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MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE LONDON BOROUGH OF HAVERING Council Chamber - Town Hall 1 March 2023 (7.30 - 10.30 pm)

Present: The Mayor Trevor McKeever, in the Chair

Councillors Councillors Mandy Anderson, Ray Best, John Crowder, Philippa Crowder, Keith Darvill, Osman Dervish, Brian Eagling, Sarah Edwards, Gillian Ford, Oscar Ford, Jason Frost, Laurance Garrard, James Glass, David Godwin, Martin Goode, Linda Hawthorn, Judith Holt, Jane Keane, Jacqueline McArdle, Paul McGeary, Trevor McKeever, Paul Middleton, Robby Misir, Ray Morgon, Barry Mugglestone, Stephanie Nunn, Gerry O'Sullivan, Sue Ospreay, Nisha Patel, Keith Prince, Philip Ruck, Timothy Ryan, Christine Smith, Matthew Stanton, Natasha Summers, David Taylor, Katharine Tumilty, John Tyler, Bryan Vincent, Frankie Walker, Damian White, Michael White, Reg Whitney, Julie Wilkes, Christopher Wilkins, Graham Williamson, Darren Wise and John Wood

19 Members' guests and members of the public and 2 representatives of the press were also present.

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

Father Roderick Hingley, of the Church of St Alban, Protomartyr, Romford opened the meeting with prayers.

The meeting closed with the singing of the National Anthem.

64 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (agenda item 2)**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Dilip Patel, Robert Benham, Patricia Brown, Christine Vickery, Viddy Persaud, Carol Smith and Joshua Chapman.

65 **MINUTES (agenda item 3)**

The minutes of the meeting of Council held on 18 January 2023 were agreed as a correct record.

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting of Council held on 18 January 2023 be agreed as a correct record.

66 **DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS (agenda item 4)**

As shown below, all Members present disclosed a pecuniary interest in agenda item 7 – the Council's Budget 2023/24 as they were occupiers of land with a liability for Council Tax and a pecuniary interest in agenda item 8 – Members' Allowances Scheme 2023/24 as they were in receipt of a Member's Allowance.

Legal dispensation to allow all Members to take part in the meeting and vote in such instances was **AGREED** without division.

7. THE COUNCIL'S BUDGET 2023/24.

Councillor Barry Mugglestone, Pecuniary, Member is occupier of land with a liability for Council Tax..

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Councillor Christine Smith, Pecuniary, Member is occupier of land with a liability for Council Tax..

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Councillor Christopher Wilkins, Pecuniary, Member is occupier of land with a liability for Council Tax..

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Councillor Frankie Walker, Pecuniary, Member is occupier of land with a liability for Council Tax..

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Councillor Gerry O'Sullivan, Pecuniary, Member is occupier of land with a liability for Council Tax..

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Councillor Gillian Ford, Pecuniary, Member is occupier of land with a liability for Council Tax..

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Councillor Graham Williamson, Pecuniary, Member is occupier of land with a liability for Council Tax..

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Councillor Jacqueline McArdle, Pecuniary, Member is occupier of land with a liability for Council Tax..

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Councillor James Glass, Pecuniary, Member is occupier of land with a liability for Council Tax..

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Councillor Jane Keane, Pecuniary, Member is occupier of land with a liability for Council Tax..

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Councillor Jason Frost, Pecuniary, Member is occupier of land with a liability for Council Tax..

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Councillor John Crowder, Pecuniary, Member is occupier of land with a liability for Council Tax..

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Councillor Julie Wilkes, Pecuniary, Member is occupier of land with a liability for Council Tax..

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Councillor Katharine Tumilty, Pecuniary, Member is occupier of land with a liability for Council Tax..

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Councillor Keith Darvill, Pecuniary, Member is occupier of land with a liability for Council Tax..

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Councillor Timothy Ryan, Pecuniary, Member is occupier of land with a liability for Council Tax..

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Councillor Trevor McKeever, Pecuniary, Member is occupier of land with a liability for Council Tax..

8. MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES SCHEME.

Councillor Barry Mugglestone, Pecuniary, Member in receipt of Member's Allowance..

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Councillor Jason Frost, Pecuniary, Member in receipt of Member's Allowance..

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67 **ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE MAYOR, BY THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL OR BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE (agenda item 5)**

The Mayor gave details of a forthcoming charity event – a civic dinner in Upminster on 31 March. The Mayor further wished to clarify that tonight's meeting was purely a budget setting meeting and not a ULEZ meeting.

The Leader explained that the guidance around Queen Elizabeth's portrait was to display it until which time a portrait of King Charles was available. The King's portrait would likely be available after the Coronation. The Leader also offered his condolences to Anthony Clements and family on the loss of his father.

68 **PROCEDURE (agenda item 6)**

The Mayor advised that agenda items 7 and 8 would be dealt with as a single combined debate.

69 **THE COUNCIL'S BUDGET 2023/24 (agenda item 7)**

Council had before it a report of Cabinet incorporating the budget proposals for 2023/24. This referred to report presented to Cabinet at its meeting on the 8 February 2023 which was also included in the agenda papers for the Council meeting.

Deemed motion on behalf of the Administration

That the reports be adopted and their recommendations carried into effect.

Amendment by the Conservative Group

There was an amendment proposed by the Conservative Group. It stated alternative budget proposals (as attached to the meetings as an appendix).

Following debate, the amendments were **NOT CARRIED** by 33 votes to 14 with 1 abstention (See division 3).

The report and its recommendations were **AGREED** by 31 votes to 16 with 1 abstention (See division 4).

RESOLVED:

1. That the following as submitted in the report to Cabinet of 8 February 2023 be approved:

- **The General Fund budget for 2023/24**
- **The Council Tax for Band D properties and for other Bands of properties, all as set out in Appendix G of the Cabinet report.**

- The Delegated Schools' Budget for 2023/24, as set out in section 5.9 of the Cabinet report.
 - The Capital Programme for 2023/24 as set out in the Capital Strategy and Programme Report reported to Cabinet on 8 February 2023.
2. The Council delegate authority to the Chief Financial Officer to adjust the Corporate Risk Budget to account for any further variations that may arise.
 3. That, in accepting recommendation 1, Council is mindful of the advice of the Chief Finance Officer as set out in section 13 of the report to Cabinet.
 4. That it be noted that under delegated powers the Chief Finance Officer has calculated the amount of 90,128 (called T in the Act and Regulations) as its Council Tax base for the year 2023/24 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.
 5. That the amount of £149,070,811 be now calculated as the Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2023/24, with £20,029,146 of that amount being ringfenced for Adult Social Care.
 6. That the following amounts be now calculated by the Council for the year 2023/24 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 as amended:

(a)	£624,278,712	being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) of the Act.
(b)	(£475,207,901)	being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act.
(c)	£149,070,811	being the amount by which the aggregate at (a) above exceeds the aggregate at (b) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the Act as its Council Tax requirement for the year.
(d)	£1,653.99	being the amount at (c) above divided by the taxbase, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year.

7. 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 2023/24 for each of the categories of dwellings.

Valuation Bands London Borough of Havering			
	Havering	Adult Social Care	Total
	£ p	£ p	£ p
A	954.51	148.15	1,102.66
B	1,113.59	172.85	1,286.44
C	1,272.67	197.54	1,470.21
D	1,431.76	222.23	1,653.99
E	1,749.93	271.61	2,021.54
F	2,068.11	320.99	2,389.10
G	2,386.27	370.38	2,756.65
H	2,863.53	444.45	3,307.98

8. That it be noted for the year 2023/24 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.

Valuation Bands Greater London Authority	
	£ p
A	289.43
B	337.66
C	385.90
D	434.14
E	530.62
F	627.09
G	723.57
H	868.28

9. That, having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 7 and 8 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 2023/24 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

Valuation Bands	£ p
A	1,392.09
B	1,624.10
C	1,856.11
D	2,088.13
E	2,552.16
F	3,016.19

G	3,480.22
H	4,176.26

The effect of adopting this resolution would be to set the Council Tax for a Band D property at £2,088.13

10. That Council having considered the principles approved under the Local Government Finance Act 1992 by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government concludes that the Council's basic relevant amount of Council Tax for 2023/24 is not excessive.
11. 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 31 March 2024, 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 1 April 2023, 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.
12. That Council approves that the Council Tax Support Scheme 2022/23 is adopted for 2023/24 as set out in Section 15 of the Cabinet report of 8 February 2023.
13. That Council approves the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Major Works Capital Programme, detailed in Appendix 1a of the HRA Budget for 2023/2024 and HRA Major Works Capital Programme 2023/24 – 2027/28 report to Cabinet of 8 February 2023.
14. That Council approves the HRA Capital expenditure and financing for the 12 Sites Joint Venture, detailed in paragraphs 4.1 to 4.26 and Appendix 1b of the of the HRA Budget for 2023/2024 and HRA Major Works Capital Programme 2023/24 – 2027/28 report to Cabinet of 8 February 2023.
15. That Council approves the Treasury Management Strategy Statement, Prudential Indicators, and the Minimum Revenue Provision Statement for 2023/24 as shown in the separate report to Cabinet of 8 February

2023.

16. That Council approves the Capital Strategy and Programme for 2023/24 as shown in the separate report to Cabinet of 8 February 2023.

70 MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES SCHEME (agenda item 8)

A report of the Chief Executive proposed the Member' Allowances Scheme 2023/24.

Deemed motion on behalf of the Administration

That the reports be adopted and their recommendations carried into effect.

Amendment by the Conservative Group:

There was an amendment proposed by the Conservative Group within their budget amendment that stated the following:

CURRENT				Proposed			
Basic	£10,412.00	55	£572,660.00	Basic	£10,412.00	55	£572,660.00
Leader	£40,000.00	1	£ 40,000.00	Leader	£39,000.00	1	£ 39,000.00 <i>Pre-election rate</i>
Deputy	£27,000.00	1	£ 27,000.00	Deputy	£26,000.00	1	£ 26,000.00 <i>£1k cut to match leader</i>
Cabinet	£25,000.00	7	£175,000.00	Cabinet	£25,000.00	6	£150,000.00 <i>Delete Climate Change</i>
Leader of Op	£12,000.00	1	£ 12,000.00	Leader of Op	£11,000.00	1	£ 11,000.00 <i>£1k cut to match leader</i>
Leader of Min	£ 2,500.00	2	£ 5,000.00	Leader of Min	£ 2,500.00	2	£ 5,000.00
Mayor	£12,000.00	1	£ 12,000.00	Mayor	£10,500.00	1	£ 10,500.00 <i>£1.5k cut to pre-election rate</i>
Deputy M	£ 6,000.00	1	£ 6,000.00	Deputy M	£ 5,000.00	1	£ 5,000.00 <i>£1k cut to match leader</i>
O&S B Chair	£10,000.00	1	£ 10,000.00	O&S B Chair	£ 1,000.00	1	£ 1,000.00 <i>Move to £200 per meeting</i>
People O&S	£ 7,500.00	1	£ 7,500.00	People O&S	£ 1,200.00	1	£ 1,200.00 <i>Move to £200 per meeting</i>
Places O&S	£ 7,500.00	1	£ 7,500.00	Places O&S	£ 400.00	1	£ 400.00 <i>Move to £200 per meeting</i>
Audit Chair	£ 5,000.00	1	£ 5,000.00	Audit Chair	£ 1,000.00	1	£ 1,000.00 <i>Move to £200 per meeting</i>
Pensions Chair	£ 5,000.00	1	£ 5,000.00	Pensions Chair	£ 1,000.00	1	£ 1,000.00 <i>Move to £200 per meeting</i>
Planning Chair	£ 5,000.00	1	£ 5,000.00	Planning Chair	£ 1,000.00	1	£ 1,000.00 <i>Move to £200 per meeting</i>
Strat Plan Chair	£ 7,500.00	1	£ 7,500.00	Strat Plan Chair	£ 1,000.00	1	£ 1,000.00 <i>Move to £200 per meeting</i>
Licensing Chair	£ 7,500.00	1	£ 7,500.00	Licensing Chair	£ 7,500.00	1	£ 7,500.00
TOTAL			£904,660.00	TOTAL			£833,260.00
				Saving			£ 71,400.00

Following debate, the amendment was **NOT CARRIED** by 35 votes to 10 with 3 abstentions (See division 1). Following debate the report and its recommendations were **AGREED** by 31 votes to 14 with 3 abstentions (See division 2).

RESOLVED:

That the proposed amended Members' Allowances scheme, attached at Appendix A, becomes effective from 1 April 2023.

Category of Allowance	Proposed Amount Per Member £
Special Responsibility Allowances:	
Leader of the Council	40,000
Deputy Leader of the Administration	27,000
Cabinet Members	25,000
Leader of Principal Opposition	12,000
Leader of Minority Opposition Groups	2,500

Mayor	12,000
Deputy Mayor	6,000
Overview and Scrutiny Board Chairman	10,000
Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committee Chairmen	7,500
Licensing and Strategic Planning Committees Chairmen	7,500
Audit, Governance, Pensions and Planning Committees Chairmen	5,000

71 **VOTING RECORD (agenda item)**

The record of voting decisions is attached as appendix 3 to these minutes.

Mayor

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Conservative Group Alternative Budget Proposals	23/24	Full year
Reduce CLT by 6	£517,000	£690,000
Delete Director of Regeneration post. Merge Regen Director services into the Housing Directorate – fund from HRA as now	£97,000	£97,000 0
Stop the Westco contract.	£120,000	£120,000
Amendments to the members allowances	£71,400	£71,400
Increase fees and charges by 4% instead of 3%	£160,000	£160,000
Reduce the £2m provision included in MTFs for unachieved savings to £1m	£1,000,000	£1,000,000
Savings generated	£1,965,400	£2,138,400
Budgets created		
Leave parking charges as they are now and launch consultation about proposed charges	£100,000	£100,000
Havering contribution to join judicial review for ulez proposals	£300,000	£300,000
Create hardship fund and Havering Help scheme	£1,515,400	£1,515,400
Consultation on council tax support scheme for those residents	£50,000	£50,000
	£1,965,400	£2,138,400

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<i>DIVISION NUMBER:</i>	1	2	3	4
The Mayor (Councillor Trevor McKeever)	X	✓	X	✓
The Deputy Mayor [Cllr. Stephanie Nunn]	X	✓	X	✓
CONSERVATIVE GROUP (20)				
Cllr Robert Benham	A	A	A	A
Cllr Ray Best	✓	X	✓	X
Cllr Joshua Chapman	A	A	A	A
Cllr John Crowder	O	O	✓	X
Cllr Philippa Crowder	O	O	✓	X
Cllr Osman Dervish	✓	X	✓	X
Cllr Jason Frost	✓	X	✓	X
Cllr Judith Holt	✓	X	✓	X
Cllr Robby Misir	X	O	O	O
Cllr Dilip Patel	A	A	A	A
Cllr Nisha Patel	O	X	✓	X
Cllr Viddy Persaud	A	A	A	A
Cllr Keith Prince	X	X	✓	X
Cllr Timothy Ryan	X	X	X	X
Cllr Carol Smith	A	A	A	A
Cllr Christine Smith	✓	X	✓	X
Cllr David Taylor	✓	X	✓	X
Cllr Christine Vickery	A	A	A	A
Cllr Damian White	✓	X	✓	X
Cllr Michael White	X	X	X	X
RESIDENTS' GROUP (21 + 1)				
Cllr Sarah Edwards	X	✓	X	✓
Cllr Gillian Ford	X	✓	X	✓
Cllr Oscar Ford	X	✓	X	✓
Cllr Laurance Garrard	X	✓	X	✓
Cllr James Glass	X	✓	X	✓
Cllr David Goodwin	X	✓	X	✓
Cllr Linda Hawthorn	X	✓	X	✓
Cllr Jackie McArdle	X	✓	X	✓
Cllr Paul Middleton	X	✓	X	✓
Cllr Raymond Morgon	X	✓	X	✓
Cllr Barry Mugglestone	X	✓	X	✓
Cllr Sue Ospreay	X	✓	X	✓
Cllr Gerry O'Sullivan	X	✓	X	✓
Cllr Phillip Ruck	X	✓	X	✓
Cllr Natasha Summers	X	✓	X	✓
Cllr Bryan Vincent	X	✓	X	✓
Cllr Reg Whitney	X	✓	X	✓
Cllr Julie Wilkes	X	✓	X	✓
Cllr Christopher Wilkins	X	✓	X	✓
Cllr Graham Williamson	X	✓	X	✓
Cllr John Wood	X	✓	X	✓
LABOUR GROUP (8 + 1)				
Cllr Mandy Anderson	X	✓	X	✓
Cllr Patricia Brown	A	A	A	A
Cllr Keith Darvill	X	✓	X	✓
Cllr Jane Keane	X	✓	X	✓
Cllr Paul McGeary	X	✓	X	✓
Cllr Matthew Stanton	X	✓	X	✓
Cllr Katharine Tumilty	X	✓	X	✓
Cllr Frankie Walker	X	✓	X	✓
NORTH HAVERING RESIDENTS' GROUP (3)				
Cllr Brian Eagling	✓	X	✓	X
Cllr Martin Goode	✓	X	✓	X
Cllr Darren Wise	✓	X	✓	X
INDEPENDENT (1)				
Councillor John Tyler	X	✓	X	✓
TOTALS				
✓ = YES	10	31	14	31
X = NO	35	14	33	16
O = ABSTAIN/NO VOTE	3	3	1	1
ID = INTEREST DISCLOSED/NO VOTE	0	0	0	0
A = ABSENT FROM MEETING	7	7	7	7
	0	0	0	0
	55	55	55	55

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