

## **EAST HAMPSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

At a meeting of the Council held on 21 February 2019

Present

Councillor: A Williams (Chairman)

Councillors: L Evans, A Muldoon, D Ashcroft, B Bentley, E Brandt, K Budden (Vice-Chairman), J Butler, K Carter, T Costigan, F Cowper, N Drew, D Evans, A Glass, G Hill, D Brooks Jackson, M Johnson, A Joy, C Louisson, J Matthews, R Millard, R Mocatta, K Moon, B Moulard, D Orme, Y Parker-Smith, D Phillips, L Pienaar, S Pond, R Saunders, S Schillemore, G Shepherd, M Smith, R Standish, I Thomas, E Tickell and G Watts

### **77 Prayers**

The Chairman opened the meeting with a short prayer.

### **78 Chairman's Announcements**

There were no matters the Chairman wished to report.

### **79 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Councillors J Abdey, R Ayer, A Carew, N Noble, A Waterhouse and N Wren.

### **80 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **81 Confirmation of Previous Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 17 January 2019 were agreed and signed as a correct record.

### **82 Public Questions (Standing Order 13.4(e))**

The Council received the following Questions from Mr Trevor Maroney under Standing Order 13.4(e) and members of the Cabinet provided responses:

- 1. It has been the Council's clearly stated aim to reduce Council Tax to zero. If it feels that it can afford to give away this sum (£1.5m for community and welfare grants) why isn't this surplus being used to meet this key policy target?**

*Councillor Millard responded to confirm that reducing Council Tax to zero had never been a stated aim of the current administration.*

2. **Has a scoping study been done to identify the true size and extent of the problems, the total funding needed to address them in both the short and long-term and whether £1.5m is sufficient? If so, could I please have a copy?**

*Councillor Millard responded by explaining that the Council was very aware of the key areas it needed to focus on. This was informed by Council Insight Data, Hampshire County Council Data, Indices of Deprivation and feedback from the community.*

3. **Having raised the community's expectations, does the Council plan to give away £1.5m annually and dispense with reducing Council Tax to zero? If so, is the new plan sustainable?**

*Councillor Millard reiterated that reducing council tax to zero had never been an intention of the current administration. The £1.5m in 2019/20 was the beginning of a process and would be a phenomenal step forward in improving residents' lives. Longer term it was anticipated that this would evolve and grow to offer a sustainable way to best support the community.*

### **83 Budget Speech**

The Leader commended the budget, which recognised the importance of welfare. He thanked the officer team for their work in producing the budget and their level of commercial acumen which had made the Council a leading authority.

As Portfolio Holder for Finance, Councillor Shepherd highlighted the journey that the Council had been on over the past five years to address the reduction in central Government grant funding whilst continuing to deliver both statutory and discretionary services, construct two new leisure centres and refurbish a third. This had all been achieved whilst either cutting or freezing council tax. Alternative ways to meet the funding gap had set an example to other councils and given EHDC the status of the best performing council in the country in terms of council tax precept.

The Council's property strategy to invest £200m was building a portfolio with an average yield of around 6.5%, or 5% after interest. The Council had £30m in reserves which was also being used to generate investment income that was unencumbered by debt.

Despite the nil increase in Council Tax the budget would give pay and pension increases to staff, invest in new software and generate a surplus of £323k. This surplus would be rolled up into two new funds with other reserves to create a £1m Community Grant Fund and a £500k Welfare Fund to help support the most needy in the community.

He congratulated the members and officers for their efforts in setting the strategy and shaping the 2019/20 budget.

**84 Revenue, Capital Budget and Business Plans 2019/20 and Medium Term Financial Strategy to 2023/24**

Councillors spoke in support of the budget, which had been rigorously challenged and would receive an unparalleled level of scrutiny going forward.

Councillors felt that the budget had been exceptionally well drafted and were pleased that two new funds would be established to help those in the community most in need.

Proposed by Councillor Millard and seconded by Councillor Shepherd, it was

RESOLVED that the Council

- a) Approves the proposed Revenue and Capital Budgets for 2019/20 including a Council Tax rate of £131.11 at Band D, representing a 0% increase on the current charge;
- b) Approves the budget proposals set out in section 5;
- c) Agrees the Capital Strategy, Treasury Management Strategy and Prudential Indicators; and
- d) Agrees the proposed fees and charges increases set out in Appendix I.

*(The detailed Council Tax calculation is set out in the Annex to these minutes)*

For the Motion:

Councillor D Ashcroft  
Councillor B Bentley  
Councillor E Brandt  
Councillor K Budden  
Councillor J Butler  
Councillor K Carter  
Councillor T Costigan  
Councillor F Cowper  
Councillor N Drew  
Councillor D Evans  
Councillor L Evans  
Councillor A Glass  
Councillor G Hill  
Councillor D Brooks Jackson  
Councillor M Johnson  
Councillor A Joy  
Councillor C Louisson  
Councillor J Matthews  
Councillor R Millard  
Councillor R Mocatta  
Councillor K Moon  
Councillor B Moulard  
Councillor A Muldoon

Councillor D Orme  
Councillor Y Parker Smith  
Councillor D Phillips  
Councillor L Pienaar  
Councillor S Pond  
Councillor R Saunders  
Councillor S Schillemore  
Councillor G Shepherd  
Councillor M Smith  
Councillor R Standish  
Councillor I Thomas  
Councillor E Tickell  
Councillor G Watts  
Councillor A Williams

Against the Motion:

None

Abstentions:

None

Absent:

Councillor J Abdey  
Councillor R Ayer  
Councillor A Carew  
Councillor N Noble  
Councillor M Kendall  
Councillor A Waterhouse  
Councillor N Wren

**85 Questions under Procedural Order 23.4(a)**

The Council received the following Questions from Cllr Robert Saunders under Standing Order 23.4(a) and Councillor Ingrid Thomas, as the relevant Portfolio Holder provided the responses as below:

**1. Has the Council made any estimate as to the projected loss of income from such a proposal as set out in the petition?**

*Cllr Thomas confirmed that the Council had assessed the cost of waiving car park charges for the estimated 10 months of the closure, which would be a considerable amount. It was considered too soon to make any such decision as only three weeks of data was available on the effects on numbers of vehicles parking in the town.*

*The Council was carefully monitoring the usage of car parks each week. Interestingly for the week 29th January to the 4th February the numbers of cars parking were considerably down, only 6620 cars parked, but that had been the weekend of the snow.*

*The following week, 5th February to 11th February, 9151 cars had been parked in Alton and the following week 9167 cars had been parked against the 2018 average of 8287. This illustrated that just over this short period the number of cars parked was rising.*

*The figures showed that footfall had not been falling, except on the weekend of the snow.*

**2. Will the Council look at any other measures to support local high street businesses during this period of disruption e.g. free parking for one hour?**

*Councillor Thomas explained that the Council had a number of schemes which actively supported high street businesses and the Council also worked with Alton Town Council.*

*1) The Retail Improvement Grant Scheme was jointly run with Alton Town Council and accepted applications until the end of October. This scheme provided money to enhance shop fronts, help with staff training and improve the interiors of shops. Eight applications had been received and three had so far received money.*

*2) Small business rate relief was available, but had only been claimed by 194 of the 704 small businesses in Alton*

*3) As Winter was the ideal time to promote the town to travel journalists several recent and successful visits had been arranged.*

*4) EHDC had provided funds towards town wide wi-fi to assist with digital marketing and also to promote tourism.*

*5) The Council welcomed suggestions for schemes that could directly improve business for the whole district and understood the problems that the whole retail industry was currently facing nationwide.*

*In response to the second part of the question, 57 free half hour spaces were currently available in Alton either on the High Street or very close to it.*

**86 Questions under Procedural Order 23.4(b)**

There were no urgent questions under Standing Order 23.4(b).

**87 Committee Minutes**

RESOLVED that the minutes of Committees held since the last meeting of the Council were received.

**The meeting commenced at 6.30 pm and concluded at 7.12 pm**

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**Chairman**

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Proposed by Councillor Millard and seconded by Councillor Shepherd it was

RESOLVED that Council:

- a) approves the proposed Revenue and Capital Budgets for 2019/20, including a council Tax rate of £131.11 at Band D, representing a 0% increase on the current charge;
  - b) agrees the Capital Strategy, Treasury Management Strategy and Prudential Indicators; and
  - c) notes the Cabinet decision of 7<sup>th</sup> February 2019 to freeze fees and charges for 2019/20, other than any statutory increases and a number of services within Environmental Services.
1. It be noted that on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2019 the Chief Finance Officer calculated:
    - a. the Council Tax Base 2019/20 for the whole Council area as 50,461.90 [Item T in the formula in Section 31B(1) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended (the "Act")] and,
    - b. for dwellings in those parts of its area to which a Parish precept relates as in the attached Schedule C.
  2. It be noted that the Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2019/20 (excluding Parish precepts) is £6.616.060.
  3. That the following amounts be calculated for the year 2019/20 in accordance with Section 31 and Sections 34 to 36 of the Act:
    - a. £72,256,677 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. £61,770,019 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act.
    - c. £10,486,658 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(1) of the Act).
    - d. £207.81 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(1) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year (including Parish precepts).
    - e. £3,870,598 being the aggregate amount of all special items (Parish precepts) referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act (as per the attached Schedule C)
    - f. £131.11 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.

**Schedule B**

<b>Council Tax Schedule 2019/20</b>	<b>Band AR £</b>	<b>Band A £</b>	<b>Band B £</b>	<b>Band C £</b>	<b>Band D £</b>	<b>Band E £</b>	<b>Band F £</b>	<b>Band G £</b>	<b>Band H £</b>
East Hampshire District Council Parishes - see Schedule C	72.84	87.41	101.97	116.54	131.11	160.25	189.38	218.52	262.22
Hampshire County Council - Basic	638.76	766.51	894.27	1,022.02	1,149.77	1,405.27	1,660.78	1,916.28	2,299.54
Hampshire County Council - Adult Social Care	48.39	58.07	67.74	77.42	87.10	106.46	125.81	145.17	174.20
Hampshire Police & Crime Commissioner	111.92	134.31	156.69	179.08	201.46	246.23	291.00	335.77	402.92
Hampshire Fire & Rescue	37.62	45.14	52.66	60.19	67.71	82.76	97.80	112.85	135.42
	<b>909.53</b>	<b>1,091.44</b>	<b>1,273.33</b>	<b>1,455.25</b>	<b>1,637.15</b>	<b>2,000.97</b>	<b>2,364.77</b>	<b>2,728.59</b>	<b>3,274.30</b>
<b>Total charges by Parish</b>									
Alton	962.92	1,155.51	1,348.07	1,540.67	1,733.25	2,118.43	2,503.58	2,888.76	3,466.50
Beech	932.15	1,118.58	1,304.99	1,491.44	1,677.86	2,050.73	2,423.57	2,796.44	3,355.72
Bentley	969.16	1,162.99	1,356.81	1,550.65	1,744.48	2,132.15	2,519.80	2,907.47	3,488.96
Bentworth	929.26	1,115.11	1,300.95	1,486.81	1,672.66	2,044.37	2,416.06	2,787.77	3,345.32
Binsted	947.92	1,137.51	1,327.07	1,516.67	1,706.25	2,085.43	2,464.58	2,843.76	3,412.50
Bramshott & Liphook	958.21	1,149.85	1,341.48	1,533.13	1,724.77	2,108.06	2,491.33	2,874.62	3,449.54
Buriton	938.04	1,125.65	1,313.24	1,500.86	1,688.46	2,063.68	2,438.88	2,814.11	3,376.92
Chawton	950.61	1,140.73	1,330.84	1,520.97	1,711.09	2,091.34	2,471.57	2,851.82	3,422.18
Clanfield	942.21	1,130.66	1,319.09	1,507.54	1,695.98	2,072.87	2,449.75	2,826.64	3,391.96
Colemore & Priors Dean	909.53	1,091.44	1,273.33	1,455.25	1,637.15	2,000.97	2,364.77	2,728.59	3,274.30
East Meon	935.86	1,123.03	1,310.19	1,497.37	1,684.54	2,058.89	2,433.22	2,807.57	3,369.08
East Tisted	932.78	1,119.34	1,305.88	1,492.45	1,679.00	2,052.12	2,425.22	2,798.34	3,358.00
Farringdon	964.34	1,157.21	1,350.06	1,542.94	1,735.80	2,121.54	2,507.26	2,893.01	3,471.60
Four Marks	939.31	1,127.17	1,315.02	1,502.89	1,690.75	2,066.48	2,442.19	2,817.92	3,381.50
Froxfield & Privett	935.50	1,122.61	1,309.69	1,496.81	1,683.90	2,058.11	2,432.30	2,806.51	3,367.80
Froyle	949.05	1,138.86	1,328.65	1,518.48	1,708.28	2,087.91	2,467.51	2,847.14	3,416.56
Grayshott	952.34	1,142.81	1,333.27	1,523.75	1,714.21	2,095.15	2,476.08	2,857.02	3,428.42
Greatham	934.63	1,121.56	1,308.47	1,495.41	1,682.33	2,056.19	2,430.03	2,803.89	3,364.66
Hawkey	936.04	1,123.25	1,310.45	1,497.67	1,684.87	2,059.29	2,433.70	2,808.12	3,369.74
Headley	935.80	1,122.96	1,310.10	1,497.28	1,684.43	2,058.76	2,433.06	2,807.39	3,368.86
Horndean	951.15	1,141.39	1,331.60	1,521.85	1,712.07	2,092.54	2,472.99	2,853.46	3,424.14
Kingsley	938.56	1,126.28	1,313.98	1,501.70	1,689.41	2,064.84	2,440.26	2,815.69	3,378.82
Langrish	923.95	1,108.74	1,293.51	1,478.32	1,663.10	2,032.69	2,402.25	2,771.84	3,326.20
Lasham	919.95	1,103.95	1,287.92	1,471.93	1,655.91	2,023.90	2,391.87	2,759.86	3,311.82
Lindford	934.94	1,121.93	1,308.90	1,495.90	1,682.88	2,056.86	2,430.82	2,804.81	3,365.76
Liss	954.95	1,145.94	1,336.91	1,527.92	1,718.90	2,100.89	2,482.85	2,864.84	3,437.80
Medstead	924.81	1,109.77	1,294.72	1,479.69	1,664.65	2,034.58	2,404.49	2,774.42	3,329.30
Newton Valence	912.92	1,095.51	1,278.08	1,460.68	1,643.26	2,008.44	2,373.60	2,738.77	3,286.52
Petersfield	971.57	1,165.89	1,360.18	1,554.51	1,748.82	2,137.46	2,526.07	2,914.71	3,497.64
Ropley	939.84	1,127.81	1,315.77	1,503.75	1,691.71	2,067.65	2,443.58	2,819.52	3,383.42
Rowlands Castle	951.90	1,142.29	1,332.65	1,523.05	1,713.42	2,094.19	2,474.94	2,855.71	3,426.84
Selborne	956.53	1,147.84	1,339.13	1,530.45	1,721.75	2,104.37	2,486.97	2,869.59	3,443.50
Shalden	925.91	1,111.10	1,296.27	1,481.46	1,666.64	2,037.01	2,407.37	2,777.74	3,333.28
Sheet	958.43	1,150.12	1,341.79	1,533.49	1,725.17	2,108.55	2,491.91	2,875.29	3,450.34
Steep	926.72	1,112.07	1,297.39	1,482.75	1,668.09	2,038.79	2,409.46	2,780.16	3,336.18
Stroud	953.10	1,143.73	1,334.33	1,524.97	1,715.58	2,096.83	2,478.06	2,859.31	3,431.16
West Tisted	909.53	1,091.44	1,273.33	1,455.25	1,637.15	2,000.97	2,364.77	2,728.59	3,274.30
Whitehill	958.49	1,150.19	1,341.87	1,533.58	1,725.27	2,108.67	2,492.05	2,875.46	3,450.54
Wield	925.51	1,110.62	1,295.71	1,480.82	1,665.92	2,036.13	2,406.33	2,776.54	3,331.84
Worldham	943.85	1,132.63	1,321.38	1,510.17	1,698.93	2,076.48	2,454.01	2,831.56	3,397.86



## TOWN &amp; PARISH COUNCIL PRECEPTS

Parish/Town Council	2017/18				2018/19			2019/20			Council Tax Increase / Decrease
	Tax Base	Precepts (excluding support grant) £	Parish Grant Support £	Council Tax Band D £	Tax Base	Precepts (excluding support grant) £	Council Tax Band D £	Tax Base	Precepts (excluding support grant) £	Council Tax Band D £	
Alton	6,884.24	567,644.14	34,572.86	82.46	6,903.04	631,845.00	91.53	6,982.20	671,015.00	96.10	4.99%
Beech	329.81	13,400.00	0.00	40.63	328.29	13,400.00	40.82	329.15	13,400.00	40.71	-0.27%
Bentley	513.53	55,229.67	1,270.33	107.55	530.73	56,500.00	106.46	554.34	59,500.00	107.33	0.82%
Bentworth	277.72	9,649.77	350.23	34.75	279.76	10,000.00	35.74	281.63	10,000.00	35.51	-0.64%
Binsted	941.67	62,664.90	913.10	66.55	954.42	65,290.00	68.41	953.70	65,905.00	69.10	1.01%
Bramshott & Liphook	3,919.59	334,764.83	11,731.17	85.41	3,936.85	336,246.00	85.41	4,061.92	355,921.00	87.62	2.59%
Buriton	363.20	16,783.56	716.44	46.21	364.04	18,000.00	49.45	368.33	18,900.00	51.31	3.76%
Chawton	229.82	17,276.91	193.09	75.18	229.81	17,470.00	76.02	256.56	18,970.00	73.94	-2.74%
Clanfield	2,189.99	130,162.75	4,633.25	59.44	2,272.68	132,545.00	58.32	2,296.01	135,080.00	58.83	0.87%
Colemore & Priors Dean	74.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	78.50	0.00	0.00	77.87	0.00	0.00	0.00%
East Meon	555.04	24,898.24	1,112.76	44.86	553.97	26,792.00	48.36	565.32	26,792.00	47.39	-2.01%
East Tisted	96.90	3,105.25	394.75	32.05	97.42	4,000.00	41.06	97.98	4,100.00	41.85	1.92%
Farringdon	351.06	34,841.81	158.19	99.25	354.90	35,000.00	98.62	354.79	35,000.00	98.65	0.03%
Four Marks	2,154.25	103,774.69	1,225.31	48.17	2,132.15	109,000.00	51.12	2,112.04	113,200.00	53.60	4.85%
Froxfield and Privett	471.89	21,862.63	637.37	46.33	471.96	21,863.00	46.32	481.24	22,500.00	46.75	0.93%
Froyle	370.17	22,343.61	227.39	60.36	389.68	23,300.00	59.79	397.88	28,300.00	71.13	18.97%
Grayshott	1,227.34	90,442.64	2,165.36	73.69	1,226.44	92,000.00	75.01	1,239.28	95,495.00	77.06	2.73%
Greatham	325.92	14,446.33	553.67	44.32	332.04	15,000.00	45.18	335.98	15,178.00	45.18	0.00%
Hawkey	268.25	9,899.47	100.53	36.90	270.67	10,000.00	36.95	272.45	13,000.00	47.72	29.15%
Headley	2,655.15	115,724.47	4,275.53	43.58	2,666.16	123,000.00	46.13	2,686.23	127,000.00	47.28	2.49%
Hordean	5,058.70	364,420.36	21,537.64	72.04	5,082.36	366,168.00	72.05	5,107.55	382,657.00	74.92	3.98%
Kingsley	277.65	12,910.44	589.56	46.50	284.86	13,900.00	48.80	288.93	15,100.00	52.26	7.09%
Langrish	141.63	3,725.64	104.36	26.31	142.90	3,726.00	26.07	147.58	3,830.00	25.95	-0.46%
Lasham	97.02	1,800.00	0.00	18.55	96.61	1,800.00	18.63	95.94	1,800.00	18.76	0.70%
Lindford	1,046.88	45,020.00	2,375.49	43.00	1,046.48	48,300.00	46.15	1,056.21	48,300.00	45.73	-0.91%
Liss	2,510.13	182,774.51	11,725.49	72.81	2,540.00	202,690.00	79.80	2,604.18	212,900.00	81.75	2.44%
Medstead	1,172.46	30,746.41	453.59	26.22	1,248.65	33,300.00	26.67	1,418.26	39,000.00	27.50	3.11%
Newton Valence	118.37	750.00	0.00	6.34	118.62	750.00	6.32	122.73	750.00	6.11	-3.32%
Petersfield	5,510.77	559,571.00	35,124.18	101.54	5,581.70	589,390.00	105.59	5,682.13	634,522.00	111.67	5.76%
Ropley	810.47	44,372.28	627.72	54.75	833.42	45,000.00	53.99	843.06	46,000.00	54.56	1.06%
Rowlands Castle	1,322.60	96,855.00	3,145.00	73.23	1,322.64	101,635.00	76.84	1,365.85	104,175.00	76.27	-0.74%
Selborne	644.62	30,720.00	1,204.00	47.66	647.69	50,022.00	77.23	650.12	55,000.00	84.60	9.54%
Shalden	230.33	6,000.00	0.00	26.05	229.86	7,000.00	30.45	237.38	7,000.00	29.49	-3.15%
Sheet	451.18	39,713.00	0.00	88.02	450.25	39,631.00	88.02	473.90	41,713.00	88.02	0.00%
Steep	516.10	13,856.16	143.84	26.85	511.68	14,000.00	27.36	517.16	16,000.00	30.94	13.08%
Stroud	154.30	12,545.00	0.00	81.30	150.16	11,941.00	79.52	152.04	11,925.00	78.43	-1.37%
West Tisted	76.89	0.00	0.00	0.00	77.81	0.00	0.00	79.57	0.00	0.00	0.00%
Whitehill	4,243.41	339,383.07	35,133.93	79.98	4,405.97	388,092.00	88.08	4,595.78	405,000.00	88.12	0.05%
Wield	123.89	3,500.00	0.00	28.25	121.31	3,500.00	28.85	121.65	3,500.00	28.77	-0.28%
Worldham	193.82	10,312.58	273.42	53.21	193.08	10,586.00	54.83	196.98	12,170.00	61.78	12.68%
<b>TOTAL/AVERAGE</b>	<b>48,900.79</b>	<b>3,447,891.12</b>	<b>177,669.56</b>	<b>70.51</b>	<b>49,459.56</b>	<b>3,672,682.00</b>	<b>74.26</b>	<b>50,461.90</b>	<b>3,870,598.00</b>	<b>76.70</b>	<b>3.29%</b>

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