



**MINUTES of  
COUNCIL  
8 FEBRUARY 2018**

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**PRESENT**

Chairman                      Councillor H M Bass

Vice-Chairman              Councillor N R Pudney

Councillors                      Mrs B F Acevedo, J P F Archer, B S Beale MBE,  
R G Boyce MBE, A T Cain, Mrs P A Channer, CC,  
R P F Dewick, I E Dobson, M F L Durham, CC,  
Mrs H E Elliott, A S Fluker, Mrs B D Harker, B E Harker,  
M S Heard, M W Helm, R Pratt, CC, S J Savage,  
Mrs N G F Shaughnessy, Rev. A E J Shrimpton, D M Sismey,  
A K M St. Joseph, Mrs M E Thompson and Miss S White

**797. CHAIRMAN'S NOTICES**

The Chairman referred to the notices shown on the agenda.

**798. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors E L Bamford, Miss A M Beale and M R Pearlman.

**799. MINUTES - 14 DECEMBER 2017**

**RESOLVED**

- (i) that the Minutes of the extraordinary Council meeting on 14 December 2018 be received.

**Minute 686 – Disclosure of Interests**

Councillor Mrs P A Channer advised that her declaration of interest should refer to Bradwell Legacy Partnership and not the LCLC (Local Communities Liaison Committee).

**RESOLVED**

- (ii) that subject to the amendment, the Minutes of the extraordinary Council meeting on 14 December 2018 be adopted.

## **800. MINUTES - 21 DECEMBER 2017**

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 21 December 2017 be received and adopted.

## **801. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor N R Pudney declared a non-pecuniary interest in Agenda Item 16 – Llys Helig Update as he sat on the Crouch Harbour Authority Advisory Committee on behalf of Burnham-on-Crouch Town Council and would leave the chamber for this item of business.

Councillor M F L Durham declared a non-pecuniary interest as a Member of Essex County Council in any matters pertinent to that Authority.

Councillor Mrs P A Channer declared a non-pecuniary interest as a Member of Essex County Council in any matters pertinent to them. She also declared an interest in Agenda Item 18 – Llys Helig Update as a Member of the Crouch Harbour Advisory Committee and advised that she would be leaving the chamber for this item of business.

Councillor R Pratt declared a non-pecuniary interest as a Member of Essex County Council in any matters pertinent to them.

The Chairman drew Members' attention to and read out the paragraph contained on the agenda relating to Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992. In response to a question from the Chairman, Councillor S J Savage raised a point of order and clarified that he would not be making any declaration of interest.

## **802. PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

There were none.

## **803. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman advised that he had attended a number of events which are detailed below and thanked the Vice-Chairman for attending events on his behalf.

11/01/2018	Visit to Chigborough Fisheries and Smokehouse
17/01/2018	Wicks Manor Pork/Shaken Udder
19/01/2018	ECC Civic Dinner
23/01/2018	Visit to the John the Baptist Monastery, Tolleshunt Knights
24/01/2018	Official opening of the refurbished dryside changing room, Blackwater Leisure Centre
24/01/2018	Visit to Lion Seeds
26/01/2018	Launch of Livewell Website
26/01/2018	Holocaust Memorial Day, Rayleigh
31/01/2018	BOC Chamber of Commerce Apprenticeship Event

02/02/2018	Essex Wing Air Training Corps Presentation
06/02/2018	Little Totham Parish Council
08/02/2018	Visit to St Cedd's CofE School

#### **804. MINUTE BOOK**

**(a) MINUTES OF COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE – 16 JANUARY 2018**

**RESOLVED** that with the exception of Minute 742, the Minutes of the meeting of the Community Services Committee held on 16 January 2018 be adopted.

**(b) MINUTES OF PLANNING AND LICENSING COMMITTEE – 25 JANUARY 2018**

**RESOLVED**

**Minute 762 – Local Development Scheme 2018**

In response to a question it was agreed that Councillor Mrs P A Channer, Chairman of the Planning and Licensing Committee would check whether the reduction of affordable homes in favour of the recreational fee was discussed by the Committee at this meeting and report back to Members.

**RESOLVED**

- (i) That paragraph 26 of the Local Development Scheme (attached as Appendix 1 to the Minutes of the Planning and Licensing Committee) be amended to include reference to the Maldon District Council and the first column of the table relating to Masterplans and Design Codes be amended to read 'Title of document';
- (ii) That subject to (i) above, the Local Development Scheme be approved as the project plan for key planning policy documents over the next 12 months.

**RESOLVED**

- (iii) that subject to the above decision, the Minutes of the meeting of the Planning and Licensing Committee held on 16 January 2018 be adopted.

**(c) MINUTES OF FINANCE AND CORPORATE SERVICES COMMITTEE – 30 JANUARY 2018**

**Minute 777 – Document Retention Policy**

**RESOLVED**

- (i) that the Document Retention Policy, attached as Appendix 1 to the Minutes of the Finance and Corporate Services Committee, be agreed.

## **Minute 778 – Annual Report on the Whistleblowing Policy**

### **RESOLVED**

- (ii) that the updated Whistleblowing Policy and Procedure, attached as Appendix 2 to the Minutes of the Finance and Corporate Services Committee, be approved and adopted.

### **RESOLVED**

- (iii) that subject to the above decisions and with the exception of Minutes 779, 780, 781 and 785, the Minutes of the meeting of the Finance and Corporate Services Committee held on 30 January 2018 be adopted.

## **805. RECOMMENDATION OF THE JOINT STANDARDS COMMITTEE FOR DECISION BY THE COUNCIL**

The Council considered the report of the Chief Executive presenting a recommendation of the Joint Standards Committee to the Council.

**RESOLVED** that the Council approves the Conduct Complaints Process Summary, attached as Appendix 1 to the report, and adopts it as part of the Council's constitutional documentation in place of the Complaints Process Flowcharts.

## **806. MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF COMMITTEES**

The Chairman advised that the Minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 4 October 2017 should have been shown on the list of Committees. This was noted.

The Council noted the list of Committees that had met before and since the last meeting of the Council, up until Wednesday 31 January 2018.

## **807. 2018 / 19 BUDGET AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY**

The Council considered the reports of the Director of Resources on the recommendations of the Finance and Corporate Services Committee at its meeting on 30 January 2018 relating to the revenue budget and the proposed level of Council Tax for 2018 / 19.

The Leader of the Council made a Budget speech (attached at **APPENDIX 1** to these Minutes).

Councillor D M Sismey, Chairman of the Finance and Corporate Services Committee in seconding the Leaders' proposition and budget proposals referred to this being another prudent budget with a sub-inflationary increase in council tax and no rise to car parking charges. He referred to how the Council had provided prudent budgets over several years and attributed this to sensible policies along with the hard work of officers. Councillor Sismey commented that the 2018 / 19 budget would require hard work and careful management and then commended the budget to the Council.

In response to the Budget Speech, the Leader of the Opposition, Councillor B S Beale, thanked the Leader of the Council for providing him with a copy of his speech in advance. He commented on the future faced by local government and how changes in government shift regarding finances would impact Councils like Maldon and its already dwindling reserves. Councillor Beale concluded by referring to the need for prudent budgeting which would mean restrictive budgets and the Council had to accept that this budget was not going to be easy.

In response, the Leader of the Council advised that the news headlines today had highlighted how 93% of Local Authorities had to increase Council Tax. He referred to the huge pressure on local government finances and the increasing demand at all levels on services being provided. The Leader advised that the Chief Executive and Corporate Leadership Team had been instructed to produce budgets for the next two financial years which would not draw down on reserves. To facilitate this, the Council would be embarking on a major analysis of how it operates from the ground up in order to achieve savings and where possible maintain services to the public.

At this point Councillor R G Boyce gave notice that he wished to speak on the Capital Programme for 2018 / 19.

#### **808. DISCRETIONARY FEES AND CHARGES 2018 / 19**

The Council considered the report of the Director of Resources seeking Members' approval of the fees and charges of the Council (attached as Appendix 1 to the report) which were then included in the 2018 / 19 budget. It was noted that the proposed 2018 / 19 fees and charges (that generate >£2,000) had been considered by the Finance and Corporate Services (F&CS) Committee on 30 January 2018 and the Committee's recommendation was set out in the report.

It was noted that the proposed fees and charges for 2018 / 19 had been based on the policy decisions recently updated and agreed by the Finance and Corporate Services Committee. The report detailed the budgets for income generated from fees and charges and highlighted three changes:

- New policy to charge for refuse and recycling bins for new housing developments;
- New fee relating to the administration of Parish Council elections and neighbourhood referendums;
- New fee relating to residential moorings.

**RESOLVED** that the detailed Fees and Charges for 2018 / 19 be agreed.

#### **809. REVISED 2017 / 18 AND ORIGINAL 2018 / 19 BUDGET ESTIMATES AND COUNCIL TAX 2018 / 19**

Councillor D M Sismey, Chairman of the Finance and Corporate Services Committee, put the recommendations as set out in the report.

Councillor R G Boyce spoke in relation to Capital Projects and specifically the project relating to a Memorial to Celebrate 100 years of the end of the First World War. It was noted that this Project had been removed from the Capital Programme by the Finance and Corporate Services Committee. Councillor Boyce requested that the Community Services Committee receive a report at its next meeting on this project detailing possible outside funding. He further requested that the Council consider that if funding was identified the Community Services Committee be allowed to come back and request a supplementary capital estimate.

In response, Councillor Sismey outlined the reasons behind the Finance and Corporate Services Committee's removal of the project to explore financing options.

Councillor I E Dobson seconded the proposal of Councillor Sismey.

Following on from the Leaders' speech and in accordance with Procedure Rule No. 13 (5) the Chairman informed the Council that there would need to be a recorded vote on any decision relating to the budget, including the setting of Council tax and levying a precept.

For the recommendation:

Councillors Mrs B F Acevedo, J P F Archer, H M Bass, B S Beale, R G Boyce, A T Cain, Mrs P A Channer, R P F Dewick, I E Dobson, M F L Durham, Mrs H E Elliott, A S Fluker, Mrs B D Harker, B E Harker, M S Heard, M W Helm, R Pratt, N R Pudney, S J Savage, Mrs N G F Shaughnessy, Rev. A E J Shrimpton, D M Sismey, A K M St. Joseph, Mrs M E Thompson and Miss S White.

Against the recommendation: None.

Abstention: None.

The recommendations were duly agreed.

**RESOLVED**

- (i) That the Summary Revised 2017 / 18 and Original 2018 / 19 General Fund Revenue Budget Estimates (Appendices 1 – 3 of the report) be approved;
- (ii) that an average Band D council tax of £192.97 (excluding parish precepts) (2.99% increase) for 2018 / 19 (Appendix 1 to the report) be approved;
- (iii) that the policies on the designated use of financial reserves (as set out in Appendix 5 to the report) be approved;
- (iv) that an increase in the minimum general fund working balance from £2,500,000 to £2,600,000 for 2018 / 19 be approved;
- (v) that the Capital Programme for 2018 / 19 to 2021 / 22 (Appendix 8 to the report), be approved;
- (vi) that the Council gives due regard to the Director of Resources statement on the robustness of budgets and adequacy of reserves in Appendix 9 to the report.

## 810. COUNCIL TAX 2018 / 19

The Council considered the report of the Director of Resources setting out the total amount to be raised from Council Tax for the forthcoming year. This was known as the Council Tax precept (Council Tax Requirement) for Maldon District Council and formed part of the funding that supported the services provided by the Council.

The Director of Resources advised that this report took into account the precepts for the whole of the District and legislation set out the way that the resolution should occur.

The Chairman informed the Council that in accordance with Procedure Rule 13 (5) this decision required a recorded vote. The Chairman put the recommendations as set out in the report with the minor amendments as outlined by the Director of Resources to the Council and the voting was as follows:

For the recommendation:

Councillors Mrs B F Acevedo, J P F Archer, H M Bass, B S Beale, R G Boyce, A T Cain, Mrs P A Channer, R P F Dewick, I E Dobson, M F L Durham, Mrs H E Elliott, A S Fluker, Mrs B D Harker, B E Harker, M S Heard, M W Helm, R Pratt, N R Pudney, S J Savage, Mrs N G F Shaughnessy, Rev. A E J Shrimpton, D M Sismey, A K M St. Joseph, Mrs M E Thompson and Miss S White.

Against the recommendation: None.

Abstention: None.

The recommendations were therefore agreed.

### **RESOLVED**

- (i) that Maldon District Council's Council Tax Requirement for 2018 / 19 is set at £4,668,517;
- (ii) that the Maldon District Council's Band D Council Tax (excluding Parish precepts) is set at £192.97, reflecting an increase of £5.60, all other bands being determined in accordance with the relevant Sections of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended;
- (iii) that the precept demands and level of Band D Council Tax of the Essex County Council, the Essex Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner Fire and Rescue Authority for both Police and Fire, and the various Parish Councils within the District be determined as set out in the report, all other bands being determined in accordance with the relevant Sections of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended;
- (iv) that it be noted that at its meeting on 21 December 2017 the Council calculated its Council Tax Base for the year 2018 / 19:
  - (a) for the whole district as 24,193.2 [Item T in the formula in Section 31B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (the Act), as amended by the Localism Act 2011; and

- (b) for dwellings in those parts of its district to which a Parish precept relates as listed below:

Althorne	515.7
Asheldham	61.9
Bradwell-on-Sea	339.0
Burnham-on-Crouch	3,041.7
Cold Norton	487.3
Dengie	49.2
Goldhanger	297.5
Great Braxted	171.9
Great Totham	1,254.6
Hazeleigh	55.8
Heybridge	2,875.9
Langford	83.8
Latchingdon	422.4
Little Braxted	84.0
Little Totham	194.7
Maldon	5,211.9
Mayland	1,484.2
Mundon	143.4
North Fambridge	396.1
Purleigh	556.2
Southminster	1,515.5
St. Lawrence	590.6
Steeple	193.9
Stow Maries	83.0
Tillingham	400.2
Tollesbury	992.5
Tolleshunt D'arcy	430.9
Tolleshunt Knights	409.9
Tolleshunt Major	272.8
Ulting	67.4
Wickham Bishops	987.3
Woodham Mortimer	252.6
Woodham Walter	269.4
	<b>24,193.2</b>

- (v) that the Council Tax Requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2017 / 18 (excluding Parish precepts) is £4,668,517;
- (vi) that the following amounts be calculated by the Council for the year 2017 / 18 in accordance with new Sections 31 to 36 of the Act:
- (a) £31,869,803 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 (**i.e. gross expenditure including Parish precepts**)

- (b) £25,765,726 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act **(i.e. gross income including government grants)**
- (c) £6,104,077 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) **(i.e. Council Tax Requirement including Parish precepts)**.
- (d) £252.31 being the amount at 3(c) above (Item R) divided by the amount at 1(a) above (Item T), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year **(i.e. average Band D Council Tax including Parish precepts)**
- (e) £1,435,560 being the aggregate amount of all special items (Parish precepts) referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act **(i.e. Parish Council precepts)**
- (f) £192.97 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 special item relates **(i.e. District Council Band D Council Tax excluding Parish precepts)**.

(g) Basic Amount of Council Tax by Parish 2018 / 19

Town / Parish	Local Precept £	Town/Parish Band D £	District + Town/Parish Band D £
Althorne	18,000.00	34.90	227.87
Asheldham	3,183.59	51.43	244.40
Bradwell-on-Sea	17,000.00	50.15	243.12
Burnham-on-Crouch	188,000.00	61.81	254.78
Cold Norton	27,000.00	55.41	248.38
Dengie	2,530.41	51.43	244.40
Goldhanger	13,200.00	44.37	237.34
Great Braxted	6,000.00	34.90	227.87
Great Totham	19,271.00	15.36	208.33
Hazeleigh	696.96	12.49	205.46
Heybridge	222,000.00	77.19	270.16
Langford	4,530.00	54.06	247.03
Latchingdon	43,000.00	101.80	294.77
Little Braxted	3,274.00	38.98	231.95
Little Totham	6,500.00	33.38	226.35
Maldon	350,549.00	67.26	260.23

Town / Parish	Local Precept £	Town/Parish Band D £	District + Town/Parish Band D £
Mayland	97,310.00	65.56	258.53
Mundon	4,500.00	31.38	224.35
North Fambridge	14,700.00	37.11	230.08
Purleigh	40,000.00	71.92	264.89
Southminster	127,680.00	84.25	277.22
St. Lawrence	21,945.00	37.16	230.13
Steeple	6,000.00	30.94	223.91
Stow Maries	6,500.00	78.31	271.28
Tillingham	35,000.00	87.46	280.43
Tollesbury	83,469.00	84.10	277.07
Tolleshunt D'arcy	19,223.00	44.61	237.58
Tolleshunt Knights	9,000.00	21.96	214.93
Tolleshunt Major	8,400.00	30.79	223.76
Ulting	3,120.00	46.29	239.26
Wickham Bishops	15,222.00	15.42	208.39
Woodham Mortimer	3,155.04	12.49	205.46
Woodham Walter	15,601.00	57.91	250.88

being the amounts given by adding to the amount at 3(f) above, the amounts of the special item or items relating to dwellings in those parts of the Councils area mentioned above divided in each case by the amount at 1(b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(3) of the Act, as the basic amounts of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate.

(h) Calculation of Basic Amounts of Council Tax by Parish for Different Valuation Bands

PARISH	Band A	Band B	Band C	Band D	Band E	Band F	Band G	Band H
Althorne	151.92	177.23	202.55	227.87	278.51	329.14	379.79	455.74
Asheldham	162.94	190.09	217.25	244.40	298.71	353.02	407.34	488.80
Bradwell-on-Sea	162.08	189.10	216.11	243.12	297.14	351.17	405.20	486.24
Burnham-on-Crouch	169.86	198.16	226.47	254.78	311.40	368.01	424.64	509.56
Cold Norton	165.59	193.19	220.78	248.38	303.57	358.77	413.97	496.76
Dengie	162.94	190.09	217.25	244.40	298.71	353.02	407.34	488.80
Goldhanger	158.23	184.60	210.97	237.34	290.08	342.82	395.57	474.68
Great Braxted	151.92	177.23	202.55	227.87	278.51	329.14	379.79	455.74
Great Totham	138.89	162.04	185.18	208.33	254.62	300.92	347.22	416.66
Hazeleigh	136.98	159.80	182.63	205.46	251.12	296.77	342.44	410.92
Heybridge	180.11	210.13	240.14	270.16	330.19	390.23	450.27	540.32
Langford	164.69	192.14	219.58	247.03	301.92	356.82	411.72	494.06
Latchingdon	196.52	229.27	262.02	294.77	360.27	425.77	491.29	589.54
Little Braxted	154.64	180.41	206.18	231.95	283.49	335.03	386.59	463.90
Little Totham	150.90	176.05	201.20	226.35	276.65	326.95	377.25	452.70

PARISH	Band A	Band B	Band C	Band D	Band E	Band F	Band G	Band H
Maldon	173.49	202.40	231.32	260.23	318.06	375.88	433.72	520.46
Mayland	172.36	201.08	229.81	258.53	315.98	373.43	430.89	517.06
Mundon	149.57	174.50	199.42	224.35	274.20	324.06	373.92	448.70
North Fambridge	153.39	178.95	204.52	230.08	281.21	332.33	383.47	460.16
Purleigh	176.60	206.03	235.46	264.89	323.75	382.61	441.49	529.78
Southminster	184.82	215.62	246.42	277.22	338.82	400.42	462.04	554.44
St. Lawrence	153.42	178.99	204.56	230.13	281.27	332.41	383.55	460.26
Steeple	149.28	174.15	199.03	223.91	273.67	323.42	373.19	447.82
Stow Maries	180.86	211.00	241.14	271.28	331.56	391.84	452.14	542.56
Tillingham	186.96	218.11	249.27	280.43	342.75	405.06	467.39	560.86
Tollesbury	184.72	215.50	246.29	277.07	338.64	400.21	461.79	554.14
Tolleshunt D'arcy	158.39	184.79	211.18	237.58	290.37	343.17	395.97	475.16
Tolleshunt Knights	143.29	167.17	191.05	214.93	262.69	310.45	358.22	429.86
Tolleshunt Major	149.18	174.04	198.90	223.76	273.48	323.20	372.94	447.52
Ulting	159.51	186.09	212.68	239.26	292.43	345.59	398.77	478.52
Wickham Bishops	138.93	162.08	185.24	208.39	254.70	301.00	347.32	416.78
Woodham Mortimer	136.98	159.80	182.63	205.46	251.12	296.77	342.44	410.92
Woodham Walter	167.26	195.13	223.01	250.88	306.63	362.38	418.14	501.76

being the amounts given by multiplying the amounts at 3(g) 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.

- (vii) That it be noted for the year 2018/19 the major precepting authorities 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:

Precepting Authority	Valuation Bands			
Essex County Council	A	£814.50	E	£1,493.25
	B	£950.25	F	£1,764.75
	C	£1,086.00	G	£2,036.25
	D	£1,221.75	H	£2,443.50
Essex Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner Fire and Rescue Authority	A	£112.68	E	£206.58
	B	£131.46	F	£244.14
	C	£150.24	G	£281.70
	D	£169.02	H	£338.04
Essex Fire Authority	A	£46.92	E	£86.02
	B	£54.74	F	£101.66
	C	£62.56	G	£117.30
	D	£70.38	H	£140.76

- (viii) that, having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at (vi)(h) and (vii) above, the Council, in accordance with Sections 30 and 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 as amended, hereby sets the following amounts as the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2018 / 19 for each part of its area and for each of the categories of dwelling shown in Table A below;

TABLE A (DRAFT subject to final confirmation of precepts)

2018/2019 COUNCIL TAX CHARGES BY PRECEPTING AUTHORITY								
Authority	Band A	Band B	Band C	Band D	Band E	Band F	Band G	Band H
Essex County	814.50	950.25	1,086.00	1,221.75	1,493.25	1,764.75	2,036.25	2,443.50
Essex Police	112.68	131.46	150.24	169.02	206.58	244.14	281.70	338.04
Essex Fire	46.92	54.74	62.56	70.38	86.02	101.66	117.30	140.76
Maldon District	128.65	150.09	171.53	192.97	235.85	278.73	321.62	385.94
Althorne	1,126.02	1,313.68	1,501.35	1,689.02	2,064.36	2,439.69	2,815.04	3,378.04
Asheldham	1,137.04	1,326.54	1,516.05	1,705.55	2,084.56	2,463.57	2,842.59	3,411.10
Bradwell-on-Sea	1,136.18	1,325.55	1,514.91	1,704.27	2,082.99	2,461.72	2,840.45	3,408.54
Burnham-on-Crouch	1,143.96	1,334.61	1,525.27	1,715.93	2,097.25	2,478.56	2,859.89	3,431.86
Cold Norton	1,139.69	1,329.64	1,519.58	1,709.53	2,089.42	2,469.32	2,849.22	3,419.06
Dengie	1,137.04	1,326.54	1,516.05	1,705.55	2,084.56	2,463.57	2,842.59	3,411.10
Goldhanger	1,132.33	1,321.05	1,509.77	1,698.49	2,075.93	2,453.37	2,830.82	3,396.98
Great Braxted	1,126.02	1,313.68	1,501.35	1,689.02	2,064.36	2,439.69	2,815.04	3,378.04
Great Totham	1,112.99	1,298.49	1,483.98	1,669.48	2,040.47	2,411.47	2,782.47	3,338.96
Hazeleigh	1,111.08	1,296.25	1,481.43	1,666.61	2,036.97	2,407.32	2,777.69	3,333.22
Heybridge	1,154.21	1,346.58	1,538.94	1,731.31	2,116.04	2,500.78	2,885.52	3,462.62
Langford	1,138.79	1,328.59	1,518.38	1,708.18	2,087.77	2,467.37	2,846.97	3,416.36
Latchingdon	1,170.62	1,365.72	1,560.82	1,755.92	2,146.12	2,536.32	2,926.54	3,511.84
Little Braxted	1,128.74	1,316.86	1,504.98	1,693.10	2,069.34	2,445.58	2,821.84	3,386.20
Little Totham	1,125.00	1,312.50	1,500.00	1,687.50	2,062.50	2,437.50	2,812.50	3,375.00
Maldon	1,147.59	1,338.85	1,530.12	1,721.38	2,103.91	2,486.43	2,868.97	3,442.76
Mayland	1,146.46	1,337.53	1,528.61	1,719.68	2,101.83	2,483.98	2,866.14	3,439.36
Mundon	1,123.67	1,310.95	1,498.22	1,685.50	2,060.05	2,434.61	2,809.17	3,371.00
North Fambridge	1,127.49	1,315.40	1,503.32	1,691.23	2,067.06	2,442.88	2,818.72	3,382.46
Purleigh	1,150.70	1,342.48	1,534.26	1,726.04	2,109.60	2,493.16	2,876.74	3,452.08
Southminster	1,158.92	1,352.07	1,545.22	1,738.37	2,124.67	2,510.97	2,897.29	3,476.74
St. Lawrence	1,127.52	1,315.44	1,503.36	1,691.28	2,067.12	2,442.96	2,818.80	3,382.56
Steeple	1,123.38	1,310.60	1,497.83	1,685.06	2,059.52	2,433.97	2,808.44	3,370.12
Stow Maries	1,154.96	1,347.45	1,539.94	1,732.43	2,117.41	2,502.39	2,887.39	3,464.86
Tillingham	1,161.06	1,354.56	1,548.07	1,741.58	2,128.60	2,515.61	2,902.64	3,483.16
Tollesbury	1,158.82	1,351.95	1,545.09	1,738.22	2,124.49	2,510.76	2,897.04	3,476.44
Tolleshunt D'arcy	1,132.49	1,321.24	1,509.98	1,698.73	2,076.22	2,453.72	2,831.22	3,397.46
Tolleshunt Knights	1,117.39	1,303.62	1,489.85	1,676.08	2,048.54	2,421.00	2,793.47	3,352.16
Tolleshunt Major	1,123.28	1,310.49	1,497.70	1,684.91	2,059.33	2,433.75	2,808.19	3,369.82
Ulting	1,133.61	1,322.54	1,511.48	1,700.41	2,078.28	2,456.14	2,834.02	3,400.82
Wickham Bishops	1,113.03	1,298.53	1,484.04	1,669.54	2,040.55	2,411.55	2,782.57	3,339.08
Woodham Mortimer	1,111.08	1,296.25	1,481.43	1,666.61	2,036.97	2,407.32	2,777.69	3,333.22
Woodham Walter	1,141.36	1,331.58	1,521.81	1,712.03	2,092.48	2,472.93	2,853.39	3,424.06

- (ix) that the Council's basic amount of Council Tax for 2018 / 19 is not excessive in accordance with the principles approved under Section 52ZB of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended.

As the billing authority, the Council has not been notified by a major precepting authority that its relevant basic amount of Council Tax for 2018/19 is excessive

and that the billing authority is not required to hold a referendum in accordance with Section 52ZK of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended.

**811. MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2018 / 19 TO 2021 / 22**

The Council considered the report of the Director of Resources presenting the Medium Term Financial Strategy 2018 / 19 to 2021 / 22 (attached as Appendix A to the report) for approval by the Council.

The Chairman informed the Council that in accordance with Procedure Rule 13 (5) this decision required a recorded vote. The Chairman put the recommendations as set out in the report with the minor amendments as outlined by the Director of Resources to the Council and the voting was as follows:

For the recommendation:

Councillors Mrs B F Acevedo, J P F Archer, H M Bass, B S Beale, R G Boyce, A T Cain, Mrs P A Channer, R P F Dewick, I E Dobson, M F L Durham, Mrs H E Elliott, A S Fluker, Mrs B D Harker, B E Harker, M S Heard, M W Helm, R Pratt, N R Pudney, S J Savage, Mrs N G F Shaughnessy, Rev. A E J Shrimpton, D M Sismey, A K M St. Joseph, Mrs M E Thompson and Miss S White.

Against the recommendation: None.

Abstention: None.

**RESOLVED** that the Medium Term Financial Strategy 2018 / 19 to 2021 / 22 be approved.

**812. QUESTIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH PROCEDURE RULE 6 (2) OF WHICH NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN**

There were none.

**813. CORPORATE PLAN, KEY ACTIVITIES, INDICATORS AND TARGETS 2018 / 19**

The Council considered the report of the Chief Executive seeking Council's approval of the proposed Corporate Activities, Performance Indicators and Targets for 2018 / 19 and for their inclusion in the annual update to the Corporate Plan (2015 – 19).

The key corporate activities proposed for 2018 / 19 were attached as Appendix 1 to the report and new activities were set out in the report along with those 2017 / 18 activities not being carried forward. Appendix 2 to the report set out the indicators / measures and proposed targets. An update to the Corporate Plan (2015 - 19) was also proposed and set out in Appendix 3.

In response to a question regarding the exclusion of fluvial in flood relief projects, the Chief Executive requested that subject to Members' agreement fluvial be included in

this Key Corporate Activity and the Update of the Corporate Plan (2015 – 2019). This was duly agreed.

In response to a number of questions raised the following information was provided:

- China not accepting recycling paper was a risk but a shared risk between the Council and the contractors. The Director of Customers and Community advised that it was too early at this stage to state the impact but that he would report back to Members in respect of this.
- The Chief Executive clarified that 'tracking' referred where an output / outcome was measured but this was not something that was within the Council's control.

## **RESOLVED**

- (i) That subject to the above amendment, the proposed 2018 / 19 Key Corporate Activities as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report, be approved;
- (ii) that the proposed 2018 / 19 indicators/measures and targets as detailed in Appendix 2 to the report, be approved;
- (iii) that subject to the above amendment, the 2018 / 19 Update of the Corporate Plan (2015 - 19) as set out in Appendix 3 to the report, be approved and adopted;
- (iv) that the proposed 2018 / 19 Service Priorities as detailed in Appendix 4 to the report, be noted.

## **814. CORPORATE PEER CHALLENGE**

The Council considered the report of the Chief Executive updating Members on the conclusions and actions arising from the Corporate Peer Challenge undertaken last year.

The report provided information following a recent Peer Challenge which had taken place during February 2017. A summary of the Peer Team's conclusions and recommendation were set out in Appendix 1 to the report along with actions already underway to address some of the points and proposed future actions.

The Leader of the Council presented the report and highlighted the four areas the Peer review were asked to look at and the results of the independent review produced. It was noted that the report related to a snapshot in time and that the Council had made significant progress on the points identified. He proposed that the report be accepted and that the Council continued to work on the valuable advice offered by the Local Government Authority. This proposal was duly seconded.

In response to a number of concerns and questions raised the Leader provided further details regarding the Peer Review. He commented on how both the Peer Review and External Auditors had identified concerns regarding Area Planning Committees and the Leader advised that the Council had to consider how it determined planning applications using an efficient resilient and cost effective system.

## **RESOLVED**

- (i) that the content of the report and the summary of the Peer Team's conclusions and recommendations be noted;
- (ii) that the additional proposed actions to address the recommendations be agreed.

### **815. LITTLE TOTHAM PARISH COUNCIL - REQUEST TO REVIEW ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS**

The Council considered the report of the Director of Resources presenting a request from Little Totham Parish Council for a review of its electoral arrangements in terms of the size of its membership.

It was noted that Little Totham Parish Council had resolved to request that this Council carry out a review to enable its present membership to be increased from five to seven Councillors. A copy of the letter received from the Parish Council was attached as Appendix 1 to the report.

It was noted that a change to increase the number of Parish Councillors can only be brought about as a result of a Community Governance Review under the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 undertaken by the District Council. A Review may be instigated by resolution of the District Council itself or on petition from local electors. In the case of Little Totham, a petition would need to be signed by at least 37.5% of the total current electorate.

**RESOLVED** that the request of Little Totham Parish Council in terms of the principle of instigating a Community Governance Review be agreed.

### **816. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS**

**RESOLVED** that under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 1, 2, 3 and 7 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act, and that this satisfies the public interest test.

Councillor Rev. A E J Shrimpton left the meeting at this point and did not return.

In accordance with their earlier declarations, Councillors Mrs P A Channer and N R Pudney left the chamber at this point.

### **817. LLYS HELIG UPDATE**

The Council considered the report of the Director of Customers and Community providing an update on progress in resolving the capsized vessel known as Llys Helig berthed on the foreshore in Burnham-on-Crouch and seeking Members' consideration of the future use of the mud berth.

## **RESOLVED**

- (i) that Members note the update on the Llys Helig;
- (ii) that Officers continue to report back to the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council on an ongoing basis and to a future meeting of the Council on progress to resolve the situation on a no less than bi-monthly basis;
- (iii) that the Asset Management Working Group be convened to consider future options relating to the management of the mud berth currently occupied by the Llys Helig and report back to the Council with findings and any recommendations.

Councillors Mrs Channer and Pudney returned to the chamber.

### **818. MALDON HEALTH HUB PROJECT**

The Committee considered the report of the Chief Executive which provided an update on recommendations from the Community Services and Finance & Corporate Services Committees to the Council following consideration of a report (attached at Appendix 1 to the report). The report provided an update on progress of the Maldon Health Hub Project, the proposed service model and the proposed role for the Council in the future delivery of the project.

The report highlighted the ongoing work by the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and the NHS in respect of the Maldon Health Hub project which was now at the Outline Business Case stage.

Members were advised that the Mid and South Essex Sustainability and Transformation Partnership (STP), made up of different NHS organisations and Council's across Essex, were working on a plan to improve health and care services across the region. Their review was looking at three key subjects and it was noted that these would ultimately impact on the service model to be delivered from the new Health Hub.

The report detailed a number of options regarding the Council's future role in the project. The Director of Resources explained that option (i) was an unrealistic option for the Council and outlined the reasons for this.

It was noted that the Community Services and Finance & Corporate Committees had considered this report and made recommendations to the Council which were set out in the report.

The Chief Executive referred to a meeting of the Health Hub Board yesterday and further discussions she had had with Mr Dan Doherty.

Councillor R G Boyce, Chairman of the Community Services Committee, accepted recommendation (ii) from the Finance and Corporate Services on behalf of the Community Services Committee but proposed that after the Outline Business Case (OBC) that a report was brought back to the Community Services Committee as well as the Finance and Corporate Services Committee. This was duly seconded and agreed.

Councillor A S Fluker declared an interest in this item of business as he was a patient of St. Peters Hospital.

Councillor Fluker proposed that the Council withdraw resources from dealing with this project, wait for the OBC and then make a decision. This was duly seconded.

Councillor D M Sismey proposed that Officers be authorised in consultation with the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council to deal with the communications strategy. This was duly agreed.

The Leader of the Council proposed that options (ii) to (v) as set out in paragraph 3.2.2 of the report be removed in their entirety. This was duly seconded and agreed. Councillors R G Boyce and Mrs P A Channer requested that their vote against this be recorded.

Following further discussion it was **RESOLVED**

- (i) that option (i) as set out in paragraph 3.2.1 of the report for future Maldon District Council involvement in the Maldon Health Hub be ruled out at this stage;
- (ii) that the Community Hospital Working Group not be constituted to oversee progression of the project;
- (iii) that that Officers be authorised in consultation with the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council to deal with the communications strategy in relation to the Maldon Health Hub project;
- (iv) that options (ii) to (v) as set out in paragraph 3.2.2 of the report be removed in their entirety;

There being no further items of business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.20 pm.

H M BASS  
CHAIRMAN

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Budget Statement of the Leader of the Council, Cllr. M.F.L. Durham, CC  
8th February 2018

Mr Chairman, Members of the Council, Visitors and Officers, it is my responsibility as Leader of the Council to present the proposed annual budget for the year commencing on the 1 April 2018.

This budget has been compiled by Members and Officers over the past six months using a zero based approach, taking account of future risks, threats & unknowns, whilst looking for opportunities where, as a Council we can develop and become more efficient and resilient in these difficult times for local government.

While there have been some signs of improvement in the economic outlook, the continuing austerity measures have led to unprecedented year on year reductions to local authority funding. Between 2016/17 and 2019/20, the Council will have suffered a cumulative loss of 52% of core grant in addition to the 43% already lost in the previous spending review. Since 2009/10, the Council has lost £3.2m in core grant. We are however a prudent Council and there is no doubt that, without our sound financial practices in recent years, we would be in a far worse position now.

We continue to invest in our services and, whilst our capital programme is more constrained than in previous years, we are still replacing valuable plant and equipment, investing in technology and things like CCTV to provide additional assurance to our residents.

We are actively engaging with EDF and their Chinese partners CGN, to maximise benefits that can be derived from a potential new Nuclear Power Station in Bradwell. In a few weeks' time we will host the first ever Local Government New Nuclear LGA Special Interest Group annual conference. This will bring together 15 local authorities with either new, emerging or operational power stations in their area. The idea is to share knowledge and learn from each other to ensure best practice and experience so that we can get the best outcomes for our district, such as, training, infrastructure improvements, business support and employment opportunities from the power station.

2017-18 has seen the approval of the Local Development Plan, providing us with sustainable planning growth and the ability to protect the Maldon District from unwanted & unsustainable planning growth. We are in the process of bringing forward eleven strategic sites, working with developers to ensure that their contributions are maximised to provide our residents with the infrastructure and affordable homes that are vitally necessary for the district.

On the 1st February it was announced that £7.3m had been secured from the government's Housing Infrastructure Fund for the delivery of key projects to support the housing growth, flood alleviation measures and the wider community in Heybridge. This funding will unlock the development of 1,500 houses identified within the Local Development Plan (LDP) alongside opportunities for local business through stimulating commercial opportunities within the Maldon and Heybridge Central Area.

2017-18 saw the successful delivery of a number of events on The Promenade Park in Maldon and at the Riverside Park in Burnham. The Council actively supports these events as they are crucial to the District's Tourism offer. In 2018-19, we are looking to maximise the financial benefits from events, as well as looking at new opportunities.

This summer sees the completion of the Saltmarsh Trail which provides visitor hubs along the 75 miles of our coastline. The Saltmarsh 75 event has quickly become one of the most significant endurance trials and entrants come from all across the United Kingdom to participate. The Economic Impact of Tourism 2016 report stated that the total financial contribution to the Maldon District was £195m. As a Council, we want visitors to enjoy our District as much as we do.

Our Corporate Plan sets out how we deliver our Visions and Goals for the District. Our Vision is to make Maldon District a better place to live, work and enjoy. We have four goals which underpin everything that we do:

Strengthening Communities to be safe, active and healthy.

Protecting and shaping the district.

Creating Opportunities for economic growth and prosperity.

Delivering good quality, cost effective and valued services.

Our Budget and Strategic Planning process is centered on the delivery of these important goals to support our community.

There are a number of risks to our medium term financial sustainability, as shown in the medium term financial plan. Between 2018-19 and 2021-22, the Council must deliver almost £1.5m of savings to meet the budget gap and this is without factoring in further uncertainties post 2021-22, that Central Government has not yet announced. Local government still does not know what will replace the Rate Support Grant in 2020 and the envisaged 100% retention of the business rates collected by us now seems more likely to be only 75% at best. Representatives from all tiers of local government gave evidence at a select committee this Monday to explain to the government that this uncertainty is preventing authorities from being able to make plans for their future. Hopefully, during this coming year, we will be given more details about the government's intentions for ongoing funding.

The Government has however recognised the immediate financial pressures facing councils and has allowed flexibility to increase our Council Tax by 3%, or £5 whichever is greater. We are proposing to increase Council Tax by 2.99% in 2018-19, an increase which amounts to 10.8 pence per week for a Band D household. We must focus on identifying and delivering our savings target for the medium term as a matter of urgency, so that our authority remains financially sustainable and autonomous for the benefit of our district residents.

Over the next three months, this authority will take a hard look at itself in the mirror and examine its fundamental core structure and systems to ensure that we really are doing things in the most efficient way possible. Investment in IT and telephony will allow residents to make contact with us more swiftly and efficiently and also enable Officers to work from different locations. It is no longer viable to simply 'tinker around

the edges', we need to reshape the authority so that it is fit for purpose to move into the next decade.

It is essential that we not only bridge the significant financial gap, but also look to create new income streams. In due course, like many other councils, we will need to enter a new phase of commerciality to generate a return on investments which will help us to preserve services to for our residents. However, this can only be done once the Council is in a sound fiscal position through securing the necessary cost savings.

Finally, I would like to thank Councillor Sismey and Councillor Dobson for their leadership of the Finance and Corporate Services Committee, not only for their role in compiling this budget, but also for providing scrutiny and authority during 2017/18.

Chairman, I commend this budget to Council.

CLLR. M.F.L. DURHAM, CC  
LEADER  
MALDON DISTRICT COUNCIL

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