

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

25 February 2021

- Present -

THE MAYOR - Councillor Jonathan Evison

J Evison, P Clark, M Ali, R Allcock, M Armiger, S Armitage, S Bainbridge, J Briggs, A Davison, J Davison, T Ellerby, J England, L Foster, T Foster, T Gosling, M Grant, R Hannigan, M Kirk, E Marper, T Mitchell, C O'Sullivan, R Ogg, N Poole, H Rayner, J Reed, D Robinson, D Rose, H Rowson, N Sherwood, D Southern, S Swift, K Vickers, P Vickers, J Walshe, R Waltham, D Wells, Wilson and L Yeadon

The Council met at Virtual Meeting Microsoft Teams.

2761 MAYOR'S REMARKS

The Mayor welcomed fellow councillors, officers and members of the public to the remote meeting of North Lincolnshire Council

2762 DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND PERSONAL OR PERSONAL AND PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS AND SIGNIFICANT LOBBYING

Declarations of personal interests were indicated as follows:-

Councillor M Ali

Taxi Licence Holder with schools transport contract; Member of Central Community Centre

Councillor R Allcock

Isle of Axholme and North Nottinghamshire Water Management Board; Member of CPRE

Councillor J Briggs

Humberside Fire Authority; Isle of Axholme and North Nottinghamshire Water Management Board

Councillor P Clark

North East Lindsey Internal Drainage Board

Councillor J Davison

Bottesford in Bloom; Bottesford Town Council

Councillor J England

Scunthorpe and Gainsborough Water Management Board

Councillor T Ellerby

Scunthorpe and Gainsborough Water Management Board

Councillor T Foster

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Scunthorpe and Gainsborough Water Management Board

Councillor R Hannigan
North East Lindsey Drainage Board

Councillor E Marper
Skippingdale in Bloom; Winterton Town Council

Councillor T Mitchell
Isle of Axholme and North Nottinghamshire Water Management Board;
Epworth Town Council; Member of CPRE

Councillor R Ogg
Scunthorpe and Gainsborough Water Management Board; Skippingdale in
Bloom; Winterton Town Council

Councillor N Poole
Scunthorpe and Gainsborough Water Management Board

Councillor J Reed
Isle of Axholme and North Nottinghamshire Water Management Board

Councillor D Robinson
Isle of Axholme and North Nottinghamshire Water Management Board

Councillor D Rose
Isle of Axholme and North Nottinghamshire Water Management Board;
CPRE Chairman North Lincolnshire and Yorkshire and Humber CPRE

Councillor H Rowson
Scunthorpe and Gainsborough Water Management Board; Skippingdale in
Bloom; Winterton Town Council

Councillor N Sherwood
Humberside Fire Authority; Ancholme Internal Drainage Board; Brigg Town
Council

Councillor K Vickers
Barton upon Humber Town Council; Friends of Baysgarth Park

Councillor P Vickers
Friends of Baysgarth Park

Councillor R Waltham MBE
Humberside Fire Authority; Brigg Town Council

Councillor D Wells
North East Lindsey Internal Drainage Board

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It was moved by Councillor N Poole and seconded by Councillor R Hannigan:-

That in accordance with Procedure Rule D1.19(s) the Leader of the Council and the Leader of the Opposition be allowed up to 10 minutes to deliver their respective budget speeches.

Motion Carried

2764 PERIODIC ELECTORAL REVIEW

The Director: Governance and Partnerships submitted a report updating Council on progress of the periodic electoral review of North Lincolnshire being undertaken by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE), and requested members to consider the recommendations of the Electoral Review Working Group on the 'council size' submission to be made by Council to the LGBCE by 25 February 2021.

The Director explained that further to her report to Council in January 2021 on this review (minute 2748 refers), the Electoral Review Working Group had met on two further occasions to prepare and draft a submission to the LGBCE on the recommended 'council size' under the first phase of the review process. An outline of the review process, with timetable, was attached at an Appendix 1. The Electoral Review Working Group's recommended submission was attached at Appendix 2 for Council's consideration. The submission follows the form recommended by the LGBCE in its guidance and concluded that the appropriate 'council size' continued to be 43 councillors for North Lincolnshire.

Having submitted its 'council size' submission to the LGBCE, the LGBCE was intending to take a 'minded' decision on the 16 March 2021 and would confirm this to the Council in due course. Further reports would be presented to Council as the review progressed in accordance with the timetable detailed in Appendix 1.

Resolved – That the recommendations of the Electoral Review Working Group on the 'council size' submission at Appendix 2 of the report be received, approved and adopted and be submitted formally to the LGBCE as the Council's submission.

(At this point in the proceedings the Mayor requested a five minute pause to enable the Motion and Amendment referred to on the Order of Business relating to the following item to be circulated to all members by email, and to be published on the council's website in accordance with statutory access to information requirements).

2765 FINANCIAL STRATEGY, BUDGET 2021/2022 AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2020/24, CAPITAL INVESTMENT STRATEGY AND REVISED CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2020/2024, TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY 2021/2022 AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 2021/2022 PAY POLICY STATEMENT

The Director: Governance and Partnerships submitted reports relating to: –

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Financial Strategy, Budget 2021/22 and Medium Term Financial Plan 2020/24;

Capital Investment Strategy and Capital Programme 2020/2024;

Treasury Management Strategy 2021/2022, and the Director: Business Development submitted the following report -

Implementation of the 2021/2022 Pay Policy Statement.

Each of the above issues were addressed within separate reports. The Council operated within legally defined powers to fulfil a range of duties through its local service offer. These included powers to raise funding to meet the costs of delivery. The Council must decide on its spending power, taking into account how much government grant, business rates it would receive and the level of Council tax it wished to set. The Council also had a legal requirement to set a balanced budget for the next financial year and a robust forecast for the medium term financial planning period. In line with the council's ambition to be financially sustainable, a three year plan had been produced which would support the council in linking its anticipated resources over the period to its strategic direction. It was important to note that the numbers were less certain further into the plan due to the potential structural changes to local government finance addressed in the report.

The costs of running local services were partly met from local taxation, and partly from government grant. The balance between local and central funding had shifted considerably over the past decade, and would continue to do so over the medium term financial planning period with a greater emphasis on local autonomy driven by a greater reliance on locally generated income. The Director in her report on the Financial Strategy, Budget 2021/22 and Medium Term Financial Plan 2020/24 addressed key issues and relevant factors with supporting appendices under the following headings: –

- Local Government Finance Settlement 2021/22;
- Future of Local Government Finance;
- Local Strategic Context;
- Members' Allowances
- Financial Strategy, and
- Financial Resilience.

The Council also received a report from the Director of Governance and Partnerships seeking approval of the council's Capital Investment Strategy and Revised Capital Programme 2020-24, which included a revised Capital Investment Programme of £127.2m. These were set out in an appendix to the report. The Capital Programme 2020/24 built upon the latest approved programme 2020/23 approved by Cabinet in February 2021 and proposed a continuation of the lifecycle maintenance requirements for core assets and infrastructure in 2023/24. Schemes worked up through the business case process and re-prioritisation requirements were reported through the

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Executive throughout the year.

The report explained that capital expenditure was a key enabler for the Council to fulfil its duties and delivery of its ambitions and Council Plan priorities. Investment in the right things could underpin and support the achievement of improved outcomes for people who live in North Lincolnshire. Capital investment also contributed to efficiencies in the safe operation of the council and supports long-term financial sustainability.

Also presented for Council's consideration and approval by the Director was the council's Treasury Management Strategy for 2021/22. The Treasury Management Strategy Statement was set out in appendix 2 of the report. The report also requested the Council to adopt the Prudential Code 2017, the CIPFA Treasury Management in Public Services Code of Practice and related MHCLG Guidance, and approve the Treasury Management Policy Statement set out in appendix 1 of the report, the proposed Prudential Indicators 2020/23, the policy on Minimum Revenue Provision, and the Investment Counterparties and Limits and Maturity Structure of Borrowing Limits as referred to in the Strategy Statement.

In addition, the implementation of the 2021/2022 Pay Policy Statement report submitted by the Director: Business Development outlined and sought approval of the council's Pay Policy Statement for 2021/22 in accordance with Section 38 of the Localism Act 2011. The Council was required by the above Act to prepare an annual Pay Policy Statement for each council financial year, to be approved by Council. The statement attached as an appendix to the report set out the council's own policy on a range of issues relating to the pay of its workforce, particularly its senior staff (or 'chief officers') and its lowest paid employees.

Moved by Councillor R Waltham MBE and seconded by Councillor R Hannigan –

The Council is recommended to resolve as follows:

That the recommendations contained within report 3(a) be approved and adopted, subject to the following changes and additions:

Council Tax and Adult Social Care Precept

- (a) That the proposed 1.99% increase in general council tax be amended to 1.48% in 2021/22 only;
- (b) That the proposed 3% increase in adult social care precept be spread over the years 2021/22 and 2022/23, with 2% levied in 2021/22 and the remaining 1% levied in 2022/23:

- Appendix 1 substituted by Revised Appendix 1 of Report 3(a) (enclosed).
- Table 1, 2 and 3 in Appendix 2 substituted by Table 1, 2 and 3 in Revised Extract of Appendix 2 of Report 3(a) (enclosed).
- Appendix 5 substituted by Revised Appendix 5 of Report 3(a) (enclosed);

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- (c) That the recommendations contained within report 3(b) be approved and adopted;
- (d) That the recommendations contained within report 3(c) be approved and adopted, and
- (e) That the recommendations contained within report 3(d) be approved and adopted.

TECHNICAL BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS

**Revised Appendix 1
of Report 3(a)**

That the following technical recommendations be approved:

- 1 That the general council tax band D rate be set at £1,404.94, which represents an increase of 1.48% from the total 2020/21 band D rate.
- 2 That the adult social care precept band D rate be set at £164.51, which represents an increase of 2.00% from the total 2020/21 band D rate.
- 3 At the meeting held on 25th January 2021 Council set the following amounts for the year **2021/22**:
 - (a) **49,640.3** as its Council Tax Base for the year [Item T in the formula in Section 31B(3) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended by the Localism Act 2011 (the "Act"), and
 - (b) the Council Tax Base for each part of the area as shown in **Revised Appendix 5 of report 3(a)**, column 2
- 4 That the following amounts for **2021/22**, as required by the Local Government Finance Act 1992 as amended, be approved:
 - (a) **£78,487,671** being the **relevant basic amount of Council tax** for 2021/22 (Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purposes excluding parish precepts but including special expenses)
 - (b) **£338,170,963** 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 (**gross expenditure including parish precepts and special expenses**)
 - (c) **£257,997,086** being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act (**gross income**)

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- (d) **£80,173,877** being the amount by which the aggregate at (b) above exceeds the aggregate at (c) 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(1) of the Act)
- (e) **£1,615.10** being the amount at (d) above (Item R), divided by Item T (5(a) above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B(1) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year (including Parish precepts) **(Band D council tax including parish precepts and special expenses)**
- (f) **£2,265,909** being the aggregate amount of all special items and Parish precepts referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act, as per **Revised Appendix 5 of report 3(a) (Total of all Parish Precepts and Special Expenses)**
- (g) **£1,569.45** being the amount at 4(e) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 4(f) above by Item T, 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
- (h) **£35.89** being the amounts to be added to the amount at 4(g) above being the amounts of the special item or items relating to dwellings in those parts of the Council's area mentioned above divided in each case by the amount at 3(b) 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
- 5 That it be noted that for the year 2021/22 the Police and Crime Commissioner for Humberside and the Humberside Fire Authority have issued precepts to the Council in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 for each category of dwellings in the Council's area as set out in **Revised Appendix 5 of report 3(a)**.
- 6 That the Council, in accordance with Sections 30 and 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, sets the aggregate amount of Council Tax for the year 2021/22 for each part of its area and for each of the categories of dwellings. This can be derived by combining major precepting authority precepts with individual parish or area precepts in **Revised Appendix 5 of report 3(a)**.

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- 7 That the Council's basic amount of Council Tax for 2021/22 is not excessive in accordance with principles approved under Section 52ZB Local Government Finance Act 1992.
- 8 That the robustness of the estimates used in setting the level of council tax in accordance with the Local Government Act 2003 requirements (Part 2 Section 25 (1)(a) of the Act) be confirmed.
- 9 That the adequacy of reserves included in the budget is in accordance with the Local Government Act 2003 requirements (Part 2 Section 25 (1) (b) of the Act), and the policy for use of reserves as set out in Section 5 of the report and at **Appendix 4 of report 3(a)** be confirmed.
- 10 That the use of capital receipts flexibility be approved enabling spending charged to the revenue budget on service transformation to be capitalised as set out at **Appendix 8 of report 3(a)**.

'C' Revised Extract of Appendix 2 of Report 3(a) attached

It was then moved by Councillor L Foster and seconded by Councillor A Davison as an amendment –

The Council is recommended to resolve as follows:

- (a) That the recommendations contained within report 3(a) be approved and adopted, subject to the following changes and additions;

Council Tax and Adult Social Care Precept

- (b) That the proposed 3% increase in adult social care precept be spread evenly over the years 2021/22 and 2022/23, 1.5% in each year;

- Appendix 1 substituted by Revised Appendix 1 of Report 3(a) (enclosed).
- Table 1, 2 and 3 in Appendix 2 substituted by Table 1, 2 and 3 in Revised Extract of Appendix 2 of Report 3(a) (enclosed).
- Appendix 5 substituted by Revised Appendix 5 of Report 3(a) (enclosed).

- (c) That the recommendations contained within report 3(b) be approved and adopted;

- (d) That the recommendations contained within report 3(c) be approved and adopted, and

- (e) That the recommendations contained within report 3(d) be approved and adopted.

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TECHNICAL BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS

Revised Appendix 1
of Report 3(a)

That the following technical recommendations be approved:

- 11 That the general council tax band D rate be set at £1,412.67, which represents an increase of 1.99% from the total 2020/21 band D rate.
- 12 That the adult social care precept band D rate be set at £156.93, which represents an increase of 1.50% from the total 2020/21 band D rate.
- 13 At the meeting held on 25th January 2021 Council set the following amounts for the year **2021/22**:
 - (c) **49,640.3** as its Council Tax Base for the year [Item T in the formula in Section 31B(3) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended by the Localism Act 2011 (the "Act"), and
 - (d) the Council Tax Base for each part of the area as shown in **Revised Appendix 5 of report 3(a)**, column 2
- 14 That the following amounts for **2021/22**, as required by the Local Government Finance Act 1992 as amended, be approved:
 - (a) **£78,498,025** being the **relevant basic amount of Council tax** for 2021/22 (Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purposes excluding parish precepts but including special expenses)
 - (b) **£338,170,963** 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 (**gross expenditure including parish precepts and special expenses**)
 - (c) **£257,986,732** being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act (**gross income**)
 - (d) **£80,184,231** being the amount by which the aggregate at (b) above exceeds the aggregate at (c) 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(1) of the Act)
 - (e) **£1,615.31** being the amount at (d) above (**Item R**), divided by

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Item T (5(a) above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B(1) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year (including Parish precepts) **(Band D council tax including parish precepts and special expenses)**

- (f) **£2,268,816** being the aggregate amount of all special items and Parish precepts referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act, as per **Revised Appendix 5 of report 3(a) (Total of all Parish Precepts and Special Expenses)**
- (g) **£1,569.60** being the amount at 4(e) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 4(f) above by Item T, 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
- (h) **£36.07** being the amounts to be added to the amount at 4(g) above being the amounts of the special item or items relating to dwellings in those parts of the Council's area mentioned above divided in each case by the amount at 3(b) 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
- 15 That it be noted that for the year 2021/22 the Police and Crime Commissioner for Humberside and the Humberside Fire Authority have issued precepts to the Council in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 for each category of dwellings in the Council's area as set out in **Revised Appendix 5 of report 3(a)**.
- 16 That the Council, in accordance with Sections 30 and 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, sets the aggregate amount of Council Tax for the year 2021/22 for each part of its area and for each of the categories of dwellings. This can be derived by combining major precepting authority precepts with individual parish or area precepts in **Revised Appendix 5 of report 3(a)**.
- 17 That the Council's basic amount of Council Tax for 2021/22 is not excessive in accordance with principles approved under Section 52ZB Local Government Finance Act 1992.
- 18 That the robustness of the estimates used in setting the level of council tax in accordance with the Local Government Act 2003 requirements (Part 2 Section 25 (1)(a) of the Act) be confirmed.

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- 19 That the adequacy of reserves included in the budget is in accordance with the Local Government Act 2003 requirements (Part 2 Section 25 (1) (b) of the Act), and the policy for use of reserves as set out in Section 5 of the report and at **Appendix 4 of report 3(a)** be confirmed.
- 20 That the use of capital receipts flexibility be approved enabling spending charged to the revenue budget on service transformation to be capitalised as set out at **Appendix 8 of report 3(a)**.

'L' Revised Extract pf Appendix 2 of Report 3(a) attached

Following completion of the debate on the budget the council proceeded to the vote.

Members were reminded that in accordance with the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014 immediately after any vote was taken at a budget meeting the voting shall be recorded in the minutes to show whether each member present votes for or against a decision or who abstained from voting.

(The vote was read out as below by Democratic Services for those listening and/or watching the meeting on the council's website).

The names of members voting for, against and abstaining from the amendment are as follows: –

FOR: Councillors Ali, Armitage, Bainbridge, A Davison, Ellerby, L Foster, Gosling, Grant, Kirk, O'Sullivan, Rayner, Southern, Swift, Wilson and Yeadon

AGAINST: Councillors Allcock, Armiger, Briggs, Clark, J Davison, England, Evison, T Foster, Hannigan, Marper, Mitchell, Ogg, Poole, Reed, Robinson, Rose, Rowson, N Sherwood, K Vickers, P Vickers, Walshe, Waltham MBE and Wells.

ABSTAINING: Nil

Amendment Lost.

The names of members voting for, against and abstaining from the motion are as follows :–

FOR: Councillors Allcock, Armiger, Briggs, Clark, J Davison, England Evison, T Foster, Hannigan, Longcake, Marper, Mitchell, Ogg, Poole, Reed, Robinson, Rose, Rowson, N Sherwood, K Vickers, P Vickers, Walshe, Waltham MBE and Wells.

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AGAINST:

ABSTAINING: *Councillors Ali, Armitage, Bainbridge, A Davison, Ellerby, L Foster, Gosling, Grant, Kirk ,O'Sullivan, Rayner, Southern, Swift, Wilson and Yeadon.*

Motion Carried.