

**COUNCIL MEETING, 24TH FEBRUARY, 2010 - ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**1. PRAYERS**

**2. MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS (if any)**

**3. PETITIONS**

None

**4. PROCEEDINGS OF PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 9<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2009**

**MOTIONS, AMENDMENTS AND QUESTIONS OF WHICH NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN  
AND ITEMS UPON WHICH COMMENT WILL BE MADE**

| <b>Date and<br/>Time 2010</b> | <b>Page and<br/>Item<br/>Number</b> | <b>Amendment<br/>Motion,<br/>Question Or<br/>Comment</b> | <b>In the name of</b> | <b>Subject</b> | <b>Motion, Amendment or Question</b> |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|-----------------------|----------------|--------------------------------------|
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|-----------------------|----------------|--------------------------------------|

**5. BUDGET 2010/2011: COUNCIL TAX 2010/2011: AND OTHER ASSOCIATED FINANCIAL MATTERS**

|   |                    |        |                   |  |                     |
|---|--------------------|--------|-------------------|--|---------------------|
| 17 <sup>th</sup><br>February,<br>2010<br><br>10.00 a.m. | Council<br>Summons | Motion | Councillor Morris | Budget 2010/2011:<br>Council Tax 2010/2011:<br>And Other Associated<br>Financial Matters | See Council Summons |
|---|--------------------|--------|-------------------|--|---------------------|

| <b>Date and<br/>Time 2010</b> | <b>Page and<br/>Item<br/>Number</b> | <b>Amendment<br/>Motion,<br/>Question Or<br/>Comment</b> | <b>In the name of</b> | <b>Subject</b> | <b>Motion, Amendment or Question</b> |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|-----------------------|----------------|--------------------------------------|
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|-----------------------|----------------|--------------------------------------|

|  |                    |             |                             |   |                  |
|--|--------------------|-------------|-----------------------------|---|------------------|
| 23 <sup>rd</sup><br>February<br>,2010<br>9.30 a.m. | Council<br>Summons | Amendment 1 | Councillor Hayes            | Budget 2010/2011:<br>Council Tax and Other<br>Associated Financial<br>Matters | See attachment A |
| 23 <sup>rd</sup><br>February<br>,2010<br>8.03 p.m. | Council<br>Summons | Amendment 2 | Councillor J. Walsh         | Budget 2010/2011:<br>Council Tax and Other<br>Associated Financial<br>Matters | See attachment B |
| 24 <sup>th</sup><br>February,<br>2010<br>7.41 a.m. | Council<br>Summons | Amendment 3 | Councillor D.A<br>Wilkinson | Budget 2010/2011:<br>Council Tax and Other<br>Associated Financial<br>Matters | See attachment C |

**Budget Council**

**24th February 2010**

**Amendment 1**

**Amendment in the name of Councillor Hayes**

“1. In approving the Budget, Council recognises the appalling state of the Borough’s roads and pavements due to a £50 million plus backlog in repairs and maintenance, and acknowledges the importance of the investment of £1 million in the annual highways budget and approximately £1.5 million in one-off money targeted at highways since 2006 made at the suggestion of the Liberal Democrat Group.

Council welcomes the emergency investment of £3 million to repair potholes made by the Executive in January, and its decision to accept the request by the Liberal Democrat Group to remove options which would have meant a reduction of £319,000 in the Highways budget.

“2. Council also welcomes the proposal to invest £200,000 in front line youth services as suggested by the Liberal Democrat Group at the Executive Meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> February.

“3. Council resolves not to proceed with the following savings options identified by Executive Members:

- a) The proposed increase to charges for Community Meals and Transport designed to save £100,000, which would impact on the elderly and other vulnerable groups;
- b) Those parts of the Greenspace Management Review relating to:
  - (i) A reduction in the programme of maintenance of sports pitches (£10,000);
  - (ii) Cessation of the application process for ‘Green Flag’ parks, which would mean both Moss Bank Park and Moses Gate Country Park losing their ‘Green Flag’ status (£11,000);
  - (iii) A reduction in the Local Nature Reserves Programme (£2,000);
  - (iv) A reduction in the subsidy to the Lancashire Wildlife Trust (£4,000).

“4. Council resolves to amend the following savings options identified by Executive Members:

- a) The Grounds Maintenance Review to be required to produce only a £34,000 saving (a reinvestment of £48,000 to minimise the impact);
- b) Reinstatement of £48,000 in the Street Lighting Renewals Budget.

“5. Council resolves that one-off sums received from the Manchester Airport Dividend (approximately £225,000 in excess of that already included in the Budget is expected to be received later this year) and the Local Authority Business Growth Incentives (LABGI) (approximately £50,000 is expected to be received later this year) shall be allocated as follows:

- a) the first £75,000 to be spent on renewal/upgrading of street lighting in residential areas aimed at improving efficiency and reducing costs;
- b) the next amount up to a maximum of £200,000 to be spent on resurfacing of roads and pavements in residential areas;
- c) any residue to be allocated to balances.

“Although these one-off allocations are intended for use during 2010/11, it is recognised that the date of receipt might inevitably mean some overrun into the following financial year.

“6. Council resolves to evaluate the pilot of Zero Base Budgeting carried out this year in part of Adult Services and determine whether this or a similar technique should be rolled out to other areas or Departments, and asks that a report should be brought to the appropriate Policy Development Group at an early date.”

**Budget Council**

**24th February 2010**

**Amendment 2**

**Amendment in the name of Councillor J. Walsh**

Council recognises that the condition of Bolton's roads requires urgent action. Accordingly this council resolves that officers be asked bring to an early meeting of the Executive a report re-drafting the proposed capital programme, deferring certain planned works thus enabling an additional £5million to be spent on roads and footpaths in 2010/2011 with no additional revenue consequences.

**Budget Council**

**24th February 2010**

**Amendment 3**

**Amendment in the name of Councillor D.A Wilkinson**

Council notes that:

1. The 'damping' mechanism adopted by the Government to protect local authorities in other (often more affluent) areas of the country from the effects of a fairer allocation of Government Grant means that in 2010/11 Bolton will lose £4.9 million of Grant to which it should be entitled. Council recognises that this could have led to both a zero Council Tax increase and significantly fewer budget cuts than are being proposed.
2. The 'Free' Adult Care initiative announced by the Government, which many view as an election bribe, is estimated to cost Bolton £1.4 million in a full year (£700,000 in 2010/11), and that most experts believe that the Government has significantly underestimated the true cost.
3. Despite the major reorganisation of Waste Management designed to save approximately £360,000, the Waste and Fleet Management Division was excused from making its full contribution to the 5% saving, producing options totalling only £59,000 (its share should have been £308,000). This meant that the extra had to be borne by other Divisions of Environmental Services, mainly impacting on the Highways and Engineering and Neighbourhood Services Divisions. Council considers that in future years the Waste and Fleet Management Division should be required to make its fair contribution to savings.

"Council recognises the increasing pressures on child protection following the tragic death of Baby Peter in Haringey, and resolves to invest £108,000 to recruit an additional Social Worker in each district to cope with this problem and reduce the risk of a similar occurrence in Bolton.

The necessary saving to pay for this will be raised by:

- a) ceasing to publish the 'Bolton Scene' with effect from the start of the 2010/11 financial year, producing an annual saving of £92,700 a year (additional to the £60,000 saving already proposed as a policy option);
- b) reducing the number of Executive Members from ten (the maximum allowed by legislation) to eight. This would produce an annual saving of £27,800 (£22,900 in 2010/11).

The balance of the saving to also be invested in child protection measures to be identified by the appropriate Executive Member."