

**BOLTON METROPOLITAN BOROUGH**

**2011/2012**

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**MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**

**22<sup>ND</sup> FEBRUARY, 2012**

Present - Councillors Spencer (Mayor), J. Byrne (Deputy Mayor), Adia, Allen, Ashcroft, Ayub, Barrow, Mrs. Brierley, Burrows, L. Byrne, Chadwick, A. Connell, M. Connell, Cox, Critchley, Darvesh, Mrs. Fairclough, Francis, Gillies, Greenhalgh, Hall, Harkin, Hayes, Ibrahim, Iqbal, Irving, Jones, Kay, Kell, Kellett, Lord, McKeon, Mistry, Morgan, Morris, Murray, Norris, Peacock, Peel, Pickup, Radlett, Rothwell, Rushton, Shaw, Sherrington, Silvester, Swarbrick, Mrs. Thomas, A. Walsh, J. Walsh, White, C. Wild, P. Wild, A. Wilkinson, D. Wilkinson and Zaman.

**46. MINUTES**

The minutes of the proceedings of the meetings of the Council held on 7<sup>th</sup> December, 2011 were submitted and signed as a correct record.

**47. BUDGET 2012/2013: COUNCIL TAX 2012/2013 AND OTHER ASSOCIATED MATTERS**

It was moved by Councillor Morris and seconded by Councillor Mrs. Thomas -

- (i) That the following recommendations of the Executive on 13<sup>th</sup> February 2012 be approved:-
  - (a) the Revenue Budget for 2012/13;
  - (b) the Capital Programme for 2012/13; and
  - (c) the Investment and Prudential Indicators and Treasury Strategies 2012/13.

- (ii) It be noted that on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2011 the Executive calculated
- (a) the Council Tax Base 2012/13 for the whole Council area as 83,568 (item T in the formula in Section 31B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended (the “Act”); and
  - (b) for dwellings in those parts of its area to which a Parish precept relates as:

Parish Councils

The Parish of Blackrod	1,728	Band D equivalents
The Parish of Horwich	6,878	Band D equivalents
The Parish of Westhoughton	8,017	Band D Equivalents

being the amounts calculated by the Council, in accordance with regulation 6 of the Regulations, as the amounts of its Council Tax base for the year 2012/13 for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate.

- (iii) Calculate that the Council Tax requirement for the Council’s own purposes for 2012/13 (excluding Parish precepts) is £101,355,141
- (iv) That the following amounts be calculated for the year 2012/13 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Act.
  - (a) £221,475,327 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) £119,755,522 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the

items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act.

- (c) £101,719,805 being the amount by which the aggregate at (iv)(a) above exceeds the aggregate at (iv)(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) £1,217.21 being the amount at (iv)(c) above (Item R), all divided by Item T ((ii)(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) £364,664 being the aggregate amount of all special items (Parish precepts) referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act, each individual parish precept being:-
- |              |          |
|--------------|----------|
| Blackrod     | £ 38,233 |
| Horwich      | £197,382 |
| Westhoughton | £129,049 |
- (f) £1,212.85 being the amount at (iv)(d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at (iv)(e) above by Item T ((ii)(a) 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) Parish of Blackrod £1,234.98

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<u>Part of the</u> <u>Council's</u> <u>Area</u>	Parish of Horwich	£1,241.55
	Parish of Westhoughton	£1,228.95

being the amounts given by adding to the amount at (f) above the amounts of the special item or items relating to dwellings in those parts of the Council's area mentioned at (e) above divided in each case by the amount at (ii) 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 dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate.

(i) Part of the Council's Area

	<u>Valuation</u> <u>bands</u>	<u>Parish of</u> <u>Blackrod</u>	<u>Parish of</u> <u>Horwich</u>	<u>Parish of</u> <u>Westhoughton</u>	<u>All other</u> <u>parts of the</u> <u>Council's</u> <u>area</u>
		£	£	£	£
A		£823.32	£827.70	£819.30	£808.57
B		£960.54	£965.65	£955.85	£943.33
C		£1,097.76	£1,103.60	£1,092.40	£1,078.09
D		£1,234.98	£1,241.55	£1,228.95	£1,212.85
E		£1,509.41	£1,517.45	£1,502.05	£1,482.37
F		£1,783.85	£1,793.35	£1,775.15	£1,751.89
G		£2,058.29	£2,069.25	£2,048.25	£2,021.42
H		£2,469.95	£2,483.10	£2,457.89	£2,425.70

being the amounts given by multiplying the amounts at (f) and (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

- (v) That it be noted that for the year 2012/13 the Greater Manchester Fire and Civil Defence Authority and the Greater Manchester Police Authority have 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:-

Precepting Authority

<u>Valuation Bands</u>	<u>Greater Manchester Fire &amp; Civil Defence Authority</u>	<u>Greater Manchester Police Authority</u>
	£	£
A	35.10	96.22
B	40.95	112.26
C	46.80	128.29
D	52.65	144.33
E	64.35	176.40
F	76.05	208.48
G	87.75	240.55
H	105.30	288.66

- (vi) That, having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at (iv)(f)(i) and (v), the Council, in accordance with Section 30(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the following amounts as the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2012/13 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:-

(i) Part of the Council's Area

<u>Valuation bands</u>	<u>Parish of Blackrod</u>	<u>Parish of Horwich</u>	<u>Parish of Westhoughton</u>	<u>All other parts of the Council's area</u>
	£	£	£	£
A	£954.64	£959.02	£950.62	£939.89
B	£1,113.75	£1,118.86	£1,109.06	£1,096.54
C	£1,272.85	£1,278.69	£1,267.49	£1,253.18
D	£1,431.96	£1,438.53	£1,425.93	£1,409.83
E	£1,750.16	£1,758.19	£1,742.79	£1,723.12
F	£2,068.38	£2,077.87	£2,059.67	£2,036.42
G	£2,386.60	£2,397.55	£2,376.55	£2,349.72
H	£2,863.91	£2,877.06	£2,851.85	£2,819.66

- (vii) That the Council's basic amount of Council Tax for 2012/13 at an increase of 0% is not excessive in accordance with principles approved under Section 52ZB Local Government Finance Act 1992.
- (viii) That the Director of Corporate Resources be delegated authority to collect revenues and disburse monies from the relevant accounts.
- (ix) That it be noted that the Government have set a National Non-Domestic Rate of 45.0p in the pound for small businesses and 45.8p in the pound for larger businesses for the financial year 2012/13.
- (x) That the Council's current policy in respect of discretionary relief for charitable organisations be reaffirmed and that the Director of Corporate Resources be delegated authority to determine applications for such relief.
- (xi) That War Disablement Pensions and War Widows' Pensions be disregarded for the purposes of the Council Tax Benefit (General) Regulations 1992.
- (xii) That the minutes of the proceedings of the meetings of the undermentioned Executive Members' recommendations on various associated budgetary matters be noted:-

Adult Services	23rd January, 2012
Children's Services	24 <sup>th</sup> January, 2012
Health and Corporate Resources	24 <sup>th</sup> January ,2012
Regeneration, Housing and Skills	24 <sup>th</sup> January, 2012
Environmental Services and Cleaner, Greener Safer	23 <sup>rd</sup> January 2012 and 25 <sup>th</sup> January, 2012

In accordance with the Standing Orders of the Council, the Mayor adjourned the meeting for five minutes owing to

disturbances in the public gallery and, following further disturbances, requested clearance of the public gallery in accordance with such Standing Orders.

Whereupon as an amendment, it was moved by Councillor J. Walsh and seconded by Councillor Greenhalgh -

This Council welcomes the Government's additional funding for Bolton Council for a zero council tax rise in each of the last two years since it was elected. This has resulted in around £8million more being left in the pockets and purses of council tax-payers of Bolton enabling them to decide how to spend the money rather than the Council deciding for them. Accordingly in welcoming this new freedom of choice for tax-payers and the additional spending opportunities given to them in local shops and businesses thus boosting the local economy, the Council now determines to plan for a zero council tax rise in 2013/2014 so that the cumulative benefit continues to grow year on year.

Upon being put to the vote, the amendment was declared lost.

Whereupon as a second amendment, it was moved by Councillor Hayes and seconded by Councillor D.A. Wilkinson -

That in setting the Budget for 2012/13 Council

a) Welcomes

- (i) the funding provided by Government which will ensure that there will be a zero increase in Council Tax for the second successive year;
- (ii) moves by the Government to increase the income tax threshold towards £10,000 a year, which will benefit thousands of Bolton residents and lead to more disposable income being available to boost the local economy;

- (iii) the most generous rise in the state pension for a generation, and linking the state pension to the rise in earnings, or the rise in prices, or 2.5%, whichever is the greater;

All of which will lead to more disposable income being available to boost the local economy during this worldwide economic crisis

- b) Also welcomes the fact that all the reductions so far have been achieved without the use of compulsory redundancies;
- c) Determines to lobby the Government, through all relevant channels, in an attempt to ensure that local government in general, and Bolton in particular, does not suffer a disproportionate share of the necessary reductions in public expenditure;
- d) Resolves to seriously consider returning to a slimmed down Committee structure which would be more democratically transparent and would be cheaper – the target saving being at least £75,000 a year;
- e) Resolves that when the next dividend from Manchester Airport is received, serious consideration is given to allocating some of it to Area Forums for spending at the discretion of Ward Members to help delay further deterioration of the local infrastructure.

Upon being put to the vote, the second amendment was declared lost.

Whereupon the original motion was put to the vote and declared carried.

#### **48. 2012/2013 PAY POLICY STATEMENT**

It was moved by Councillor Morris, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Thomas and agreed -



That the Council's 2012/13 Pay Policy Statement, as circulated, be approved having regard to any guidance once issued.

**49. JOINT WASTE DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

It was moved by Councillor Ibrahim, seconded by Councillor Sherrington and agreed -

That Council agrees to the adoption of the Joint Waste Development Plan Document and consequential changes to Bolton's Proposals Map on 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2012.

**50. 2012-2015 COMMUNITY STRATEGY**

It was moved by Councillor Morris, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Thomas and agreed -

That the 2012 – 2015 Community Strategy be approved.

**51. CHANGES IN COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP AND APPOINTMENTS TO OTHER BODIES**

It was moved by Councillor A. Connell, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Brierley and agreed –

That the following appointments and changes in membership be approved:-

- (1) That the Director of Corporate Resources replace the Director of Adult Services on the Octagon Theatre Trust
- (2) That Councillor Peel be reappointed to the Chetham Ashworth Charity
- (3) That Councillors Shaw, Gillies and Mrs H. Hamilton be reappointed to the Clarke Convalescent Fund.
- (4) That Councillor Irving be reappointed to the Rishton and Seddons Charities.

- (5) That Councillor Gillies replace Councillor M. Connell on the Bolton at Home Board and the Customer Committee.
- (6) That Councillor Irving be appointed to the North West of England and Isle of Man Reserve Forces and Cadets Association.

## **52. QUESTIONS UNDER STANDING ORDER 9(a)**

The following questions were asked under Standing Order 9(a) –

- (i) by Councillor Mrs. Fairclough relating to the reduced hours of opening and public access at Oldham's UCAN

The Leader of the Council replied to this question.

- (ii) by Councillor J. Walsh relating to summit of house-builders, funders and other involved in the housing market.

The Executive Member for Regeneration, Housing and Skills replied to this question.

- (iii) by Councillor Irving relating to youth unemployment in Bolton

The Executive Member for Regeneration, Housing and Skills replied to this question.

- (iv) by Councillor McKeon relating to the Health Bill

The Executive Member for Health and Corporate Resources replied to this question.

## **53. PLANNING COMMITTEE**

It was moved by Councillor A. Connell, seconded by Councillor Darvesh and resolved –

That the minutes of the proceedings of the meetings of the Planning Committee held 8<sup>TH</sup> December, 2011, 5<sup>th</sup> January and 2<sup>nd</sup> February, 2012 be approved.

#### **54. LICENSING AND ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATIONS COMMITTEE**

It was moved by Councillor Lord, seconded by Councillor Jones and resolved –

That the minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Licensing and Environmental Regulation Committee held on 15<sup>TH</sup> and 20<sup>TH</sup> December, 2011, 10<sup>th</sup> January, 7<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> February, 2012 be approved.

#### **55. SCRUTINY COMMITTEES**

It was moved by Councillor Ashcroft, seconded by Councillor Greenhalgh and resolved –

That the minutes of the meetings of the following Committees be approved:-

Corporate and External Issues Scrutiny Committee – 6<sup>th</sup> February, 2012

Environmental Services, Regeneration, Housing and Skills Scrutiny Committee – 1<sup>st</sup> February, 2012

Adults and Community Services and Children's Services Scrutiny Committee – 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2012

Health and Overview Scrutiny Committee – 17<sup>th</sup> January, 2012

#### **56. AREA FORUMS**

It was moved by Councillor Sherrington, seconded by Councillor Kay and agreed

That the minutes of the meetings of the following Area Forums be approved –

Astley Bridge Area Forum – 14<sup>th</sup> December, 2011

Bradshaw Area Forum – 14<sup>th</sup> December, 2011

Brightmet Area Forum – 23<sup>rd</sup> January, 2012

Bromley Cross Area Forum – 18<sup>th</sup> January, 2012

Farnworth Area Forum – 6<sup>th</sup> February, 2012

Great Lever Area Forum – 26<sup>th</sup> January, 2012

Halliwell Area Forum – 25<sup>th</sup> January, 2012

Harper Green Area Forum – 12<sup>th</sup> December, 2012

Heaton and Lostock Area Forum – 25<sup>th</sup> January, 2012

Hulton Area Forum – 19<sup>th</sup> January, 2012

Kearsley Area Forum – 23<sup>rd</sup> January, 2012

Little Lever and Darcy Lever Area Forum – 13<sup>th</sup> December, 2012

Rumworth Area Forum – 1<sup>st</sup> February, 2012

Smithills Area Forum – 19<sup>th</sup> January, 2012

Tonge with the Haulgh Area Forum – 18<sup>th</sup> January, 2012

Two Towns Area Forum – 24<sup>th</sup> January, 2012

Westhoughton with Chew Moor Area Forum – 8<sup>th</sup> December 2011 and 24<sup>th</sup> January, 2012

**57. MOTION UNDER STANDING ORDER NO. 4 –  
QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS**

It was moved by The Mayor, seconded by Councillor Morris and unanimously agreed –

That this Council wishes to place on record its congratulations to Her Majesty the Queen on the occasion of her Diamond Jubilee. Her devotion and dedication to all her subjects over her 60 year reign is immeasurable. Long may she reign.

**58. MOTION UNDER STANDING ORDER NO. 4 –  
NORTHERN RAIL HUB**

It was moved by Councillor Chadwick and seconded by Councillor Critchley -

This Council calls upon the Government to fund the Northern Rail Hub as a top priority in helping to rebalance the economy outside of the South East.

If it is to achieve economic growth, the north of England needs a rail network that provides faster, more frequent journeys, better connections and capacity to accommodate passengers throughout the day.

The Northern Hub can deliver this, when built it will improve connections between the towns and cities, ports and airports of the north and improve services for all passengers. If we remove the congestion around Manchester, we will get the benefits of electrification - which the Government has already approved.

The Northern hub has a strong business case – for every £1 the government invests, £4 will be returned to the economy of the north. We want to see the Northern Hub, a project that is crucial to economic growth in the north of England (between 20000 and 30000 jobs will be created through this rail intervention) being delivered in its totality in Network Rail's next Control Period 5 (2014-2019).

Any fragmentation will diminish both the benefits of the Hub solution and may, in some cases, make services worse.

Upon being put to the vote, the motion was declared carried.

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(The meeting started at 7.00 p.m. and finished at 9.55 p.m.)