

**BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**

**24TH FEBRUARY 2016 AT 6.00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Councillors C. J. Spencer (Chairman), H. J. Jones (Vice-Chairman), C. Allen-Jones, S. J. Baxter, C. J. Bloore, M. T. Buxton, S. R. Colella, R. J. Deeming, G. N. Denaro, R. L. Dent, M. Glass, J. M. L. A. Griffiths, C.A. Hotham, R. E. Jenkins, R. J. Laight, P. Lammas, L. C. R. Mallett, K.J. May, C. M. McDonald, P. M. McDonald, S. R. Peters, S. P. Shannon, M. A. Sherrey, R. D. Smith, C. B. Taylor, P.L. Thomas, M. Thompson, L. J. Turner, S. A. Webb and P. J. Whittaker

100\15 **MR R. HOLLINGWORTH**

The Chairman held a minutes silence in memory of the late Mr R. Hollingworth the former Leader of the Council. Members and officers stood in silence in tribute to his memory.

101\15 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

An apology for absence was received from Councillor B. T. Cooper.

102\15 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The following declarations of interest were made:

**Item 10 – Report from the Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Cultural Services**

Councillors M. A. Sherrey, G. N. Denaro, C. B. Taylor, C. Allen-Jones and K. J. May declared other disclosable interests as in respect of this item as members of the Artrix Holding Trust.

Councillors J. M. L. A. Griffiths and C. J. Spencer declared other disclosable interests in this item as members of the Artrix Operating Trust.

Councillor S. R. Colella declared an other disclosable interest as Chairman of Hagley Parish Council (in relation to Hagley Play Equipment).

Councillor M. A. Sherrey declared an other disclosable interest as a Governor of Chadsgrove School.

103\15

**MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 20th January 2016 were submitted.

Councillor C. M. McDonald stated that the minutes did not record that Councillor Taylor had agreed to email additional information on homelessness figures (Minute no. 92/15).

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 20th January 2016 be approved as a correct record.

104\15

**ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN AND/OR HEAD OF PAID SERVICE**

The Chairman advised Members that the Annual Civic Dinner would take place on 22nd April 2016 and would be held at the Grafton Manor Hotel. All Members were invited to attend and would be receiving further information shortly.

The Chief Executive referred to the debate at the last Council Meeting on the Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor M. Thompson relating to animal welfare.

During the debate referred to, Councillor B. T. Cooper had stated that there was already a Policy in place relating to Council owned land prohibiting animals in circuses and goldfish being offered as prizes at fairs. This information had been provided by officers to Councillor Cooper. It had transpired that that there was not a policy in place and terms and conditions of hire were not robust enough. Officers had remedied this. However, officers had not briefed Councillor Thompson about the changes. There was clearly some uncertainty over this matter and officers had not made the position clear to Members. The Chief Executive apologised for that oversight.

It had been agreed that in the circumstances, the Notice of Motion be debated again at the following Council Meeting in April.

105\15

**ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE LEADER**

The Leader reported on the success of the latest Job Fair which had taken place at Parkside and had been organised by the local MP Sajid Javid.

The Leader also reported that Planning Services had been “De-Designated” by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government on 16th February 2016.

106\15      **COMMENTS, QUESTIONS OR PETITIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

There were no public questions or comments on this occasion.

107\15      **RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE CABINET HELD ON 3RD FEBRUARY 2016 AND 24TH FEBRUARY 2016**

Prior to the consideration of the recommendations from the Cabinet, the Chairman announced a short adjournment to enable Members to read and consider the additional information on Council Tax recommendations which had been circulated.

The meeting was therefore adjourned from 6.15pm to 6.30pm.

**Burcot Lane Homelessness Hostel – Future Options**

The recommendation from the Cabinet was proposed by Councillor C. B. Taylor and seconded by Councillor R. J. Deeming.

In proposing the recommendation Councillor Taylor referred to the background work which had been undertaken to bring forward a number of options in relation to the provision of alternative accommodation to Burcot Lodge. The Overview and Scrutiny Board had also recently considered the matter and had supported the implementation of proposal one.

During the debate some Members suggested that it may be prudent to wait for the outcome of the Short Sharp Review on Potential Homelessness in Bromsgrove, which had recently been established, before making any final decisions on the matter. Councillor Taylor commented that the agreement of proposal one at this stage did not preclude the consideration of proposal two at a later date or of any outcomes of the Short Sharp Review. It was important to progress with the project which had been on going for some time.

It was also suggested that the proposed option may lead to a shortage of available spaces and that evidence suggested there may be a need for more interventions in potential homelessness cases. Councillor Taylor responded that the hostel was under occupied at present and the Strategic Housing Team had developed a way forward. It was suggested that some of the comments could have been raised by Members when the matter was considered by the Cabinet.

It was

**RESOLVED** that the cost of the alternative option for the provision of temporary accommodation, as set out in proposal one in the report be released from balances.

### **New Homes Bonus Scheme 2016/17**

The recommendation from the Cabinet in relation to a revised New Homes Bonus Community Grants Scheme for 2016/17 was proposed by Councillor G. N. Denaro and seconded by Councillor K. J. May.

As an amendment it was proposed by Councillor L. C. R. Mallett and seconded by Councillor C. J. Bloore that consideration of this matter be deferred until the next meeting of the Council in April, in the light of the unprecedented financial situation facing the Council. It was noted that if deferred, a sum of £23k would remain in the budget for the New Homes Bonus Scheme in 2016/ 2017.

On being put to the vote the Chairman declared the amendment to be carried.

### **Medium Term Financial Plan 2016/17 – 2018/19**

Councillor G. N. Denaro proposed recommendations arising from the Cabinet meetings which had been held on 3rd February and 24th February 2016. The proposal was seconded by Councillor M. A. Sherrey.

In proposing the recommendations Councillor Denaro explained that there had been some amendments to the recommendations from Cabinet on 3rd February due to some transitional funding received from central government for 2016/17 (£118k) and 2017/18 (£114k) which it was proposed to use in order to minimise the amount to be taken from reserves. In addition there was now the opportunity to increase Council Tax on a Band D property by £5.

Councillor Denaro also reported that it had now been confirmed that no Authority would be required to make a payment with regard to negative Rate Support Grant until details of Business Rate Retention had been clarified. Taken together these amendments reduced the anticipated shortfall from £3.215m to £2.63m. There was however uncertainty at present regarding the future arrangements for New Homes Bonus funding.

Councillor Denaro made reference to the proposals to achieve a balanced budget for 2016/17 and to work towards meeting the Government's efficiency targets over the following 3 years in order to achieve a fixed 4 year settlement. Confirmation had been received that the Government had extended the deadline for these budgets until October 2016. Work on this would continue and the Council's Strategic Priorities were being reviewed in response to the significant financial pressures facing the Authority.

Councillor Denaro referred to specific actions taken in order to achieve a balanced budget for 2016/17 following receipt of the interim settlement.

These had included an immediate review by officers of all budgets and expenditure. Of particular importance was the delivery of all services during the previous year at an underspend of £600k with few complaints. This had been reviewed with all Heads of Service and had resulted in an overall departmental expenditure of 2% below the projected budget for 2015/16 at £11.662m. In addition specified earmarked reserves had been reviewed and had been released as appropriate resulting in an additional £553k.

It was reported that the steps taken had allowed a balanced budget to be achieved for 2016/17 without the use of balances although there was a projection of £500k from balances in 2017/18 and 2018/19. Councillor Denaro stated that services had been maintained with a small increase in Council Tax and the retention of robust reserves and balances. It was acknowledged that difficult decisions would need to be made in the future and Councillor Denaro was proposing to set up a Cross Party Working Group to review the Government's efficiency requirements.

Councillor L. C. R. Mallett responded to the recommendations and moved the following amendment to the Medium Term Financial Plan which was seconded by Councillor C. J. Bloore.

“Council notes the shortfall in revenue over the 3 years of the financial plan as a result of the devastating settlement from Central Government.

Council calls on the Group Leaders and Member of Parliament, standing shoulder to shoulder, in the interests of the people of Bromsgrove, to meet face to face with the Minister to resolve this funding issue.

Council further calls on the Portfolio Holder and officers to seek to prepare an emergency true zero based budget that addresses the long term funding of local services and advocates for a fundamental restructuring of the management and operational reshaping of the Council this coming year.

To allow this to happen Council resolves to postpone the Budget and Council tax vote and to call an emergency Council in the first week of March to consider a duly revised 3 year Budget”.

In proposing the amendment Councillor Mallett acknowledged the difficulties which the Council faced as a result of the Grant Settlement and expressed the wish to support the efforts to address the issues including the establishment of a Cross Party Group.

Councillor Mallett expressed concern however in respect of the short term approach taken in addressing the problems by setting a balanced budget for next year only. The view was expressed that a zero based budget should have been set for next year in order to achieve more savings and reduce the difficulties in years 2 and 3 and that a more radical approach was required which examined the structure of the Authority and its operations. Whilst Councillor Mallett stated he supported

a joint approach to the Minister with a view to achieving an improved financial settlement, he did not support the current budget proposals.

During the debate on the amendment Councillor Denaro stated that the review work on the financial situation he had referred to would carry on throughout the year. In view of the deadlines for Council Tax bills deferring agreement of the budget would not be helpful.

Councillor S. J. Baxter expressed support for the amendment and also referred to the budget put forward by the Independent Alliance Group which addressed some of the issues in a alternative way. A Cross Party Working Group would be able to look creatively at the steps needed for the future. In her view the Budget proposed by the Controlling Group at present did not do that.

As required under the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014 a named vote was taken on the amendment.

For the amendment: Councillors S. J. Baxter, C. J. Bloore, M. T. Buxton, S. R. Colella, C. A. Hotham, R. E Jenkins, L. C. R. Mallett, P. M. McDonald, C. M. McDonald, S. R. Peters, S. P. Shannon, M. Thompson and L. J. Turner (13)

Against the amendment: Councillors C. Allen-Jones, R. J. Deeming, G. N. Denaro, R. L. Dent, M. Glass, J. M. L. A. Griffiths, H. J. Jones, R. J. Laight, P. Lammas, K. J. May, M. A. Sherrey, R. D. Smith, C. B. Taylor P. L. Thomas, S. A. Webb and P. J. Whittaker (16)

The Chairman declared the amendment to be lost.

Councillor S. R. Colella then moved a further amendment to the Medium Term Financial Plan in the form of an alternative Budget on behalf of the Independent Alliance Group (IAG), this was seconded by Councillor C. A. Hotham.

In proposing the amendment Councillor Colella acknowledged that the proposed Budget from the IAG was radical, but this was necessary due to the level of cuts the Council was facing.

Councillor Colella referred to a number of options which were available to the Council including:

- the provision of a Sports Hall as part of a Community Leisure Centre in Sanders Park with this being funded by the disposal of the Dolphin Centre site for housing purposes;
- the Council to move back to Burcot Lane site and retention of the Burcot Lane Hostel and the Spadesbourne Suite;

- the sale of the Parkside Building for commercial purposes or housing ;
- alternative ways of supporting the regeneration of the Town Centre through housing initiatives;
- the undertaking of a Community Governance Review to increase local autonomy;
- changing arrangements for consideration of the budget including supplying Councillors with more detail in advance of the process.

During the debate on the amendment the view was expressed by some Members that the Council's reserves should not be utilised to support expenditure on the new Leisure Centre and the move to Parkside.

In commenting on the amendment some Members expressed the view that it would be difficult to implement some of the proposals and unlikely that the budget would prove to be sufficiently robust.

As required under the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014 a named vote was taken on the amendment .

For the amendment: Councillors S. J. Baxter, S. R. Colella, C. A. Hotham, R. E. Jenkins, S. R. Peters and L. J. Turner (6)

Against the amendment: Councillors C. Allen-Jones, C. J. Bloore, M. T Buxton, R. J. Deeming, G. N. Denaro, R. L. Dent, M. Glass, J. M. L. A. Griffiths, H. J. Jones, R. J. Laight, P. Lammas, L. C. R. Mallett, K. J. May, P. M. McDonald, C. M. McDonald, S. P. Shannon, M. A. Sherrey, R. D. Smith, C. B. Taylor, P. L. Thomas, M. Thompson, S. A. Webb and P. J. Whittaker (23)

The Chairman declared the amendment to be lost.

There was then further debate on the substantive motion.

The debate included the following issues:

- the lack of a zero based budget;
- the cost of the existing Senior Management Structure ;
- the cost of employing agency staff;
- the cost of the Transformation Team;
- the level of IT costs;
- the running costs associated with the Parkside building;
- a view that the housing supply figures were imbalanced and there was a subsequent impact upon the grant funding awarded.

Councillor Denaro did not accept that the proposed budget failed to recognise the need to address the financial difficulties faced. The reason for a one year budget was precisely because of the challenges ahead. There was a clear recognition of the need to look at efficiency and performance over all areas of the Council's services. The challenge was to maintain services for residents whilst seeking efficiencies .

As required under the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014 a named vote was taken on the Medium Term Financial Plan 2016/17 – 2018/19.

For the recommendations: Councillors C. Allen-Jones, R. J. Deeming, G. N. Denaro, R. L. Dent, M. Glass, J. M. L. A. Griffiths, H. J. Jones, R. J. Laight, P. Lammas, K. J. May, M. A. Sherrey, R. D. Smith, C. B. Taylor, P. L. Thomas, S. A. Webb and P. J. Whittaker (16)

Against the recommendations: Councillors C. J. Bloore, M. T. Buxton, S. R. Colella, C. A. Hotham, R. E. Jenkins, L. C. R. Mallett, P. M. McDonald, C. M. McDonald, S. R. Peters, S. P. Shannon, M. Thompson and L. J. Turner (12)

**RESOLVED:**

- (1) that the fees and charges for 2016/17 (and garden waste for 2017/18) as detailed in appendix 1 (to the report to Cabinet on 3rd February 2016) be approved;
- (2) that the savings and additional income for 2016/17 of £401k as detailed in appendix 3 (to the report to cabinet on 3rd February 2016 ) be approved;
- (3) that the unavoidable pressures for 2016/17 of £507k as detailed in appendix 4 (to the report to Cabinet on 3rd February 2016) be approved;
- (4) that the Capital bids for 2016/17 of £280k as detailed in appendix 5 (to the report to Cabinet on 3rd February 2016) be approved;
- (5) that the payment of Parish Council grant for 2016/17 of £13,800 be approved;
- (6) that the release from reserves of £849k in 2016/17 be approved;
- (7) that the increase in Council Tax by £5 (2.5%) per Band D equivalent for 2016/17 be approved;
- (8) that the Pay Policy (attached as appendix 1 to the report to Cabinet on 24th February 2016) be approved

## **Independent Remuneration Panel Report**

The recommendations of the Cabinet in respect of the report and recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel for Worcestershire District Councils were proposed by Councillor M. A. Sherrey and seconded by Councillor G. N. Denaro.

As an amendment it was proposed by Councillor C. A. Hotham and seconded by Councillor S. R. Peters that the recommendations of the Cabinet be approved with the exception of the proposed increase in the multiplier in respect of Portfolio Holders from 1.3 to 1.5. The multiplier would therefore remain at 1.3.

On a requisition under Council procedure 17.5 , the following details of the voting were recorded:

For the amendment: Councillors C. J. Bloore, M. T. Buxton, S. R. Colella, G. N. Denaro, R. L. Dent, M. Glass, J. M. L. A. Griffiths, C. A. Hotham, R. E. Jenkins, H. J. Jones, R. J. Laight, P. Lammas, L. C. R. Mallett, K. J. May, P. M. McDonald, C. M. McDonald, S. R. Peters, M. A. Sherrey, R. D. Smith, C. B. Taylor, P. L. Thomas, M. Thompson, L. J. Turner, S. A. Webb and P. J. Whittaker (25)

Against the amendment: Councillors C. Allen–Jones and R. J. Deeming (2)

The Chairman declared the amendment to be carried. It was therefore

### **RESOLVED:**

- (1) that the recommended basic allowance of £4250 be not agreed and the Council continues to pay a basic allowance of £4326;
- (2) that the multipliers recommended by the Independent Remuneration Panel for Special Responsibility Allowances be agreed, with the exception of:
  - Portfolio Holders allowance to remain at 1.3;
  - Deputy Leader's allowance to remain at 2;
  - Chairman of Overview and Scrutiny to remain at 1.3;
  - Chairman of Planning Committee to remain at 1.3
- (3) that the Independent Remuneration Panel's recommendations relating to travel, subsistence and dependent carers' allowances be agreed;
- (4) that the Council's Members' Allowances Scheme be updated to take account of the decisions at 1, 2 and 3 above; and

- (5) that the Independent Remuneration panel's recommendation relating to allowances for Parish Councils be noted.

(Councillors S. R. Peters and K. J. May each declared an other disclosable interest as the Chairman of Hagley Parish Council and Belbroughton Parish Council respectively.)

108\15

**TO SET THE COUNCIL TAX FOR 2016/17**

Members considered the recommendations of the Cabinet with regard to the setting of the Council Tax for 2016/17. Members attention was drawn to the circulation of a replacement Schedule 1 and Schedule 2 to the Council Tax Setting Report.

Having been proposed by Councillor G. N. Denaro and seconded by Councillor M. A. Sherrey, it was

**RESOLVED** that the recommendations as set out as an appendix to these minutes, setting a Council Tax for 2015/16 of £205.24 for a band D unparished property be approved.

(This matter was considered as part of the vote on the Medium Term Financial Plan 2016/17 – 2018/19 and therefore the details of the named vote were as recorded in that Minute)

109\15

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CABINET HELD ON 3RD FEBRUARY 2016**

The minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 3rd February 2016 were received for information.

110\15

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Question submitted by Councillor M. Thompson**

Can the Leader confirm the total travelling costs to the Council for officers travelling from Bromsgrove to Redditch (and return) over the last two years.

Councillor G. N. Denaro responded that whilst staff could work at different sites on different days, most staff did have a permanent base from which to operate so as to reduce the need for them to travel. It was true to say that a number of staff chose not to make any claim for these journeys. Costs had reduced from £87k in 2013/14 to £67k in 2014/15.

**Question submitted by Councillor S. P. Shannon**

Attending the annual Bromsgrove Muslim Association Eid celebrations in Parkside buildings last Saturday I was surprised to notice on the guest list an invitation to the Chairman of the Bromsgrove Conservative Association. Noting that the event was jointly funded by the Council and Bromsgrove Muslim Association can the Leader explain why similar invitations were not extended to the other established political parties that operate in Bromsgrove.

The Leader responded that the invitations for this event were issued by the Bromsgrove Muslim Association and the question should therefore be addressed to them.

**Question submitted by Councillor P. M. McDonald**

Would the Leader please inform me of the amount of monies spent on external legal costs over the last two years?

Councillor G. N. Denaro responded that in 2014/15 the cost was £36, 658 and in 2015/16 the cost was £28,912 (to January 2016).

**Question submitted by Councillor C. A. Hotham**

In the light of Policy Strategic Objective 6 in the emerging Plan which is to deliver "the vision" and states that sustainable modes of transport and in particular cycling will be encouraged ; please could the Portfolio Holder explain why the successful Cycle to Work scheme promoted by Bromsgrove District Council to its employees, is not open to Council Members? And what changing room facilities have been provided in the new Parkside building to encourage and help employees/Members to cycle to work?

Councillor G. N. Denaro confirmed that the scheme at present only applied to employees and Members were not classed as such. He had asked officers to look again at the possibilities of Members participating in the scheme. It was confirmed that shower and locker facilities were available at Parkside.

**Question submitted by Councillor K. J. May**

Bromsgrove Post office is a fundamental part of our Town Centre. Can I call upon our Leader to write to the Board of Post Office Counters Limited requesting that any new provision of a Post Office in Bromsgrove Town centre is both sustainable and accessible to all of our residents?

The Leader responded that she was taking this matter forward.

111\15

**REPORT FROM THE PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR LEISURE AND CULTURAL SERVICES**

As the Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Cultural Services , Councillor R. J. Laight presented a report on the areas covered by his Portfolio.

Councillor Laight referred to the work undertaken by the various Teams within the Service across the District including Play Areas, Parks and Open Spaces, Arts and Events and Sports Facilities.

Members considered the report and raised a number of matters including a query in respect of levels of lead content in play equipment. Councillor Laight referred to RoSPA research on this and stated that whilst officers were aware of the potential issue and were monitoring the position, it was unlikely that sites in the District were affected in view of their age.

Councillor Laight highlighted the range of events planned and sponsorship opportunities. In response to a query Councillor Laight undertook to respond to Councillor P. M. McDonald direct on the contribution to the cost of Morris Dancers in Bromsgrove High Street and detail of the approach to sponsorship of planting on roundabouts.

Members also raised the recent concern which had appeared in the media in respect of a potential carcinogenic link with Astro Turf. Officers were in receipt of advice from the Association of Play Industries on this matter.

In response to further issues raised, Councillor Laight responded that the name "Artrix Football Pitch" was incorrect and would not be used in future and confirmed that all officers and volunteers involved with working with children and young people had gone through the appropriate screening process and had been cleared to do so.

Councillor L. C. R. Mallett and Councillor M. Thompson queried whether Councillor Laight was aware of an email which related to the decision not to include a Sports Hall at the proposed new Leisure Centre. The email was sent by a member of the controlling group to a member of the Sports Hall campaigners group and included comments supporting the provision of a replacement sports hall.

Councillor Mallett then provided the Monitoring Officer with a copy of the email and requested that a formal investigation be undertaken to determine whether there had been any breach of the Members Code of Conduct.

Councillor M. Glass asked whether there had been any progress on signing an agreement with BAM regarding alternative sports hall provision. Councillor Laight expressed some disappointment regarding the delay in reaching agreement with BAM which was one of the difficulties in negotiating with a large international Corporation. Officers

were now awaiting final Heads of Terms from BAM in order to sign contracts. It was anticipated this would be in around four weeks time.

At this point the Chairman stated that the time had elapsed for discussion on the Portfolio Holder's report.

112\15

**MOTION ON NOTICE - PARKSIDE DRINKS POLICY**

The Council considered the following motion submitted by Councillor M. Thompson:

“Council recognises that Parkside is a building of government and acknowledges that the Chair's recent decision not to host gatherings for Councillors where alcohol is consumed is excellent and up-to- date practice. Therefore this motion proposes, aside from consumption by members of the public at functions where its facilities are hired, that Parkside becomes an alcohol free zone as far as Councillors are concerned”.

During the debate some Members expressed the view that the provision of alcohol within a public building such as Parkside was no longer appropriate, particularly in view of Drink Drive legislation and prevailing public attitudes.

The Leader responded that this issue had been raised at the previous Council meeting. She considered it appropriate to offer alcohol at civic events where hospitality was included and that guests and Councillors had the opportunity to decide for themselves whether or not they wished to consume alcohol.

On being put to the vote the Chairman declared the Motion to be lost.

The meeting closed at 10.01 p.m.

Chairman

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# BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL

## Council Tax Setting 2016/17

### REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FINANCE & RESOURCES

#### 1.0 PURPOSE

To seek approval of the appropriate formal resolutions to determine the levels of Council Tax for Bromsgrove District Council for 2016/17. The levels of tax take account of the requirements of Bromsgrove District Council, Worcestershire County Council, the Police & Crime Commissioner for West Mercia, Hereford and Worcester Fire & Rescue Authority and the various Parish Councils.

#### 2.0 BACKGROUND

The Localism Act 2011 made significant changes to the Local Government Finance Act 1992 and requires the billing authority to calculate a Council Tax requirement for the year, not its budget requirement as previously.

#### 3.0 PRECEPTS AND LEVIES

Details have been received from the various precepting bodies to enable the Council to set the Council Tax for 2016/17. The amounts of the precepts are set out below:

	£
Worcestershire County Council	39,735,332.00
Police & Crime Commissioner for West Mercia	6,712,900.00
Hereford & Worcester Fire & Rescue Authority	2,761,550.31
Bromsgrove District Council	7,266,392.90
Parish precepts	804,677.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>57,280,852.21</b>

The Parish Council Precepts for 2016/17 are detailed in the attached **Schedule 3**.

#### 4.0 INFORMATION

Based on the recommendation from Cabinet, it is now necessary to formally set Council Tax levels throughout the area for the spending requirements of Bromsgrove District Council, Worcestershire County Council, the Police & Crime Commissioner for West Mercia, Hereford and Worcester Fire & Rescue Authority and the various Parish Councils. If the Council approves the recommendations set out below the average band D Council Tax in 2016/17 will be £1,617.88, made up as follows:

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Authority	2015/16	2016/17	Increase
	£	£	%
Bromsgrove District Council	200.24	205.24	2.50
Worcestershire County Council	1079.77	1,122.31	3.94
Police & Crime Commissioner for West Mercia	185.90	189.60	1.99
Hereford & Worcester Fire & Rescue	76.50	78.00	1.96
Parish Councils (Average)	21.24	22.73	7.01
Total Council Tax	1,563.65	1,617.88	3.47

The % increases all relate to the change from current year levels.

The necessary formal resolutions are set out below.

**The Council is recommended to resolve as follows:**

1. that it be noted at its meeting on 6th January 2016 the Cabinet calculated the Council Tax Base 2016/17
  - (a) for the whole Council area as 35,404.87 [Item T in the formula in Section 31B of the Local Government Act 1992, as amended (the "Act")]; and
  - (b) for dwellings in those parts of its area to which a Parish precept relates the amounts as shown in Column 4 of the attached **Schedule 1**.
  
2. Calculate the Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2015/16 (excluding Parish precepts) is **£7,266,392**.
  
3. That the following amounts be calculated for the year 2016/17 in accordance with sections 31 to 36 of the Act:
  - (a) £49,374,094 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) (*i.e. Gross expenditure*)
  - (b) £41,303,024 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A (3) of the Act. (*i.e. Gross income*)

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- (c) £8,071,069 being the amount by which the aggregate of 3 (a) above exceeds the aggregate at 3 (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) £227.96 being the amount at 3 (c) above (Item R), all divided by Item T (1(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) £804,677 being the aggregate amount of all special items (Parish precepts) referred to in Section 34 (1) of the Act (as per the attached **Schedule 3**).
  - (f) £205.24 being the amount at 3 (d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 3 (e) above by Item T (1 (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) the amounts shown in Column 3 of **Schedule 1**. These are the basic amounts of the council tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of the Council's area shown in Column 1 of the schedule respectively to which special items relate, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 34(3) of the Act. (District and Parish combined at Band D).
  - (h) The amounts shown in Column 5 of **Schedule 1** being the amount given by multiplying the amounts at 4(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;
4. It be noted that for the year 2016/17 Worcestershire County Council, Police & Crime Commissioner for West Mercia and Hereford and Worcester Fire and Rescue Authority have issued precepts to the Council in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 for each category of dwelling in the Council's area as indicated below:

BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL  
Council Tax Setting 2016/17

	Valuation Bands							
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Worcestershire County Council	748.21	872.91	997.61	<b>1,122.31</b>	1,371.72	1,621.12	1,870.52	2,244.63
Police & Crime Commissioner for West Mercia	126.40	147.47	168.54	<b>189.60</b>	231.74	273.87	316.01	379.21
Hereford and Worcester Fire and Rescue Authority	52.00	60.67	69.33	<b>78.00</b>	95.33	112.67	130.00	156.00

5. Having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 4(h) and 5 above, that Bromsgrove District Council in accordance with Sections 30 and 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 hereby sets the amounts shown in **Schedule 2** as the amounts of Council Tax for 2016/17 for each part of its area and for each of the categories of dwellings.
6. That the Executive Director Finance & Resources be authorised to make payments under Section 90(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 from the Collection Fund by ten equal instalments between April 2015 to March 2016 as detailed below:

	Precept £	Surplus on Collection Fund £	Total to pay £
Worcestershire County Council	39,735,332.00	813,066.00	40,548,398.00
Police & Crime Commissioner for West Mercia	6,712,900.00	139,986.00	6,852,886.00
Hereford & Worcester Fire	2,761,550.31	57,602.00	2,819,152.31

7. That the Executive Director Finance & Resources be authorised to make transfers under Section 97 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 from the Collection Fund to the General Fund the sum of £ 8,237,842 being the Council's own demand on the Collection Fund (£7,266,392), Parish Precepts (£804,677) and the distribution of the Surplus on the Collection Fund (£166,773).

## BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL

### Council Tax Setting 2016/17

8. That the Executive Director Finance & Resources be authorised to make payments from the General Fund to the Parish Councils the sums listed on **Schedule 3** by two equal instalments on 1 April 2016 and 1 October 2016 in respect of the precept levied on the Council.
9. That the above resolutions 3 to 5 be signed by the Chief Executive for use in legal proceedings in the Magistrates Court for the recovery of unpaid Council Taxes.
10. Notices of the making of the said Council Taxes signed by the Chief Executive are given by advertisement in the local press under Section 38(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.

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**BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL TAX  
INCLUDING PARISH PRECEPTS 2016/17**

**SCHEDULE 1**

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4	Column 5 – by valuation band							
				Band A	Band B	Band C	Band D	Band E	Band F	Band G	Band H
Part of the Council's Area	Parish Band D £	Basic Amount of Council Tax Band D (District + Parish) £	Taxbase	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Alvechurch	48.36	253.60	2,256.97	169.06	197.25	225.42	253.60	309.96	366.31	422.67	507.20
Barnt Green	62.58	267.82	921.29	178.54	208.30	238.05	267.82	327.33	386.84	446.35	535.64
Belbroughton	50.21	255.45	1,194.87	170.30	198.69	227.07	255.45	312.22	368.98	425.75	510.90
Bentley Paucefoot	28.87	234.11	184.23	156.06	182.08	208.09	234.11	286.13	338.15	390.17	468.22
Beoley	24.78	230.02	447.95	153.34	178.90	204.46	230.02	281.14	332.24	383.36	460.04
Bournheath	48.86	254.10	218.60	169.39	197.63	225.86	254.10	310.56	367.02	423.49	508.20
Catshill & Marlbrook	16.21	221.45	2,314.39	147.63	172.24	196.84	221.45	270.66	319.86	369.07	442.90
Clent	65.68	270.92	685.13	180.61	210.72	240.81	270.92	331.13	391.32	451.53	541.84
Cofton Hackett	33.83	239.07	938.27	159.37	185.94	212.50	239.07	292.20	345.31	398.44	478.14
Dodford with Grafton	28.70	233.94	392.05	155.96	181.95	207.94	233.94	285.93	337.91	389.90	467.88
Finstall	27.95	233.19	292.30	155.45	181.37	207.27	233.19	285.01	336.82	388.64	466.38
Frankley	38.08	243.32	49.79	162.21	189.25	216.28	243.32	297.39	351.45	405.53	486.64
Hagley	53.04	258.28	2,639.28	172.18	200.89	229.58	258.28	315.68	373.07	430.47	516.56
Hunnington	43.32	248.56	230.83	165.70	193.32	220.94	248.56	303.80	359.03	414.26	497.12
Lickey & Blackwell	21.11	226.35	2,084.14	150.89	176.05	201.20	226.35	276.65	326.94	377.25	452.70
Romsley	74.01	279.25	655.22	186.16	217.20	248.22	279.25	341.31	403.36	465.42	558.50
Stoke	31.53	236.77	1,683.87	157.84	184.16	210.46	236.77	289.39	342.00	394.61	473.54
Tutnall & Cobley	20.07	225.31	362.79	150.20	175.24	200.27	225.31	275.38	325.44	375.50	450.62
Wythall	24.50	229.74	4,584.77	153.15	178.69	204.21	229.74	280.80	331.84	382.89	459.48
Urban	N/A	N/A	13,268.13	136.82	159.63	182.43	205.24	250.85	296.45	342.06	410.48
Taxbase Total			<b>35,404.87</b>								

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**COUNCIL TAX SCHEDULE FOR THE BROMSGROVE DISTRICT AREA INCLUDING  
BROMSGROVE D C, WORCESTERSHIRE C C, POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR  
WEST MERCIA, HEREFORD & WORCESTER FIRE & RESCUE AUTHORITY, PARISH**

**SCHEDULE 2**

			Council Tax per Valuation Band							
	Taxbase	Precept £	Band A £	Band B £	Band C £	Band D £	Band E £	Band F £	Band G £	Band H £
Worcestershire County Council	35,404.87	39,735,332	748.21	872.91	997.61	1,122.31	1,371.72	1,621.12	1,870.52	2,244.63
Police & Crime Commissioner for West Mercia	35,404.87	6,712,900.00	126.40	147.47	168.54	189.60	231.74	273.87	316.01	379.21
Hereford & Worcester Fire & Rescue Authority	35,404.87	2,761,550.31	52.00	60.67	69.33	78.00	95.33	112.67	130.00	156.00
Bromsgrove District Council	35,404.87	7,266,393	136.82	159.63	182.43	205.24	250.85	296.45	342.06	410.48
<b>Total Unparished</b>			<b>1,063.43</b>	<b>1,240.68</b>	<b>1,417.91</b>	<b>1,595.15</b>	<b>1,949.64</b>	<b>2,304.11</b>	<b>2,658.59</b>	<b>3,190.31</b>
		Precept £	Total Bill Band A £ (6/9)	Total Bill Band B £ (7/9)	Total Bill Band C £ (8/9)	Total Bill Band D £ (9/9)	Total Bill Band E £ (11/9)	Total Bill Band F £ (13/9)	Total Bill Band G £ (15/9)	Total Bill Band H £ (18/9)
<b>Parish</b>										
Alvechurch	2,256.97	109,157	1,095.67	1,278.30	1,460.90	1,643.51	2,008.75	2,373.97	2,739.20	3,287.03
Bart Green	921.29	57,650	1,105.15	1,289.35	1,473.53	1,657.73	2,026.12	2,394.50	2,762.88	3,315.47
Belbroughton	1,194.87	60,000	1,096.91	1,279.74	1,462.55	1,645.36	2,011.01	2,376.64	2,742.27	3,290.73
Bentley Pauncefoot	184.23	5,318	1,082.67	1,263.13	1,443.57	1,624.02	1,984.92	2,345.81	2,706.70	3,248.05
Beoley	447.95	11,100	1,079.95	1,259.95	1,439.94	1,619.93	1,979.93	2,339.90	2,699.89	3,239.87
Bournheath	218.60	10,680	1,096.00	1,278.68	1,461.34	1,644.01	2,009.35	2,374.68	2,740.02	3,288.03
Catshill & Marlbrook	2,314.39	37,513	1,074.24	1,253.29	1,432.32	1,611.36	1,969.45	2,327.52	2,685.60	3,222.73
Clent	685.13	45,000	1,107.22	1,291.77	1,476.29	1,660.83	2,029.92	2,398.98	2,768.06	3,321.67
Cofton Hackett	938.27	31,740	1,085.98	1,266.99	1,447.98	1,628.98	1,990.99	2,352.97	2,714.97	3,257.97
Dodford with Grafton	392.05	11,253	1,082.57	1,263.00	1,443.42	1,623.85	1,984.72	2,345.57	2,706.43	3,247.71
Finstall	292.30	8,169	1,082.06	1,262.42	1,442.75	1,623.10	1,983.80	2,344.48	2,705.17	3,246.21
Frankley	49.79	1,896	1,088.82	1,270.30	1,451.76	1,633.23	1,996.18	2,359.11	2,722.06	3,266.47
Hagley	2,639.28	140,000	1,098.79	1,281.94	1,465.06	1,648.19	2,014.47	2,380.73	2,747.00	3,296.39
Hunnington	230.83	10,000	1,092.31	1,274.37	1,456.42	1,638.47	2,002.59	2,366.69	2,730.79	3,276.95
Lickey & Blackwell	2,084.14	44,000	1,077.50	1,257.10	1,436.68	1,616.26	1,975.44	2,334.60	2,693.78	3,232.53
Romsley	655.22	48,495	1,112.77	1,298.25	1,483.70	1,669.16	2,040.10	2,411.02	2,781.95	3,338.33
Stoke	1,683.87	53,097	1,084.45	1,265.21	1,445.94	1,626.68	1,988.18	2,349.66	2,711.14	3,253.37
Tutnall & Cobley	362.79	7,280	1,076.81	1,256.29	1,435.75	1,615.22	1,974.17	2,333.10	2,692.03	3,230.45
Wythall	4,584.77	112,329	1,079.76	1,259.74	1,439.69	1,619.65	1,979.59	2,339.50	2,699.42	3,239.31
Urban	13,268.13		1,063.43	1,240.68	1,417.91	1,595.15	1,949.64	2,304.11	2,658.59	3,190.31
<b>Total</b>	<b>35,404.87</b>	<b>804,677</b>								

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	2015/16 Precept	2015/16 Taxbase	2014/15 Levy per Band D Equivalent	2016/17 Precept	Percentage Change in Precept Amount	2016/17 Taxbase	2016/17 Levy per Band D Equivalent
	£			£	%		£
Alvechurch	104,957	2,248.75	47.60	<b>109,157</b>	4.00	2,256.97	48.36
Barnt Green	57,200	914.07	62.11	<b>57,650</b>	0.79	921.29	62.58
Belbroughton	65,000	1,172.63	56.86	<b>60,000</b>	-7.69	1,194.87	50.21
Bentley Pauncefoot	6,386	185.81	29.61	<b>5,318</b>	-16.72	184.23	28.87
Beoley	11,100	447.22	25.61	<b>11,100</b>	0.00	447.95	24.78
Bournheath	10,333	211.43	51.15	<b>10,680</b>	3.36	218.60	48.86
Catshill & Marlbrook	27,319	2,257.84	11.91	<b>37,513</b>	37.31	2,314.39	16.21
Clent	78,500	1,178.38	66.47	<b>45,000</b>	-42.68	685.13	65.68
Cofton Hackett	26,450	838.84	31.21	<b>31,740</b>	20.00	938.27	33.83
Dodford with Grafton	10,230	387.98	25.04	<b>11,253</b>	10.00	392.05	28.70
Finstall	8,045	291.49	27.10	<b>8,169</b>	1.54	292.30	27.95
Frankley	1,850	48.22	37.95	<b>1,896</b>	2.49	49.79	38.08
Hagley	92,750	2,071.46	42.23	<b>140,000</b>	50.94	2,639.28	53.04
Hunnington	9,250	227.21	42.54	<b>10,000</b>	8.11	230.83	43.32
Lickey & Blackwell	43,156	2,093.28	20.78	<b>44,000</b>	1.96	2,084.14	21.11
Romsley	27,500	652.52	42.60	<b>48,495</b>	76.35	655.22	74.01
Stoke	51,550	1,667.92	31.40	<b>53,097</b>	3.00	1,683.87	31.53
Tutnall & Cobley	7,280	364.90	20.31	<b>7,280</b>	0.00	362.79	20.07
Wythall	102,534	4,557.08	22.50	<b>112,329</b>	9.55	4,584.77	24.50
<b>Total</b>	<b>741,390</b>	<b>21,817.04</b>		<b>804,677</b>	<b>8.54</b>	<b>22,136.74</b>	

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