

**BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**MEETING OF THE CABINET**

**WEDNESDAY 22ND FEBRUARY 2023, AT 4.00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Councillors K.J. May (Leader), G. N. Denaro (Deputy Leader),  
P.L. Thomas and S. A. Webb

Officers: Mr. K. Dicks, Mrs. S. Hanley, Mr P. Carpenter,  
Mrs. C. Felton, Ms M. Howell, Mrs. J. Bayley-Hill and  
Mrs J. Gresham

68/22 **TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillor M. Sherrey.

69/22 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

70/22 **TO CONFIRM THE ACCURACY OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
OF THE CABINET HELD ON 15TH FEBRUARY 2023 (TO FOLLOW)**

The minutes from the Cabinet meeting that took place on 15<sup>th</sup> February  
2023 were submitted for Members' consideration.

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup>  
February 2023 be approved as a true and accurate record.

71/22 **COUNCIL TAX RESOLUTIONS 2023/24 (TO FOLLOW)**

The Head of Finance and Customer Services presented the Council Tax  
Resolutions 2023/24 report for Members' consideration.

Cabinet was informed that this report was seeking the formal approval of  
the Council Tax Resolutions for 2023/2024. The report took into account  
the spending requirements of Bromsgrove District Council, Worcestershire  
County Council (WCC), the Police and Crime Commissioner for West  
Mercia, Hereford and Worcester Fire Authority and the various Parish  
Councils.

The various precepting bodies had provided details regarding the amount in precepts they required for 2023/24. Members were advised that, should Council approve the recommendations contained within the report, the average band D Council Tax would be £2,097.255. This was an increase of 4.75% from the previous year.

Finally, Cabinet was informed that the total Council Tax Base 2023/24 had been calculated as £39,919.44.

**RECOMMENDED** that Council approve:

- 1) the calculation for the Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2023/24 (excluding Parish precepts) as **£9,204,565**.
- 2) That the following amounts be calculated for the year 2023/24 in accordance with sections 31 to 36 of the Act:
  - (a) £46,449,077 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) £36,113,337 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*)
  - (c) £10,335,740 being the amount by which the aggregate of 1.2.2(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 1.2.2(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) £272.57 being the amount at 1.2.2 (c) above (Item R), all divided by Item T (1.1(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) £1,131,175 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) £242.74 being the amount at 1.2.2 (d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 1.2.2 (e) above by Item T (1.1 (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 2.2.2(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;
- 3) It be noted that for the year 2023/24, Worcestershire County Council, Police and Crime Commissioner for West Mercia and Hereford and Worcester Fire 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:

	Valuation Bands							
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Worcestershire County Council	977.19	1,140.05	1,302.92	<b>1,465.78</b>	1,791.51	2,117.24	2,442.97	2,931.56
Police and Crime Commissioner for West Mercia	176.33	205.72	235.11	<b>264.50</b>	323.28	382.06	440.83	529.00
Hereford and Worcester Fire Authority	62.93	73.42	83.91	<b>94.40</b>	115.38	136.36	157.33	188.80

- 4) That having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 1.2.2(h) and 1.2.3 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 2023/24. for each part of its area and for each of the categories of dwellings.
- 5) That the Interim Director of Finance 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 2023 to March 2024 as detailed below:

	Precept £	Deficit on Collection Fund £	Total to pay £
Worcestershire County Council	55,581,557.00	(715,149.00)	54,866,408.00
Police and Crime Commissioner for West Mercia	10,029,691.88	(127,825.00)	9,901,866.88
Hereford & Worcester Fire Authority	3,579,733.94	(45,773.00)	3,533,960.94

- 6) That the Interim Director of Finance 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 £10,199,253 being the Council's own demand on the Collection Fund (£9,204,565) and Parish Precepts (£1,131,175) and the distribution of the Deficit on the Collection Fund (-£136,487).

- 7) That the Interim Director of Finance be authorised to make payments from the General Fund to Parish Councils the sums listed on **Schedule 3** by two equal instalments on 1 April 2023 and 1 October 2023 in respect of the precept levied on the Council.
- 8) That the above resolutions to be signed by the Chief Executive for use in legal proceedings in the Magistrates Court for the recovery of unpaid Council Taxes.
- 9) 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.

**RESOLVED** to note that at its meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2023 they approved the calculated Council Tax Base 2023/24 as

- (a) for the whole Council area as 37,919.44 [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**.

72/22

### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD HELD ON 17TH JANUARY 2023**

The Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Board presented the minutes from the meeting of the Board held on 17<sup>th</sup> January 2023.

Cabinet was informed that during the discussion of the Levelling Up Fund – Purchase of Windsor Street Site and Former Market Hall Site, Members had outlined their concerns in respect of these projects and had made relevant Members and Officers aware of these concerns.

At this meeting, the Board also received an update on Planning Enforcement and Councillor Hotham was pleased to report that there had been significant improvements made in this area. In particular, the retention of Worcestershire Regulatory Services (WRS) Officers, who had been contracted during the Covid-19 pandemic had been successful and it was hoped that this would continue in the future.

Members were advised that at this meeting of the Board there had been a detailed discussion regarding the future membership of the Finance and Budget Working Group. It was agreed that the membership of the Working Group for the 2023-24 municipal year would comprise of 7 Members, 6 Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Board plus the Chairman of the Audit, Standards and Governance Committee. However, it was also agreed that, should vacant posts remain after members of the Overview and Scrutiny Board had been approached, Members who did not sit on Cabinet would be approached and could be appointed to fill those vacancies. The Terms of Reference would be updated accordingly.

Finally, it was reported that at this meeting, Councillor S. Baxter had provided, as the Council's representative on Worcestershire Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC), an update in respect of the issues effecting the hospitals within the County, which had been widely reported over the previous twelve months.

The meeting closed at 4.12 p.m.

Chairman