

HAVANT BOROUGH COUNCIL

At a meeting of the Council held on 24 February 2021

Present

Councillor P Bains (Mayor)

Councillors Jenner, Inkster, Patel, Thain-Smith, Robinson, Bains, Bowerman, Briggs, Branson, Carpenter, Crellin, Davis, Francis, Guest, Hart, Howard, Hughes, Keast, Kennett, Lowe, Lloyd, Milne, Patrick, Pike, Raines (Deputy Mayor), Rennie, Satchwell, Sceal, Scott, Mrs Shimbart, Smith K, Thomas, Turner, Wade, Weeks and Wilson

34 Apologies for Absence, Confirmation of Attendance and Declarations of Interest

Apologies were received from Cllr Gary Robinson.

Declarations of Interest

Councillor	Minute No.	Item Title	Nature of Interest
Gary Hughes	42	Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL): Proposed Spending of Neighbourhood Portion	Perception of bias. Cllr Hughes was Chairman of the Purbrook and Widley Area Community Association, which had submitted a bid for CIL funding. Cllr Hughes remained in the meeting but did not vote on this item.
Tim Pike	42	Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL): Proposed Spending of Neighbourhood Portion	Perception of bias. In particular, Cllr Pike was Chair of trustees of Hayling Scout Group and had also been involved in a number of the bids submitted. Cllr Pike remained in the meeting but did not vote on this item.
Jackie Branson	42	Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL): Proposed Spending of Neighbourhood Portion	Perception of Bias. Cllr Branson was a trustee of the Spring Arts Centre which had submitted a bid for CIL funding. Cllr Branson remained in the

			meeting but did not vote on this item.
David Guest	42	Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL): Proposed Spending of Neighbourhood Portion	Perception of Bias. Cllr Guest's company had provided support for the HAMESH Men's Shed, which had submitted a bid for CIL funding. Cllr Guest remained in the meeting but did not vote on this item.
David Keast	42	Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL): Proposed Spending of Neighbourhood Portion	Perception of bias. Cllr Keast had supported the Acorn Community Centre CIL funding bid. Cllr Keast remained in the meeting and took part in the debate but did not vote on this item.

35 Minutes

Proposed by Cllr Davis and seconded by Cllr Sceal, the minutes of the previous meeting held on 27 January 2021 were agreed as a correct record.

36 Mayor's Report

There were no questions for the Mayor on his published report.

37 Provisional Appointment of the Mayor for 2021/22

Proposed by Councillor Turner and seconded by Councillor Crellin, it was RESOLVED that Councillor Raines be provisionally appointed as Mayor for 2021/22.

38 Provisional Appointment of the Deputy Mayor for 2021/22

Proposed by Councillor Wilson and seconded by Councillor Satchwell, it was RESOLVED that Councillor Patrick be provisionally appointed as Deputy Mayor for 2021/22.

39 Public Questions under Standing Order 13.4(f)

No public questions had been received under Standing Order 13.4(f).

40 Budget Speeches

The Leader presented his budget speech to Council. He thanked the S.151 Officer and the new in-house finance team for producing a balanced budget in difficult times. He believed that the budget put forward was strong and would support the various strategies of the Council. In addition, no services had been cut and community grants were proposed to be retained at the same levels. He commended the budget to Council and believed that it demonstrated the Council's commitment to supporting residents and businesses.

Cllr Hart spoke on behalf of the Labour Group. He explained that this would be his last opposition reply, as he would be retiring as a Councillor in May after 40 years' service. He felt that 2020/21 had been a very difficult year and congratulated officers on producing a balanced budget which did not propose blanket increases to fees and charges in order to generate income. He supported the budget and believed that the Council would continue to offer good value.

41 2021-22 Revenue Budget, Capital Budget, Reserves and Balances, Capital Strategy, Treasury Management Strategy and Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS)

The recommendation contained within the report was proposed by Cllr Inkster and seconded by Cllr Keast.

Council supported the budget proposals, however during debate the following points were raised:

- An increase in the Capital Budget to allow council owned play equipment to be replaced every 25 years;
- Investment in the Capital Budget for West Beach, Hayling Island; and
- The reduction or removal of legal services fees and charges for non-commercial enterprises, such as local charities and community groups who often undertook work on the council's behalf.

In response, Cllr Inkster, Cabinet Lead for Finance, confirmed that he was aware of these matters and would be happy to discuss further.

Following the discussion, it was RESOLVED that Council agrees:

- a. the proposed Revenue and Capital budgets for 2021-22 including a Council Tax rate of £214.48 at Band D, representing a £5 increase on the current charge;
- b. the proposed Medium Term Financial Strategy, Capital Strategy, Treasury Management Strategy and Prudential Indicators;
- c. the Fees & Charges Schedule for 2021/22; and
- d. the Council Tax Resolution:

- (1) That it be noted that (on 31st January, 2021) the Chief Finance Officer calculated the Council Tax Base 2021/22 for the whole Council area as 41,448.02 [Item T in the formula in Section 31B(1) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended, (the “Act”)] and that this Council Tax base be split between the regions of the Environment Agency as follows:

Southern – 41,448.02

- (2) That the following amounts be calculated by the Council for the year 2021/22 in accordance with Sections 31 and 34 to 36 of the Act.
- (i) £ 62,261,129 (expenditure) being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) of the Act;
- (ii) £53,371,510 (income) being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act;
- (iii) £8,889,619 being the amount by which the aggregate at d(i) above exceeds the aggregate at d(ii) 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 31A(4) of the Act);
- (iv) £214.48 being the amount at c(iii) above (Item R), divided by Item T (b 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;

(3) Valuation Bands

Council Tax Schedule	Band AR	Band A	Band B	Band C	Band D	Band E	Band F	Band G	Band H
2021/22	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Havant Borough Council	119.16	142.99	166.82	190.65	214.48	262.14	309.80	357.47	428.96

being the amounts given by multiplying the amount at 2(iv) 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) That it be noted that for the year 2021/22 we estimate that Hampshire County Council will propose the following amounts in precepts issued to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for each of the categories of the dwellings shown below.

Council Tax Schedule	Band AR	Band A	Band B	Band C	Band D	Band E	Band F	Band G	Band H
2021/22	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Hampshire County Council									
Basic Charge	666.69	800.03	933.36	1,066.70	1,200.04	1,466.72	1,733.39	2,000.07	2,400.08
Adult Social Care	83.56	100.27	116.99	133.70	150.41	183.83	217.26	250.68	300.82

- (5) That it be noted that for the year 2021/22 the Police and Crime Commissioner for Hampshire and Hampshire Fire and Rescue Authority have stated the following amounts in precepts issued to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for each of the categories of the dwellings shown below.

Council Tax Schedule	Band AR	Band A	Band B	Band C	Band D	Band E	Band F	Band G	Band H
2021/22	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Police & Crime Commissioner for Hampshire	125.81	150.97	176.14	201.30	226.46	276.78	327.11	377.43	452.92
Hampshire & IoW Fire & Rescue	39.13	46.95	54.78	62.60	70.43	86.08	101.73	117.38	140.86

- (6) That having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at (3), (4) and (5) above, the Council, in accordance with Section 30(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the following amounts as the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2021/22 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

Council Tax Schedule	Band AR	Band A	Band B	Band C	Band D	Band E	Band F	Band G	Band H
2021/22	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Total Charge	1,034.35	1,241.21	1,448.09	1,654.95	1,861.82	2,275.55	2,689.29	3,103.03	3,723.64

- (7) The section 151 be given delegated authority to implement any variation to the overall level of Council Tax arising from the final notification of the Hampshire County precept.

In accordance with the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014 the voting on this item was recorded as follows:

For the Motion:

Councillor N Bains
 Councillor P Bains
 Councillor L Bowerman
 Councillor J Branson
 Councillor A Briggs
 Councillor M Carpenter
 Councillor P Crellin
 Councillor J Davis
 Councillor B Francis
 Councillor D Guest
 Councillor T Hart

Councillor C Howard
Councillor G Hughes
Councillor M Inkster
Councillor D Jenner
Councillor R Kennett
Councillor D Keast
Councillor E Lloyd
Councillor J Lowe
Councillor S Milne
Councillor H Patel
Councillor D Patrick
Councillor T Pike
Councillor R Raines
Councillor A Rennie
Councillor Gwen Robinson
Councillor C Satchwell
Councillor M Sceal
Councillor I Scott
Councillor E Shimbart
Councillor K Smith
Councillor J Thain-Smith
Councillor J Thomas
Councillor L Turner
Councillor P Wade
Councillor Y Weeks
Councillor M Wilson

Against the Motion:

None

Abstentions:

None

Absent:

Councillor Gary Robinson

42 Cabinet/Board/Committee Recommendations

Recommendation arising from the meeting of the Cabinet held on 10 February 2021:

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL): Proposed Spending of Neighbourhood Portion.

Proposed by Cllr Turner and seconded by Cllr Crellin it was RESOLVED that the allocation of Neighbourhood CIL funds to the projects and the amounts as set out below be APPROVED:

Coastal Communities

Bid No	Project	CIL Allocation
B	Age Concern Hayling Island Building Renovations	£6,000
G	Surgery Fit Out Upgrade Emsworth Surgery Patient Participation Group	*£12,200
T	Enhanced Access for People with Disabilities at 3rd Hayling Scout Group	£8,000
W	YMCA Emsworth, Redlands Grange	£200,000
	Total Proposed Spend from 'Coastal Communities' Neighbourhood Fund	£226,200
*funding to cover medical infrastructure only		

West of the A3(M)

Bid No	Project	CIL Allocation
A	Acorn Community Centre extension - Wecock Community Association	£87,880
M	Elstead Gardens to Ladybridge Road path (PAWARA)	£11,950
	Total Proposed Spend from 'West of the A3(M)' Neighbourhood Fund	£99,830

Wider Havant

Bid No	Project	CIL Allocation
C	Artificial cricket pitch at Bidbury Mead, Bedhampton Mariners Cricket Club	£5,460
D	Citizens Advice Centre and Help Hub	£55,000
J	HAMESH Men's Shed relocation and expansion	£15,000
O	Energy Efficiency Improvements at The Spring Arts Centre	£32,050
R	Refurbishment of Conservatory and Lounge at Domestic Abuse Refuge	£2,720
V	Widbrook Utd - Bartons Green Store Room	£2,050
	Total Proposed Spend from 'Wider Havant' Neighbourhood Fund	£112,280

43 Appointments to Committees

Proposed by Cllr Wilson and seconded by Cllr Lloyd it was RESOLVED that Council:

- (i) Notes the political balance of the Council, as set out in Appendix A of the report;
- (ii) Reviews the representation of the different political groups on each of the Committees set out in Appendix B and determines:
 - (a) the allocation of seats on each of those bodies to each of the political groups into which the Council is divided and
 - (b) the membership of those bodies in accordance with the wishes of those groups; and

(v) Approves:

- 1 the appointment and functions of the various Committees and Boards
- 2 the appointment of Councillors to those Committees and Boards (attached as Appendix B to these minutes)
- 3 the appointment of Chairs and Vice-Chairs (as appropriate) to those Committees and Boards all as set out in Appendix B to these minutes
- 4 All appointments at (v)(1) to (3) to take effect from 1 March 2021 and remain in place until the next Annual meeting of the Council.

44 Calendar of Meetings for 2021/22

Proposed by Cllr Wilson and seconded by Cllr Bowerman it was Resolved that the Calendar of meetings for 2021/22 be approved.

45 Leader's Report

The Leader updated that he had been involved in initial discussions in respect of a Boundary review for the Borough. The ward boundaries had not been reviewed in 20 years and these reviews were necessary in order to ensure that wards sizes and the number of councillors remained appropriate.

46 Cabinet Lead Reports

Cllr Hughes updated that a positive response and nominated contact had been received from Natural England in respect of developing the Hayling Seafront Strategy. He hoped to attend a site meeting once lockdown restrictions permitted with an aim to accelerate improvements to the seafront.

47 Cabinet Leads and Chairmen's Question Time

In response to questions about the Aquind interconnector, Cllr Bains explained that the council was a consultee at the Hearing held on 17 February and afforded the council, along with neighbouring authorities whose areas would be affected, the opportunity to raise issues. The applicant had requested an exemption to remove the council's powers for noise enforcement under section 82 of the EPA 1990 during construction and operational phases, to which Havant Borough Council and the other three local authorities affected put forward the same case against this request. The decision was ultimately for the Planning Inspectorate to determine and members would be informed once the decision had been made.

Cllr Hughes believed that disruption to the transport network during construction posed the biggest concern, as it was estimated that 100m per week would be constructed and the route of the interconnector would run the full length of the A3 in the borough.

In response to a question from Cllr Keast in respect of the impact of coastal erosion at West Beach on Hayling Island, Cllr Hughes believed that the concerns expressed were merited and that the existing policy may need to be reviewed.

In reply to a question from Cllr Branson about ceasing verge cutting as part of the 'No Mow May' national campaign Cllr Hughes explained that this was by default already implemented where daffodils flowered. He did not favour this being extended to all verges in the Borough due to the carefully calculated rotas for verge cutting to preserve the appearance of the street scene throughout the borough.

In response to a question from Cllr Francis, the Leader confirmed that engagement would be offered and welcomed with Leigh Park ward councillors if the bid for the Health Foundation's Economies for Healthier Lives funding programme was successful.

In reply to Cllr Francis, Cllr Rennie confirmed that he had spoken with the digital team in respect of progressing the possibility of loaning IT Equipment to councillors.

In reply to a question from Cllr Pike about officers not undertaking site visits to assess the need for temporary Traffic Regulation Orders, specifically in Warblington. Cllr Bains explained that staff safety was a primary concern. She did however believe that such visits would likely be one of the first areas to recommence and she confirmed that she would raise the matter with the Head of Service.

In response to a question from Cllr Crellin, Cllr Turner believed that the delays around the potential redevelopment of Brent House centred around legal matters between the owner and the council but believed that these were nearing completion.

In reply to a question from Cllr Patrick about the deterioration of the Hook Lane Multi-User Games Area (MUGA), Cllr Rennie explained that the facility was not well used, hence the proposal for it to be converted to a car park. He agreed to investigate the background in respect of the deterioration of the MUGA and provide these details to Cllr Patrick.

Cllr Patrick requested scrutiny into the work of CELT and the way that CIL funds are used on these projects and requested a full list of CIL projects over the last three years and their progress.

In reply Cllr Turner requested that Cllr Patrick copy her into an email the relevant officers to request this information.

48 Questions Under Standing Order 23

No questions had been submitted under the provision of this Standing Order.

49 Urgent Questions Under Standing Order 23

No questions had been submitted under the provision of this Standing Order.

50 Notices of Motion

The Mayor advised that he had withdrawn the motion that he had submitted.

51 Acceptance of Minutes

Proposed by Cllr Scott and seconded by Cllr Satchwell was RESOLVED that the minutes of Committees held since the last meeting of Council be received.

52 Retiring Councillors

The Leader led speeches of gratitude from members to Cllr Ken Smith, Cllr Joanne Thomas, Cllr John Davis and Cllr Terry Hart, who would not be standing in the May 2021 elections.

Council particularly commended the 40 years of service provided by Cllr Hart and his tireless work during this time for the residents of the Borough.

The meeting commenced at 5.00 pm and concluded at 7.00 pm

.....
Mayor