

Bristol City Council

Minutes of the Full Council

21 February 2017 at 2.00 pm



Present:

Jeff Lovell, Lord Mayor; Marvin Rees, Bristol Mayor

Councillors: Peter Abraham, Donald Alexander, Lesley Alexander, Nicola Beech, Nicola Bowden-Jones, Harriet Bradley, Mark Bradshaw, Mark Brain, Charlie Bolton, Fabian Breckels, Tom Brook, Clare Champion-Smith, Tony Carey, Craig Cheney, Barry Clark, Jos Clark, Stephen Clarke, Harriet Clough, Eleanor Combley, Asher Craig, Chris Davies, Mike Davies, Carla Denyer, Kye Dudd, Richard Eddy, Jude English, Martin Fodor, Helen Godwin, Paul Goggin, Geoff Gollop, John Goulandris, Fi Hance, Margaret Hickman, Claire Hiscott, Helen Holland, Gary Hopkins, Chris Jackson, Hibaq Jama, Carole Johnson, Steve Jones, Anna Keen, Tim Kent, Sultan Khan, Gill Kirk, Cleo Lake, Mike Langley, Brenda Massey, Olly Mead, Matt Melias, Graham Morris, Anthony Negus, Paula O'Rourke, Steve Pearce, Celia Phipps, Ruth Pickersgill, Kevin Quartley, Liz Radford, Jo Sergeant, Afzal Shah, Paul Smith, Clive Stevens, Jerome Thomas, Mhairi Threlfall, Estella Tincknell, Jon Wellington, Mark Weston, Lucy Whittle and Mark Wright

Aldermen: M Bailey, R Griffey, A Massey, J McLaren, P Main, B Payne, B Price, R Walker, J Smith
CJN Williams

1. Welcome and safety information

The Lord Mayor welcomed all attendees to the meeting, and made a safety announcement in relation to the fire/emergency evacuation procedure.

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Windows.

3. Minutes of previous meetings

a. Minutes – Extraordinary Full Council – 17 January 2017

On the motion of the Lord Mayor, seconded by Councillor Eddy, it was



RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Extraordinary Full Council held on 17 January 2017 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Lord Mayor.

b. Minutes – Full Council – 17 January 2017

On the motion of the Lord Mayor, seconded by Councillor Eddy, it was

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Full Council held on 17 January 2017 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Lord Mayor.

4. Declarations of interest

The Lord Mayor reminded members that at its meeting held on 27 January 2017, the Audit Committee had overseen and granted a range of dispensations to the Mayor and councillors, to enable them to participate and vote on matters relating to the civic budget 2017-18 and the setting of the Council Tax.

It was noted that a number of members had recently switched to a Bristol Energy Company energy contract, but that this did not constitute a pecuniary interest.

Cllr Morris advised that he was a member of Jubilee swimming pool.

5. Lord Mayor's business

Former Councillor Jackie Bowles

The Lord Mayor informed members of the recent death of former Councillor Jackie Bowles.

Councillor Champion-Smith then addressed the Full Council, paying tribute to Jackie Bowles' work as a councillor.

The Full Council then observed a minute's silence in memory of former Councillor Jackie Bowles.



6. Public petitions and written public statements

The Full Council received and noted the following petitions:

Petition PP 01 – “Marvin Rees – lead a mass campaign against local spending cuts”
Petition organiser – Matthew Carey

Petition PP 02 – “Save Symes House, our library and our neighbourhood partnership”
Petition organiser – Jim Hodgson

Petition PP 03 – “Petition against the proposal to charge for parking at Oldbury Court estate”
Petition organiser – Stuart Main

The Full Council received and noted written statements from the following:

Re: agenda item 7 – Budget 2017-18:

Written statements from:

Julie Boston – budget cuts

David Redgewell – transport budget issues

Michael Owen – council tax

Rami Ghali (Brigstowe project), Berkeley Wilde (Diversity Trust) and Dr Hannah Condry (Wellspring surgery GP) – Brigstowe project HIV support service, and 6 other statements on this subject

Cllr Ruth Pickersgill – budget issues

Cllr Harriet Bradley, Cllr Mike Langley, Cllr Nicola Bowden-Jones, Annie Thomas, Andy Burkitt, & Erica Wildgoose – budget issues

Rob Acton-Campbell (Bristol Parks Forum) – Park and green spaces maintenance

Laura Welti (Bristol Disability Equality Forum) – Budget issues and impacts

Viran Patel – Budget impacts

Re: agenda item 8 – Appointment of Chief Executive and Head of Paid Service:

A written statement from Paul Wheeler (Equality Bristol)

7. 2017-18 budget report

The Full Council considered a report setting out the Mayor’s 2017-18 budget recommendations.

The Lord Mayor drew members’ attention to the updated budget procedure to be followed at this meeting.

At this point, on the motion of the Lord Mayor, seconded by the Deputy Lord Mayor, it was



RESOLVED –

That the relevant standing orders (policy and budget framework procedure rules) be suspended, given that the procedure agreed for this meeting (by prior agreement between the Lord Mayor, Mayor, party group leaders and whips) is at variance with the relevant Council standing orders.

As per section 1 of the procedure, the Mayor then introduced, summarised and moved the budget report.

As per section 2 of the procedure, Cllr Cheney, Cabinet member for Finance, Governance and Performance then seconded the report.

As per section 3 of the procedure:

- a. Cllr Tincknell responded to the Mayor's budget proposals on behalf of the Labour group.
- b. Cllr Weston responded to the Mayor's budget proposals on behalf of the Conservative group.
- c. Cllr Bolton responded to the Mayor's budget proposals on behalf of the Green group.
- d. Cllr Hopkins responded to the Mayor's budget proposals on behalf of the Liberal Democrat group.

As per section 4 of the procedure, Cllr Gollop presented comments on behalf of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board

As per section 5 of the procedure, the Full Council then considered and debated each of the proposed budget amendments, as follows:

LIBERAL DEMOCRAT AMENDMENT 1 – relating to restructuring capital finance requirements in 2017-18; reinvesting in parks; reversing a cut in the wellbeing budget and agreeing a new councillor community grant scheme; reducing the cut in the subsidy for Jubilee pool; establishing a community meeting fund; reducing the cut in subsidy for bus routes with low numbers of passengers; and re-investing in libraries.

Councillor Kent moved the amendment.

Councillor Negus seconded the amendment.

Following debate, upon being put to the vote, the amendment was **LOST** (27 members voting for the amendment, 40 against, with 1 abstention).



GREEN AMENDMENT 1 – relating to generating £1m of one-off income to the general fund in 2017-18 offset by acceleration of the drawdown of the MRP (Minimum Revenue Provision); reducing the cut to the Supporting People budget; reducing the cut to the Local Crisis Prevention Fund; and providing a new post of Income Generation Manager.

Councillor Stevens moved the amendment.

Councillor Clarke seconded the amendment.

Following debate, upon being put to the vote, the amendment was **LOST** (18 members voting for the amendment, 50 against, with 1 abstention).

GREEN AMENDMENT 2 – relating to introducing higher charges for older diesel vehicles in RPZs; and IT programming changes to residents parking software, any required amendment to TROs (Traffic Regulation Orders) and communication to affected residents.

Councillor Thomas moved the amendment.

Councillor English seconded the amendment.

Following debate, upon being put to the vote, the amendment was **LOST** (11 members voting for the amendment, 57 against, with no abstentions).

ADJOURNMENT – At this point, on the motion of the Lord Mayor, the Full Council meeting adjourned for a 20 minute refreshment break.

Upon reconvening, the Full Council considered the remaining budget amendments as follows:

GREEN AMENDMENT 3 – relating to stopping free parking permits to councillors, senior leaders and aldermen/women; and reducing cuts to the Supporting People budget.

Councillor Combley moved the amendment.

Councillor Denyer seconded the amendment.

Following debate, upon being put to the vote, the amendment was **LOST** (14 members voting for the amendment, 48 against, with 6 abstentions).



GREEN AMENDMENT 4 – relating to generating one-off income to the general fund in 2017-18 offset by acceleration of the drawdown of the MRP; and creating a fund to support the transition from Council funded to community led services and facilities.

Councillor O'Rourke moved the amendment.

Councillor Lake seconded the amendment.

Following debate, upon being put to the vote, the amendment was **LOST** (11 members voting for the amendment, 55 against, with 1 abstention).

CONSERVATIVE AMENDMENT 1 – relating to a change to the local council tax reduction scheme, with any revenue saving being put towards offsetting the planned reduction in funding for the library service, children's centres, community parks and restoring funding for devolved local traffic schemes; re-instating the reduction in the cost of administering the 14 Neighbourhood Partnerships for 2018-19; and reinvesting in 2018-19 and beyond in library services, children's centres, community parks, restoring funding for devolved local traffic schemes; and other re-investments.

Councillor Gollop moved the amendment.

Councillor Eddy seconded the amendment.

Following debate, upon being put to the vote, the amendment was **LOST** (12 members voting for the amendment, 55 against, with no abstentions).

CONSERVATIVE AMENDMENT 2 – relating to reducing expenditure on media and communications; deleting the European and international programme; reducing funding to key arts providers; restoring reduction and redesign of the library service; restoring the wellbeing grant to Neighbourhood Partnerships; restoring funding for the employment support service; cancelling parking charges for Oldbury estate and Blaise Castle; retaining the subsidy for adult education; and continuing the contribution towards the education officer (part of Avon Gorge and Downs wildlife programme).

Councillor Abraham moved the amendment.

Councillor Radford seconded the amendment.

Following debate, upon being put to the vote, the amendment was **LOST** (12 members voting for the amendment, 54 against, with no abstentions).



CONSERVATIVE AMENDMENT 3 – relating to reducing investment in the Energy Company; and resolving the perennial flooding problem at Scotland Lane.

Councillor Morris moved the amendment.

Councillor Jones seconded the amendment.

Following debate, upon being put to the vote, the amendment was **LOST** (18 members voting for the amendment, 46 against, with 2 abstentions).

At the conclusion of the consideration of the amendments, under section 6 of the procedure, it was noted that none of the amendments had been carried and therefore the Mayor's budget stood un-amended.

Also under section 6 of the procedure, on the motion of the Lord Mayor, seconded by the Deputy Lord Mayor, it was

RESOLVED –

That Full Council notes the Service Director - Finance's (Section 151 Officer's) statement as set out in section 1 of the budget report.

Under section 7 of the procedure, the Full Council then debated the budget proposals.

Following the debate under section 7 of the procedure, and in light of the fact that the Mayor's budget stood un-amended, the Lord Mayor advised that the Full Council would now proceed to vote on the Mayor's budget, as per section 9 of the procedure.

On the motion of the Lord Mayor, seconded by the Deputy Lord Mayor, the Full Council then

RESOLVED (46 members voting in favour, 12 against with 5 abstentions) –
That Full Council NOTES:

i) The budget consultation process that was followed and feedback as outlined in Appendix 8.

ii) The Cumulative Impact Assessment in Appendix 7.

iii) That the consultation feedback and cumulative impact assessment has been taken into consideration and has informed the final budget proposals.



iv) The proposals for reducing costs and generating income, underpinning the Council's budgets for 2017/18 and future years in Appendix 6 which amount to £62.2m.

v) The budget consultation process that will be followed where required as per paragraph 23 of the report.

vi) The comments of the Service Director - Finance (s151 Officer) on the robustness of the Budget and adequacy of reserves as set out at paragraph 21 of the report.

On the motion of the Lord Mayor, seconded by the Deputy Lord Mayor, the Full Council then

RESOLVED (35 members voting in favour, 27 against with 4 abstentions) –
That Full Council AGREES the main budget recommendations as per recommendations g), j), k) and l) of the report (including reserves).

On the motion of the Lord Mayor, seconded by the Deputy Lord Mayor, the Full Council then

RESOLVED (50 members voting in favour, 14 against with 3 abstentions) –
That Full Council AGREES the use of Council Reserves recommendation, i.e. recommendation h) of the report.

On the motion of the Lord Mayor, seconded by the Deputy Lord Mayor, the Full Council then

RESOLVED (47 members voting in favour, 20 against with no abstentions) –
That Full Council AGREES the Treasury Management recommendations, i.e. recommendation m) of the report.

On the motion of the Lord Mayor, seconded by the Deputy Lord Mayor, the Full Council then

RESOLVED (49 members voting in favour, 14 against with 4 abstentions) –
That Full Council AGREES the calculations of the Council Tax base and Council tax bandings as per recommendations i) and o) of the report.



On the motion of the Lord Mayor, seconded by the Deputy Lord Mayor, the Full Council then

RESOLVED (61 members voting in favour, 1 against with 2 abstentions) –

That Full Council AGREES the Section 151 Officer delegation as per recommendation n) of the report.

In concluding this part of the meeting, the Lord Mayor, on behalf of the Full Council, thanked the following staff (who would shortly be leaving the Council's employment) for their service and work for the authority:

Stephen Hughes – Interim Chief Executive

Shana Johnson – Democratic Services Manager and former Scrutiny Co-ordinator

8. Appointment of Chief Executive and Head of Paid Service

The Full Council considered a report seeking approval of the appointment of the Chief Executive and Head of Paid Service.

Following debate, the Lord Mayor moved the report and the recommendation set out therein.

The Deputy Lord Mayor seconded the motion.

Upon being put to the vote, it was

RESOLVED (44 members voting in favour, none against, and with 18 abstentions)-

That Anna Klonowski be appointed Chief Executive and Head of Paid Service with effect from 22 February 2017 on a fixed term contract until 31 December 2020 subject to final contract terms being agreed by the Service Director – Human Resources, Change and Communications in consultation with the Chair of the Human Resources Committee.

At the conclusion of the meeting, the Lord Mayor and members thanked the security staff for their work during the course of this meeting.

Meeting ended at 8.10 pm

CHAIR _____

