor) and Councillors P Anderson, M Braley, J Brunner, M Chalk, A Clayton, B Clayton, J Cookson, D Enderby, J Field, C Gandy, W Hartnett, N Hicks, G Hopkins, D Hunt, R King, W King, C MacMillan, P Mould, W Norton, J Pearce, B Quinney, M Shurmer, D Taylor and D Thomas

### Also Present:

D Andrews (Chair, Standards Committee) and M Collins (Vice-Chair, Standards Committee)

### Officers:

K Dicks, K Bradford, A Heighway, A Marklew, S Morgan, J Pickering, S Hanley, J Staniland, C Felton and T Kristunas

### Committee Services Officer:

I Westmore

### 109. WELCOME

The Mayor opened the meeting and welcomed all present.

### 110. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Chance, Fry and Smith.

### 111. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

### 112. COMMUNICATIONS AND MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

As this was not an ordinary meeting of the Council there were not the customary Mayor's Announcements. However, it was reported that the Mayor had accepted one late report for the Council's consideration:

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MAYOR, in the Chair

- Arrow Valley Countryside Centre – recommendations from the meeting of the Executive Committee on 17th February.

## **113. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - URGENT REFERRALS**

The Council considered the recommendations of the Executive Committee which related to financial decisions relevant to the setting of the Council Tax later in the meeting.

Members were supportive of the proposals for the Countryside Centre, viewing this as an excellent opportunity to enhance and expand the experience offered to users of the Centre and the wider Park.

The Initial Estimates for 2010/11 were agreed without further comment.

**RESOLVED that**

### **INITIAL ESTIMATES 2010/11 (3rd February 2010)**

- 1) the Initial Estimates for 2010/11 be approved;
- 2) the Revenue Bids categorised as unavoidable and high detailed in Appendix 14 to the report be approved , as follows:

2010/11	£279,210
2011/12	£ 98,210
2012/13	£ 97,210

- 3) The General Fund bids for capital resources categorised as high set out in Appendix 15 to the report be approved, as follows:

2010/11	£325,000
2011/12	£165,000
2012/13	£845,000;

together with the associated revenue implications as follows:

2010/11	£ 6,500
2011/12	£54,200
2012/13	£96,400
Future years	£188,800;

- 4) the proposal for how the Further Support for Town Centre Grant is utilised as set out in Appendix 17 to the report be approved;

- 5) the bids as recommended by Overview and Scrutiny Committee be approved as follows:  
  
2nd December 2009 - Redditch Matters to be published quarterly. Cost of an additional edition £6,000;
- 6) the bid for Church Hill District Centre Redevelopment for £60,000 2010/11 which was approved in principle at Council on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2009, be approved;
- 7) that any Direct Action - Enforcement expenditure be funded from balances, pending recovery from the third party, and officers report back to Members on the success of any recovery action;
- 8) that any bids not approved at this stage be brought back to this Committee for reconsideration once the outturn position for 2009/10 is known;
- 9) the bid of £6,000 for the repair and maintenance of street lighting be included in the Initial Estimates 2010/11;

#### **ARROW VALLEY COUNTRYSIDE CENTRE (17th February 2010)**

- 10) Option Four Private Sector Management be approved as the way forward for the delivery of the Arrow Valley Countryside Centre Service;
- 11) the Centre be renamed the Arrow Valley Park Visitor Centre for the reasons highlighted within the report;
- 12) authority be delegated to the Head of Leisure and Cultural Services to progress the preferred option;
- 13) the consultants Rural Development Services UK Ltd be contracted to continue to work with officers to progress the preferred option at a cost detailed in the report; and
- 14) the £6,000 required to continue the work be met from General Fund Revenue balances.

#### **114. ADJOURNMENT**

#### **RESOLVED that**

**the meeting of the Council be adjourned to permit a meeting of the Executive Committee to be held to consider the setting of the Council Tax 2010/11 and other associated financial matters.**

(At this point - 7.25 p.m. - the meeting adjourned and reconvened at 8.07 p.m.)

## **115. COUNCIL TAX - YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2011**

The Council considered the recommendations of the meeting of the Executive Committee held during the adjournment referred to above, regarding the setting of the Council Tax 2010/11 and other associated financial matters.

Members discussed a number of issues that had contributed towards the overall budget setting process. The management of Pitcheroak Golf Course going forward was the subject of some debate and an additional motion proposing that the Council agree the principle of keeping the Pitcheroak Golf Course open, on current arrangements, subject to satisfactory negotiations, and contracts being drawn up was the subject of the following named vote in accordance with Standing Order 16:

### Members voting FOR the motion:

Councillors Cookson, Enderby, Hartnett, Hunt, R King, W King, Mould, Shurmer and Taylor.  
(9 votes)

### Members voting AGAINST the motion:

Councillors Anderson, Banks, Braley, Brunner, Chalk, A Clayton, B Clayton, Field, Gandy, Hicks, Hopkins, MacMillan, Norton, Pearce, Quinney and Thomas.  
(16 votes)

### Members abstaining from voting:

Councillor Hall.

Accordingly, the amendment to the Motion fell and an alternative motion proposing that the Council agree the principle of keeping the Pitcheroak Golf Course open was the subject of the second, following named vote in accordance with Standing Order 16:

### Members voting FOR the amendment to the motion:

Councillors Anderson, Banks, Braley, Brunner, Chalk, A Clayton, B Clayton, Cookson, Enderby, Field, Gandy, Hartnett, Hicks, Hopkins, Hunt, R King, W King MacMillan, Mould, Norton, Pearce, Quinney Shurmer, Taylor and Thomas.  
(25 votes)

Members voting AGAINST the amendment to the motion:

None

Members abstaining from voting:

Councillor Hall.

Members of the Labour Group requested that it be recorded, in accordance with Standing Order 16, that they had voted against Resolution 1, below.

**RESOLVED that**

- 1) **the recommendations of the meeting of the Executive Committee, held earlier in the evening on 22 February 2010, be approved; and**
- 2) **the Council agree the principle of keeping the Pitcheroak Golf Course open.**

**116. URGENT BUSINESS - GENERAL (IF ANY)**

There were no separate items of Urgent Business for consideration at this meeting.

The Meeting commenced at 7.00 pm  
and closed at 9.00 pm

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MAYOR, in the Chair