

Crawley Borough Council

Minutes of Full Council

Wednesday, 27 February 2019 at 7.30 pm

Councillors Present:

C Portal Castro (Mayor)

T Rana (Deputy Mayor)

M L Ayling, A Belben, T G Belben, N J Boxall, B J Burgess, R G Burgess, R D Burrett, C A Cheshire, D Crow, C R Eade, R S Fiveash, F Guidera, I T Irvine, K L Jaggard, M G Jones, P K Lamb, R A Lanzer, T Lunnon, S Malik, K McCarthy, A Pendlington, M W Pickett, B J Quinn, R Sharma, A C Skudder, B A Smith, P C Smith, M A Stone, K Sudan, J Tarrant, G Thomas, L Vitler and L Willcock

Officers Present:

Natalie Brahma-Pearl	Chief Executive
Ann-Maria Brown	Head of Legal, Democracy and HR
Chris Pedlow	Democratic Services Manager
Ian Duke	Deputy Chief Executive
Karen Hayes	Head of Corporate Finance
Mez Matthews	Democratic Services Officer

Apologies for Absence:

Councillor C J Mullins and D M Peck

1. Disclosures of Interest

The disclosures of interests made by Councillors were set out in Appendix A to the minutes.

2. Communications

The Mayor on behalf of the Council asked that their condolences be conveyed to Councillor Mullins and his family at this sad time.

The Mayor then provided the Full Council with a brief update of the Mayoral events. The Mayor thanked those Councillors and guests that attended his recent Mayor's Ball.

3. Public Question Time

Questions asked in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 9 were as follows:

Questioner's Name	Name of Councillor Responding
<p>Mr Ashraf - (<i>Langley Green</i>)</p> <p>Why had the Council decided to invest in the District Heat Network which was going to be run by natural gas as opposed to exploring or inviting other services such as hydrogen?</p>	<p>Councillor Lamb (<i>Leader of the Council</i>)</p> <p>The District Heat Network was looked into for quite some time and there was also some experience around using combined heat and power at K2 and how that had been enhanced by using natural gas. As technologies emerged the Council remained committed to investigation them, but at this time, when investing a lot of public money, the Council wanted to make sure that the technology it brought forward was completely safe.</p>
<p><i>Supplementary Question</i></p> <p>Hydrogen technology was thoroughly tried and tested, existed today and was very much in use. He had a concern that we continued to invest in natural gas when it was likely to be phased out in the near future.</p>	<p>Councillor Lamb (<i>Leader of the Council</i>)</p> <p>The officer who developed the proposal for the Council had now left the Local Authority to become a lead advisor for the Government on District Heat Networks so the District Heat Network was built very much around thoughts of sustainability.</p>

4. Minutes

- a) The minutes of the meeting of the Full Council held on 12 December 2018 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Mayor subject to the following two changes.
 - i) that the words “on behalf of the Conservative Group” be deleted from the first line of the first paragraph of Minute 10 (Public Space Protection Order – Cabinet – 21 November 2018) on Page 24, and
 - ii) that the words “on behave of the Conservative Group” be deleted from the first line of the second paragraph of Minute 21 (District Heat Network (Recommendation 3) – Cabinet – 31 October 2018) on Page 31.
- b) The minutes of the meeting of the Extraordinary Full Council held on 23 January 2019 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

5. Items for debate (Reserved Items)

Councillors indicated that they wished to speak on a number of items as set out in the following table:

Page no.	Committee/ Minute no. (and the Member reserving the item for Debate)	Subject (Decisions previously taken under delegated powers, reserved for debate only).	Subject (Recommendation to Full Council, reserved for debate)
p.71	Overview and Scrutiny Commission, 4 February 2019, Minute 1 Conservative Group	Update on the Closure of Crawley's Crown Post Office	
p.78	Cabinet 6 February 2019 Minute 5 Labour Group and Conservative Group		Recommendation 1 2019/20 Budget and Council Tax
p.79 & p.86	Cabinet 6 February 2019 Minute 5 Labour Group		Recommendation 2 Notice of Precept 2019/20
p.80	Cabinet 6 February 2019 Minute 7 Conservative Group		Recommendation 4 Capital Strategy 2019/20

6. Minutes of the Cabinet, Overview and Scrutiny Commission and Committees

- 1) Moved by Councillor Rana (as the Deputy Mayor):-

RESOLVED

That the following reports be received:

- Planning Committee – 17 December 2018
- Overview and Scrutiny Commission – 7 January 2019
- Planning Committee – 21 January 2019
- Overview and Scrutiny Commission – 4 February 2019

- Cabinet – 6 February 2019
- Notice of Precept 2019-2020
- Planning Committee – 11 February 2019

- 2) That the recommendations contained in the reports on the following matters, which had not been reserved for debate, be adopted:-

Treasury Management Strategy 2019/2020 – Cabinet – 6 February 2019 (Recommendation 3)

The Full Council considered report [FIN/464](#); of the Head of Corporate Finance, which had previously considered by the Cabinet on 6 February 2019 and at the Overview and Scrutiny Commission on 4 6 February 2019.

RESOLVED

That Full Council approves:

- a) the Treasury Prudential Indicators and the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Statement contained within Section 5 of report [FIN/464](#);
- b) the Treasury Management Strategy contained within Section 6 of report [FIN/464](#);
- c) the Investment Strategy contained within Section 7, and the detailed criteria included in Appendix 3 of report [FIN/464](#)

Review of Statement of Licensing Policy made under the Licensing Act 2003 – Cabinet – 6 February 2019 (Recommendation 5)

The Full Council considered report [HCS/08](#) of the Head of Community Services which had previously considered by the Cabinet on 6 February 2019 and at the Overview and Scrutiny Commission on 4 6 February 2019.

RESOLVED

That Full Council approves the adoption of the proposed revised Statement of Licensing Policy 2019-2024 made under the Licensing Act 2003 (Appendix B to report [HCS/08](#)).

7. Update on the Closure of Crawley's Crown Post Office - Overview and Scrutiny Commission - 4 February 2019

Councillor Guidera explained his rationale for bringing forward this item. He commented he felt the Commission's decision was slightly different to what was stated within the minute being discussed. He felt that it was agreed to ask for a representative from WHSmith to attend the Commission along with a representative from the Post Office.

Councillors Irvine, Crow and Burrett also spoke on this item.

Councillor Cheshire as the Chair of the Commission, spoke last on the item and she stated she felt the minute was a fair reflection of the Commission's decision. However if there was a correction needed to the Commission's minutes it should be raised at the next Commission's meeting, as Full Council does not have the right to amend any minutes of a committee. She commented she would be happy to have a further discussion at the next Commission on the 11 March over inviting a WHSmith employee to attend the Commission, when the representative from Royal Mail was attending in June.

8. 2019/20 Budget and Council Tax - (Recommendation 1) - Cabinet - 6 February 2019

The Leader of the Council presented the report [FIN/462](#) of the Head of Corporate Finance, which set out the Budget and level of Council Tax for the year 2019/20. It was noted that the report detailed each of the Revenue, Capital and Housing Revenue Accounts that combine together to formulate 'The Budget'. In proposing the level of Council Tax for the Financial Year 2019/20, each of those accounts identified had been considered. The combined proposal ensured that the Council had a balanced Budget. It was noted that the report had been considered by the Cabinet on 6 February 2019 and by the Overview and Scrutiny Commission at its meeting on 4 February 2019. In presenting The Budget to the Council Councillor Lamb also moved the Labour Amendment to the proposal (Recommendation 1), which was detailed in [item 16](#) of Supplemental Agenda for the meeting. Councillor Jones seconded that report and the Labour Amendment.

The Full Council was reminded that regulations required all Councils at their annual budget meetings to adopt the practice of recorded votes - that is, recording in the minutes of the meeting how each member present voted on any decision relating to the Annual Budget and Council Tax. This applied not only to substantive budget motions to agree the budget and setting council taxes, including precepts, but also on any amendments proposed.

The Leader of the Opposition, Councillor Duncan Crow addressed the meeting and made his budget speech which included presenting the Conservative Amendment to the Budget (Recommendation 1) which was detailed in [item 17](#) of Supplemental Agenda for the meeting. Councillor Lanzer seconded that Conservative Amendment. The Mayor then opened up the general debate on the proposed Budget report and both amendments to the Council with Councillor T. Belben, Burrett, Sudan, Jones, Lunnon, Lanzer, Irvine and Lamb, using his right to reply all spoke during debate.

At the conclusion of the discussion, Councillors expressed their thanks and appreciation for the work carried out by Karen Hayes (Head of Corporate Finance), the Finance Division generally and the Budget Advisory Group (BAG).

Following the conclusion of the debate, the Mayor invited the Head of Legal, Democracy and HR to commence the recorded voting process on the 2019/20 Budget and Council Tax and the related Amendments.

A recorded vote was then called on the Labour Amendment to Recommendation 1.

Voting in Favour: Councillors: Ayling, A Belben, T Belben, B Burgess, R Burgess, Burrett, Cheshire, Crow, Eade, Fiveash, Guidera, Irvine, Jaggard, Jones, Lamb, Lanzer, Lunnon, Malik, McCarthy, Pendlington, Pickett, Portal Castro, Quinn, Rana,

Sharma, Skudder, B Smith, P Smith, Stone, Sudan, Tarrant, Thomas, Vitler and Willcock. (34)

Voting Against: Councillors: None (0)

Abstentions: Councillors: None (0)

The Mayor declared the Amendment was carried – votes in favour 34, and votes against 0 with 0 abstention.

A recorded vote was then called on the Conservative Amendment to Recommendation 1. (*Attached as Appendix B to these Minutes*)

Voting in Favour: Councillors: A Belben, T Belben, B Burgess, R Burgess, Burrett, Crow, Eade, Guidera, Jaggard, Lanzer, McCarthy, Pendlington, Stone, Tarrant, and Vitler. (15)

Voting Against: Councillors: Ayling, Cheshire, Fiveash, Irvine, Jones, Lamb, Lunnon, Malik, Pickett, Portal Castro, Quinn, Rana, Sharma, Skudder, B Smith, P Smith, Sudan, Thomas and Willcock. (19)

Abstentions: Councillors: None (0)

The Mayor declared the Amendment had fallen – votes in favour 15, and votes against 19 with 0 abstention.

A recorded vote was then called on the Substantive Recommendation 1 2019/20 Budget and Council Tax as amended

Voting in Favour: Councillors: Ayling, A Belben, T Belben, B Burgess, R Burgess, Burrett, Cheshire, Crow, Eade, Fiveash, Guidera, Irvine, Jaggard, Jones, Lamb, Lanzer, Lunnon, Malik, McCarthy, Pendlington, Pickett, Portal Castro, Quinn, Rana, Sharma, Skudder, B Smith, P Smith, Stone, Sudan, Tarrant, Thomas, Vitler and Willcock. (34)

Voting Against: Councillors: None (0)

Abstentions: Councillors: None (0)

The Mayor declared the Amendment was carried – votes in favour 34, and votes against 0 with 0 abstention.

RESOLVED

That the Full Council approves

- a) the proposed 2019/20 General Fund Budget including savings and growth as set out in section 6 and Appendix 1 and Appendix 2 of report [FIN/462](#),
- b) the proposed 2019/20 Housing Revenue Account Budget as set out in Section 10 and Appendix 3 of report [FIN/462](#),
- c) the 2018/19 to 2021/22 Capital Programme and funding as set out below, which includes an increase of £1m for Purchase of investment properties budget from £6m to £7m to be funded from useable capital receipts.

	2018/19 £'000s	2019/20 £'000s	2020/21 £'000s	2021/22 £'000s	Total £'000s
Existing Programme (agrees with Q3 elsewhere on this Agenda)	47,933	65,425	33,777	4,199	151,334
Housing Programmed repairs Adjustment to the Budget Required (Appendix 3(i))		600		9,030	9,630
Purchase of properties (Appendix 3(i))		320	-1,000	1,000	320
Town Hall – prelims (para 11.2)		3,000			3,000
Telford Place (para 11.3) – additional HRA borrowing				9,000	9,000
Purchase of Investment properties		7,000			7,000
<u>New Schemes</u>					
ICT Transformation		461			461
Purchase of Edinburgh House, Broadfield		3,500			3,500
Provision of New Integrated Housing database		75	400	67	542
TOTAL	47,933	80,381	400	67	184,787

Funded by -					
Capital Receipts	5,018	21,416	8,279	990	35,703
Capital Reserve	0	25	0	0	25
1-4-1 Receipts	8,256	14,923	3,882	1,569	28,630
HRA revenue contribution	31,600	39,123	16,858	11,737	99,318
Section 106 contributions	578	1,087	308	0	1,973
Lottery/external funding	1,438	2,799	3,850	0	8,087
Revenue – replacement fund	143	702	0	0	845
Borrowing (HRA)	0	0	0	9,000	9,000
Better care fund (formally DFG's)	900	306	0	0	1206
TOTAL	47,933	80,381	33,177	23,296	184,787

- d) and agrees that the Council's share of Council Tax for 2019/20 be increased by 2.49% from £198.99 to £203.94 for a band D property as set out in paragraphs 5.5.1 and 13.3 of report [FIN/462](#),
- e) the Pay Policy Statement for 2019/2020 as outlined in paragraph 16.3 and Appendix 6 of report [FIN/462](#).
- f) that a new ring fenced reserve entitled 'Supported Accommodation', be set up which is to be funded from any additional Housing benefit subsidy paid to the

Council on behalf of the residents in such accommodation* and any necessary further saving in 2019-20 arising from the ongoing refreshed transformation programme, further to those in Section 6.4 of the budget report [FIN/462](#).

9. Notice of Precept 2019/20 - (Recommendation 2)

Councillor Lamb presented the report that set out the Notice of Precept from the Police and Crime Commissioner for Sussex and West Sussex County Council, which combined with the previously agreed Crawley Borough Council precept to formulated the 2019/20 Council Tax Resolution for 2019/20.

Councillors Crow, Lunnon, Lanzer, Guidera and Jones also spoke on the Precept.

Moved by Councillor Lamb, seconded by Councillor P. Smith.

Following approval of the Council's Budget and Council Tax 2019/20 in Recommendation 1, and in accordance with the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014, the names of the Councillors voting for and against Recommendation 2 were recorded as set out below:-

Voting in Favour: Councillors: Ayling, A Belben, T Belben, Boxall, B Burgess, R Burgess, Burrett, Cheshire, Crow, Eade, Fiveash, Guidera, Irvine, Jaggard, Jones, Lamb, Lanzer, Lunnon, Malik, McCarthy, Pendlington, Pickett, Portal Castro, Quinn, Rana, Sharma, Skudder, B Smith, P Smith, Stone, Sudan, Tarrant, Thomas, Vitler and Willcock. (35)

Voting Against: Councillors: None (0)

Abstentions: Councillors: None (0)

The Mayor declared the recommendation was carried – votes in favour 35, and votes against 0 with 0 abstention.

RESOLVED

1. That it be noted that on 19 December 2018 the Leader of the Council under delegated powers calculated the Council Tax Base 2019/20 for the whole Council area as **35,216.3** [Item T in the formula in Section 31B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended (the "Act")]; and
2. That the Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2019/20 is calculated at £7,182,012.
3. That the following amounts be calculated for the year 2019/20 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Act:

(a)	£121,161,481	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.
(b)	£113,979,469	being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act.
(c)	£7,182,012	being the amount by which the aggregate at 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)	£203.94	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)	£0	being the aggregate amount of all special items (Parish precepts) referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act.
(f)	£203.94	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.

4. That it be noted that the County Council and the Police and Crime Commissioner for Sussex 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 indicated in the table below.
5. That the Council, in accordance with Sections 30 and 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the aggregate amounts shown in the table below as the amounts of Council Tax for 2019/20 for each part of its area and for each of the categories of dwellings.

COUNCIL TAX SCHEDULE 2019/20

	CRAWLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL	WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL	POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR SUSSEX	TOTAL
BAND A	135.96	922.38	126.61	1,184.95
BAND B	158.62	1,076.11	147.71	1,382.44

BAND C	181.28	1,229.84	168.81	1,579.93
BAND D	203.94	1,383.57	189.91	1,777.42
BAND E	249.26	1,691.03	232.11	2,172.40
BAND F	294.58	1,998.49	274.31	2,567.38
BAND G	339.90	2,305.95	316.52	2,962.37
BAND H	407.88	2,767.14	379.82	3,554.84

6. That it be determined in accordance with Section 52ZB Local Government Finance Act 1992 that the Council 's basic amount of Council Tax for 2019/20 is NOT excessive in accordance with principles approved by the Secretary of State under Section 52ZC of the Act.

10. Capital Strategy 2019/20 (Recommendation 4) - Cabinet - 6 February 2019

The Full Council considered report [FIN/467](#) of the Head of Corporate Finance, which had been previously considered at the Cabinet on 6 February 2019 and by the Overview and Scrutiny Commission at its meeting on 4 February 2019.

Councillor Lamb presented the report, which was seconded by Councillor P Smith.

Councillor Guidera spoke on the item and its recommendation.

RESOLVED

That the Full Council approves the Capital Strategy 2019/20

11. Notice Of Motion 1- Motion On Reducing Plastic Waste

The Council considered the Notice of Motion 1 'Motion on Reducing Plastic Waste' as set out in the Full Council's agenda. The Motion was moved and presented by Councillor Thomas and seconded and supported by Councillor P. Smith.

During the debate on the Motion Councillors, McCarthy, B Burgess, Sharma, Irvine, P. Smith, R Burgess all spoke in support. Councillor Thomas also used his right to reply to speak at the end of the debate.

RESOLVED

Crawley Borough Council notes that:

- The European Parliament voted by a huge majority (571 to 53) in 2018 for a complete ban on a range of single use plastics (such as plastic cutlery and plates, cotton buds and straws) by 2021 and a 25% reduction in plastic use where no current alternative exists such as burger boxes and sandwich wrappers.

And notes with concern that:

- Hundreds of millions of tons of new plastic is made every year, much of which is for single use such as plastic bags, straws and food packaging. In many cases there are practicable alternatives available that area either re-useable or compostable.
- The Ellen MacArthur Foundation, which promotes the transition to a 'Circular Economy' has estimated that by weight there could be more plastic in the oceans than fish by 2050.
- 'Almost 80 per cent of the 8.3 billion metric tonnes of plastic produced over the past 70 years has been discarded into landfill or the environment, including the ocean.' Sir David Attenborough
- Plastic in the rivers and seas leads to rubbish on beaches and riverbanks, as well as entanglement, death through ingestion, toxic transfer and, once degraded into microplastics, contamination of the animal and human food chains with negative effects on health.

Crawley Borough Council welcomes:

- The European Parliament ban in 2018
- The current consultation on Deposit Return Schemes and the significant reduction in plastic waste that such schemes have achieved in Germany, Sweden and Denmark.
- The success of the 'plastic bag levy' introduced which has led to an 85% reduction in disposable bag usage in England and 9 billion fewer bags per year going into landfill or waste treatment.
- The introduction of a ban on products containing microbeads as a way of reducing the likelihood of such products getting into the oceans and harming marine life.

Crawley Borough Council agrees that the Borough will make every effort to reduce plastic waste specifically by:

- Undertaking an audit of single use plastics used by this Local Authority and all CBC commissioned services, replacing them with sustainable or re-useable alternatives wherever possible.
- Ensuring, where possible, that all future council commissioning exercises eliminate the use of single use plastics, replacing them with sustainable or re-useable alternatives where practicable.
- Informing members of the public in its online and written communications of the importance of reducing plastic waste.
- Using its membership of the West Sussex Waste Partnership to improve opportunities to recycle materials wherever possible.
- Calling on all supermarkets in the borough to reduce the use of plastic food wrappings.
- Calling on local supermarkets to consider introducing a 'plastic free aisle' on a trial basis,
- Working collaboratively with businesses, other public bodies and representative organisations such as NHS Crawley Commissioning Group, County Mall, Manor Royal Business Improvement Partnership and the Town Centre Partnership to reduce the amount of plastic waste produced.
- Exploring all options to reduce single-use plastic water bottle waste in Crawley such as:
 - Encouraging community water-refill schemes
 - Improving free access to tap water in local businesses and organisations including cafes and restaurants
 - Ending the sale of plastic bottled water on council-managed premises.
 - Promoting Apps to help consumers to locate free tap water

- Installing free water fountains in high footfall areas including children's playgrounds.

12. Notice Of Motion 2 - Motion On Supporting The Government's Resources And Waste Strategy

The Council considered the Notice of Motion 2 'Motion on Supporting the Government's Resources and Waste Strategy' as set out in the Full Council's agenda. The Motion was moved and presented by Councillor Crow and seconded and supported by Councillor Jaggard. Councillor Crow in presenting the Motion commented on the Labour Amendment that he would accept the amendment and as such it became the substantive Motion.

During the debate on the Substantive Motion Councillors, Lamb, B Burgess, Burrett, Thomas, Cheshire, P. Smith, and Jaggard all spoke. Councillor Crow used his right to reply to speak at the end of the debate.

RESOLVED

In December 2018 the government launched their Resources and Waste Strategy, which sets out how government will:

- ensure producers pay the full net costs of disposal or recycling of packaging they place on the market by extending producer responsibility – up from just 10% now
- review producer responsibility schemes for items that can be harder or costly to recycle including cars, electrical goods, batteries and explore extending it to textiles, fishing gear, vehicle tyres, certain materials from construction and demolition, and bulky waste such as mattresses, furniture and carpets
- introduce a consistent set of recyclable materials collected from all households and businesses, and consistent labelling on packaging so consumers know what they can recycle, to drive-up recycling rates
- ensure weekly collections of food waste, which is often smelly and unpleasant, for every household – restoring weekly collections in some local authorities. This will be subject to consultation which will also consider free garden waste collections for households with gardens, to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from landfill
- introduce a deposit return scheme, subject to consultation, to increase the recycling of single-use drinks containers including bottles, cans, and disposable cups filled at the point of sale
- explore mandatory guarantees and extended warranties on products, to encourage manufacturers to design products that last longer and drive up the levels of repair and re-use
- introduce annual reporting of food surplus and waste by food businesses. Should progress be insufficient, consult on introducing mandatory targets for food waste prevention
- clamp-down on illegal movements of waste at home and abroad by introducing compulsory electronic tracking of waste, and tougher penalties for rogue waste crime operators if they mislabel their waste to dodge tax rules.

This Council welcomes the strategy which focusses on the environmentally friendly waste principles of Reduce, Reuse and Recycle, and resolves to:

1. Continue to work constructively with central government, West Sussex County Council and other District and Borough Councils to implement the government's waste strategy.
2. Continue to support the three principles to reduce waste in order of priority: Reduce, Reuse and Recycle.
3. Continue to work to improve the amount of household waste that is recycled rather than going to landfill.
4. Set up a cross-party member working group at an appropriate time, to look at options to improve household waste collections and to reduce waste going to landfill, with consideration given to a dedicated food waste collection.

13. Duration of the Meeting (Guillotine)

As the business had not been completed within the scheduled 2 hours 30 minutes a vote on continuation, and in line with Council Procedure Rule 2.2, was held. The Mayor required the Full Council to consider if it wished to continue with the meeting.

Having put it to the vote, the Council agreed that the meeting be continued for an additional period not exceeding 30 minutes.

14. Councillors' Written Questions

Councillors' written questions, together with the answers, were published in advance of the start of the Meeting. The questions were as follows:-

Questioner	Councillor Crow
Addressed to	Cabinet Member for Planning and Economic Development
Subject(s)	Number of New Homes built in Crawley including the number of permitted development builds and the number that were social rented housing
Questioner	Councillor Crow
Addressed to	Leader of the Council
Subject(s)	Estimated cost for each polling station for the scheduled 2019 Borough Council elections

15. Announcements by Cabinet Members

Cabinet Member	Subject
<p><i>Councillor Jones – (Cabinet Member for Housing)</i></p>	<p>Confirmed the development that would take place on the remaining land next to Breezehurst Drive (on the former Bewbush Leisure Centre site) to provide up to 80 properties with a 50:50 split of houses / flats with all of the properties being owned by Crawley Homes on a 50:50 affordable rent / shared ownership basis to help maximise grant potential. Final proposals would come before a future meeting of the Planning Committee. The requirement for a 5-year minimum connection would continue to apply to the allocation of Council housing.</p> <p>Announced that the Budget agreed at tonight's Full Council meeting would, subject to a successful purchase, allow the Council to purchase Edinburgh House (Broadfield) and add to the Council's housing stock. It was a privilege to be the Cabinet Member for Housing in a year which had seen significant results in the efforts to turn housing targets into a reality and he thanked the officers involved.</p>
<p><i>Councillor Lamb (Leader of the Council)</i></p>	<p>He had received a response from the Government Minister responsible for Post Offices regarding the relocation of Crawley Post Office to WHSmith which had advised that the Government would have no intervention in either strategy or the location of a particular post office.</p>
<p><i>Councillor Thomas – (Cabinet Member for Environmental Services and Sustainability)</i></p>	<p>He had recently spent the morning with a Community Warden in the Town Centre following issues which had been raised, particularly at a meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Commission. He had been impressed with the Warden's diplomacy, knowledge of the vicinity, issues affecting the area and those frequenting the space. The Warden took appropriate action when they witnessed the littering of cigarette butts. Councillor Thomas had noticed very few cigarette butts in the area on his visit, and was of the view that the littering of chewing gum was an issue in the Town Centre. There were ongoing discussions about how to remove such chewing gum, but he was aware that the options were both expensive and labour intensive.</p>

16. Questions to Cabinet Members

Name of Councillor asking Question	Name of Cabinet Member Responding
<p><i>Councillor Crow to the Cabinet Member for Environmental Services and Sustainability</i></p> <p>Were we any further forward with a strategy for toilets in the Town Centre, and in that, had consideration been given to opening toilets on a Sunday?</p>	<p><i>Councillor Thomas – (Cabinet Member for Environmental Services and Sustainability)</i></p> <p>Although the provision for toilets in the Town Centre was discussed at each Portfolio Briefing, there were difficulties regarding finance (eg. expenditure on public toilets did not fit in the Capital Criteria). The toilets in Ifield Drive were now closed and it was unlikely that they would reopen. The toilets in The Boulevard, although well used, were in need of renovation, the cost of which would be significant. He was hopeful that a decision on toilet provision would be taken in the next few months. He would have discussions regarding Sunday openings.</p>
<p><i>Councillor Jaggard to the Cabinet Member for Environmental Services and Sustainability</i></p> <p>The Government publication <i>The Heat Network's Delivery Unit 2018</i> cited the forecast capital cost for Crawley's District Heat Network at £7.48m. How was the balance (following the Government grant) going to be funded; how much would it cost Council Tax payers; what was the payback time before it broke even; and would the equipment be worn out before the payback date?</p>	<p><i>Councillor Thomas – (Cabinet Member for Environmental Services and Sustainability)</i></p> <p>He had been told specifically that reference to the £7.48m was incorrect. He had not seen the publication in question. He invited all Councillors to the seminar on the District Heat Network which would take place at 6.30pm on 28 February 2019, where the consultants would be in attendance.</p>
<p><i>Councillor Lunnon to the Leader of the Council</i></p> <p>In light of the recent earthquake, climate change and Crawley's proximity to Gatwick Airport, there was an increased likelihood of emergencies occurring within the Borough. When was the last time Crawley either enacted or practiced a multi-agency emergency drill?</p>	<p><i>Councillor Lamb – (Leader of the Council)</i></p> <p>There was a general strategy for dealing with such emergencies/crises. The Council did not play a coordinating role but provided support on the ground such as evacuation facilities and, under the Civil Contingencies Act, it was the Chief Executive who held that responsibility. The next multi-agency test would take</p>

	<p>place in the Spring and, although the the exact date was not to hand, he would inform Councillor Lunnon once he had obtained the information. The Strategy and emergency plans worked well and remained in place should the need for them to be used occur.</p>
<p><i>Councillor Stone to the Cabinet Member for Planning and Economic Development</i></p> <p>Apart from the Community Wardens what was being done to enforce Queens Square as a no cycling zone?</p>	<p><i>Councillor P Smith – (Cabinet Member for Planning and Economic Development)</i></p> <p>It was necessary to do everything the Council could to stop people riding bicycles in Queens Square. There was not any no-cycling signage actually in Queens Square to avoid clutter. The proposed improved cycle facilities would enable people to cycle to the Town Centre, park their bicycles and then walk. The Community Wardens proactively enforced the zone and Councillor Smith encouraged those present to dissuade people from riding their bicycles in Queens Square.</p>
<p><i>Councillor Guidera to the Leader of the Council (in the absence of the Cabinet Member for Wellbeing)</i></p> <p>Members of Councillor Guidera’s family had worked at the ice rink which had been situated in Goffs Park. Overwhelming feedback from users of the ice rink as well as those who had worked there was that Goffs Park was not the ideal location due to its location, insufficient parking and lack of lighting along the pathway at night. Had the rink been located in a more suitable location it could have been a huge success.</p> <p>Why was Goffs Park suggested rather than Southgate Playing Fields (which was a more central and sustainable location), and could he get agreement that Southgate Playing Fields was a more suitable location so that it could be proactively pursued for the future?</p>	<p><i>Councillor Lamb – (Leader of the Council – in the absence of the Cabinet Member for Wellbeing)</i></p> <p>Various sites had been considered, taking into account each site’s suitability and proximity to the Town Centre. Southgate Playing Fields had not been available at the time of booking and, when a change in circumstances had led to it becoming available, there had been insufficient time to relocate the ice rink to Southgate Playing Fields. A de-brief meeting was due to be held with the ice rink operator in the coming week and the location, including alternative options, would be discussed at that meeting.</p>

<p><i>Councillor B Burgess to the Leader of the Council</i></p> <p>Creasys Drive Adventure Playground was currently closed as a precaution after staff were threatened and would remain closed until the situation had been resolved. How were staff, following their ordeal, and could an update on the situation be provided?</p> <p><i>Supplementary Question</i></p> <p>Were those staff member currently being paid whilst the site was closed.</p>	<p><i>Councillor Lamb – (Leader of the Council)</i></p> <p>The Police were currently involved and he was limited on the information he could share. The safety of staff was taken very seriously. The situation was under review and security improvements were being investigated.</p> <p>Yes they were.</p>
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17. Questions to Committee Chairs

Name of Councillor asking Question	Name of Committee Chair Responding
<p><i>Councillor Crow to the Chair of the Licensing Committee</i></p> <p>Could an update be provided on the consultation for the livery for taxi drivers in Crawley and what was the timetable for resolving the matter?</p>	<p><i>Councillor Pickett – (Chair of the Licensing Committee).</i></p> <p>The Licensing Committee had not yet considered the matter as the consultant's report had not been made available. The Licensing Committee scheduled to take place next week was likely to be postponed due to a lack of items for discussion. Councillor Pickett would discuss the matter with the relevant Licensing Officer tomorrow and ascertain whether the consultant's report had not been received and whether that was the reason for postponing the most recent Licensing Committee.</p>

Closure of Meeting

With the business of the Full Council concluded, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 10.22 pm

C Portal Castro (Mayor)
Mayor

Appendix A - Declarations of Interests

Disclosures of Interest received from Councillors in advance of the meeting

Councillor	Item	Meeting and Minute	Type and Nature of Disclosure
Councillor P C Smith	CR/2018/0473/FUL - Diamond Point, Fleming Way, Northgate, Crawley	Planning Committee 17 December 2018 –Minute 4, page 55	Personal Interest – a Local Authority Director of the Manor Royal Business Improvement District.
Councillor P C Smith	CR/2018/0713/NC C - Former TSB Trustcard, County Oak Way (Minute 6)	Planning Committee 17 December 2018 –Minute 4, page 57	Personal Interest – a Local Authority Director of the Manor Royal Business Improvement District.
Councillor R D Burrett	Health and Adult Social Care Select Committee (HASC)	Overview and Scrutiny Commission – 7 January 2019 – Minute 9 page 63	Personal and Non- Prejudicial Interest as a Member of West Sussex County Council; Personal and Non- Prejudicial Interest as a trustee of Crawley Open House
Councillor R A Lanzer	Allocating Monies Collected Through Community Infrastructure Levy – Infrastructure Business Plan 2019/20	Overview and Scrutiny Commission 4 February 2019 – Minute 8, page 73	Personal and Non- Prejudicial Interest as a Member of West Sussex County Council
Councillor S Malik	Impact and Implementation of the Deregulation Act 2015	Overview and Scrutiny Commission 4 February 2019 – Minute 8, page 75	Personal Interest – Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver

Councillor R A Lanzer	Cabinet Member Discussion with the Cabinet Member for Environmental Services and Sustainability	Overview and Scrutiny Commission 4 February 2019 – Minute 8, page 75	Personal and Non-Prejudicial Interest as a Member of West Sussex County Council
Councillor R D Burrett	Health and Adult Social Care Select Committee (HASC)	Overview and Scrutiny Commission – 4 February 2019 – Minute 12, page 76	Personal and Non-Prejudicial Interest as a Member of West Sussex County Council
Councillor N Boxall	2019/20 Budget and Council Tax and associated Amendments	Cabinet – 6 February 2019 – Minute 5, page 78	Personal and Prejudicial Interest as a trustee of Crawley Open House
Councillor R D Burrett	2019/20 Budget and Council Tax and associated Amendments	Cabinet – 6 February 2019 – Minute 5, page 78	Personal and Non-Prejudicial Interest as a trustee of Crawley Open House
Councillor R D Burrett	2019/20 Budget and Council Tax and Notice of Percept	Cabinet – 6 February 2019 – Minute 5, page 78	Personal and Non-Prejudicial Interest as a Deputy Leader of West Sussex County Council
Councillor D Crow	2019/20 Budget and Council Tax and Notice of Percept	Cabinet – 6 February 2019 – Minute 5, page 78	Personal and Non-Prejudicial Interest as a Member of West Sussex County Council
Councillor R A Lanzer	2019/20 Budget and Council Tax and Notice of Percept	Cabinet – 6 February 2019 – Minute 5, page 78 and	Personal and Non-Prejudicial Interest as a Member of West Sussex County Council
Councillor G Thomas	2019/20 Budget and Council Tax and associated Amendments	Cabinet – 6 February 2019 – Minute 5, page 78	Personal and Non-Prejudicial Interest as a serves on Crawley Open House Management Committee

Councillor G Thomas	CR/2018/0273/FUL - Gatwick Airport Station, South Terminal, Gatwick	Planning Committee 11 February 2019 – Minute 6, page 91	Personal Interest and Non- Prejudicial Interest – Council representative on the Gatwick Airport Consultative Committee (GATCOM)
Councillor F Guidera	Councillors' Written Questions	Full Council – 27 February 2019 Agenda item 11	Personal Interest and Non- Prejudicial Interest as a member of his family worked at the Ice Rink
All Officers attending this meeting of the Full Council.	2019/20 Budget and Council Tax	Cabinet – 6 February 2019 – Minute 5, page 78	Personal Interest, as Officers of the Council in relation to the Pay Policy Statement.

Appendix B

Full Council 27 February 2019

CONSERVATIVE AMENDMENT TO RECOMMENDATION 1 2019/20 BUDGET AND COUNCIL TAX *(Minute 5 Page 78, Cabinet, 6 February 2019)*

Mover Councillor Crow and Seconder Councillor Lanzer.

The Conservative Group is proposing the following amendment that will not affect the General Fund Budget for 2019/2020 as set out in the February 2019 Cabinet Report.

- To setup an additional reserve of £150,000 for Homelessness Support using part of the £905,361 that is proposed for the transfer to the Business rates Equalisation Reserve. (The £905,631 was to replenish the use of the reserve in 2017/18). This will reduce the transfer to reserve to £755,631.

The projected retained rates as shown in the second table in paragraph 5.2 of the report.

If some or all of the Homelessness Support reserve is not required then the balance will be transferred to the business rates equalisation reserve.