



**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE
LONDON BOROUGH OF HAVERING
Havering Town Hall, Romford
26 February 2014 (7.30pm – 10.20pm)**

Present: The Mayor (Councillor Eric Munday) in the Chair.

Councillors June Alexander, Michael Armstrong, Clarence Barrett, Robert Benham, Becky Bennett, Sandra Binion, Jeffrey Brace, Denis Breading, Wendy Brice-Thompson, Andrew Curtin, Keith Darvill, Osman Dervish, Nic Dodin, Brian Eagling, Ted Eden, Roger Evans, Gillian Ford, Georgina Galpin, Peter Gardner, Linda Hawthorn, Lesley Kelly, Steven Kelly, Pam Light, Barbara Matthews, Paul McGeary, Robby Misir, Ray Morgon, Pat Murray, John Mylod, Denis O'Flynn, Barry Oddy, Fred Osborne, Ron Ower, Garry Pain, Roger Ramsey, Paul Rochford, Geoffrey Starns, Billy Taylor, Barry Tebbutt, Frederick Thompson, Lynden Thorpe, Melvin Wallace, Lawrence Webb, Keith Wells, Damian White*, Michael White and John Wood.

* - For part of the meeting.

Approximately ten Members' guests and one representative of the press were also present.

Apologies were received for the absence of Councillors Michael Deon Burton, David Durant, Linda Trew, Jeffrey Tucker and Linda Van den Hende.

The Mayor advised Members and the public of action to be taken in the event of emergency evacuation of the Town Hall becoming necessary.

The meeting closed with the singing of the national anthem.

85 MINUTES (agenda item 3)

The minutes of the extraordinary and main Council meetings held on 29 January 2014 were before the Council for approval.

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meetings of the Council held on 29 January 2014 be signed as a correct record.

86 DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS (agenda item 4)

Each Member disclosed a pecuniary interest as a Council Tax payer or member of a household for which Council Tax was paid (agenda items 7 and 8/minutes 88 and 89).

87 PROCEDURAL MOTIONS (agenda item 6)

The following procedural motion was agreed without division:

- 1. That agenda items 7 and 8 be debated together; and**
- 2. That Council Procedure Rule 13.4 be suspended so as to allow 30 minutes each for the speeches of the proposers of the two reports and the amendments to them.**

88 THE COUNCIL'S BUDGET 2014/15 (agenda item 7)

Council had before it a report of the Cabinet (incorporating the budget proposals for 2013/14).

Amendment to budget proposals by the Residents' Group

That the adjustments set out in the accompanying table 7A* be made in the budget.

[*See **Appendix 1** to these minutes]

Amendment to budget proposals by the Labour Group

Members Special Responsibility Allowances

Reduction to allowances for Cabinet and Overview & Scrutiny positions by reviewing structure and streamlining the number of positions through the reduction in the number of Cabinet posts, Overview & Scrutiny Committees and other Committees.

Saving - £150,000.00 on the budget for 2013/14.
The saving to remain in the contingency reserve.

Following debate, the Residents' Group amendment was **LOST** by 16 votes to 27 (see voting division 1) and the Labour Group amendment was **LOST** by 6 votes to 29 (see division 2). The recommendations of Cabinet were **ADOPTED** by 39 votes to 4 (see division 3) and it was **RESOLVED**:

1. **That the following as submitted in the report to Cabinet be approved:**
 - a) **The General Fund revenue budget for 2014/15, as set out in the revised Appendix E attached to this report.**
 - b) **The delegated schools' budget for 2014/15, as set out in Appendix E of the report to Cabinet.**
 - c) **The Capital Programme for 2014/15, as set out in Annexes 2, 3 and 4 of Appendix I of the report to Cabinet.**
2. **That, in accepting recommendation 1, Council is mindful of the advice of the Chief Finance Officer as set out in Appendix H of the report to Cabinet.**
3. **That it be noted that under delegated powers the Chief Finance Officer has calculated the amount of 80,183 (called T in the Act and Regulations) as its Council Tax base for the year 2014/15 in accordance with regulation 3 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 1992 (as amended) made under Section 31B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 as amended.**
4. **That the amount of £95,833,118 be now calculated as the Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2014/15.**
5. **That the following amounts be now calculated by the Council for the year 2014/15 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 as amended:**

(a)	£448,784,486	being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) of the Act.
(b)	(£352,951,368)	being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act.
(c)	£95,833,118	being the amount by which the aggregate at 5(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 5(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)	£1,195.18	being the amount at 5(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.

6. That the Council, in accordance with Sections 30 and 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the amounts shown in the table below as the amounts of Council Tax for 2014/15 for each of the categories of dwellings.

Valuation Bands London Borough of Havering	
	£ p
A	796.78
B	929.59
C	1,062.38
D	1,195.18
E	1,460.77
F	1,726.37
G	1,991.97
H	2,390.36

7. That it be noted for the year 2014/15 the major precepting authority (the GLA) has 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 as proposed by the Mayor and as due to be considered by the London Assembly at its meeting on 14th February 2014.

Valuation Bands Greater London Authority	
	£ p
A	199.33
B	232.56
C	265.78
D	299.00
E	365.44
F	431.89
G	498.33
H	598.00

8. That, having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 6 and 7 above, the Council, in accordance with Sections 30 and 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the following amounts as the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2014/15 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

Valuation Bands	£ p
A	996.11
B	1,162.15
C	1,328.16
D	1,494.18
E	1,826.21
F	2,158.26

G	2,490.30
H	2,988.36

The effect of adopting this resolution would be to set the Council Tax for a Band D property at £1,494.18

8. That Council having considered the principles approved under the Local Government Finance Act 1992 by the Secretary of State concludes that the Council's basic relevant amount of Council Tax for 2014/15 is not excessive.
9. That any Council Tax payer who is liable to pay an amount of Council Tax to the Authority in respect to the year ending on 31st March 2015, who is served with a demand notice under Regulation 20(2) of the Council Tax (Administration and Enforcement) Regulations 1992 as amended and who makes payment to the Authority of the full balance of the estimated amount shown on that demand by 1st April 2014, may deduct a sum equivalent to 1.5% of and from the estimated amount and such reduced amount shall be accepted in full settlement of that estimated amount.
10. That Council agrees that the Capital Programme be expanded for schemes during the year which are funded via additional external funding under the authority of the Cabinet Member Value and the relevant service area Cabinet Members.
11. That Council approves the Treasury Management Strategy Statement, Prudential Indicators, and the Minimum Revenue Provision Statement for 2014/15.
12. **89 MEMBERS ALLOWANCES SCHEME 2014/15 (agenda item 8)**

Council received the report of the Chief Executive.

Amendment by the Residents' Group

That the following adjustments be made to the Members' Allowances Scheme:

Category of Allowance	Amount Per Member £
Cabinet Members	25,000
Leader of Principal Opposition	16,200
Overview and Scrutiny Committees Chairmen	10,000

Amendment by the Labour Group

That the following adjustments be made to the Members' Allowances Scheme:

Add a new column in Schedule 1 to the right of the existing column headed 'amount per member' headed 'Independent Review Panel recommended rate'.

Insert the relevant rate from the current recommended range of rates published by London Councils'.

Following debate, the Residents' Group amendment was **LOST** by 16 votes to 27 (see division 4) and the Labour Group amendment was **LOST** by 5 votes to 38 (see division 5). The recommendations in the report were **ADOPTED** by 40 votes to 2 (see division 6) and it was **RESOLVED**:

1. **That the Members' Allowances scheme (as set out in appendix 2 to these minutes) becomes effective from 1st April 2014 and the existing scheme be revoked with effect from the same date.**
2. **That the total number of SRAs will be reduced to 27 which is in line with the Governments recommendations for the proportion of SRA's.**

90 **VOTING RECORD**

The record of voting divisions is attached as **Appendix 3**.

Mayor
26 February 2014