

**BOURNEMOUTH, CHRISTCHURCH AND POOLE COUNCIL**  
**COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Meeting held on 11 February 2025 at 7.00 pm

Present:-

Cllr L Dedman – Chairman

Cllr S Bull – Vice-Chairman

Present: Cllr C Adams, Cllr S Aitkenhead, Cllr H Allen, Cllr M Andrews, Cllr S Armstrong, Cllr S Bartlett, Cllr J Beesley, Cllr P Broadhead, Cllr D Brown, Cllr O Brown, Cllr R Burton, Cllr P Canavan, Cllr S Carr-Brown, Cllr A Chapmanlaw, Cllr B Chick, Cllr E Connolly, Cllr P Cooper, Cllr M Cox, Cllr D d'Orton-Gibson, Cllr B Dove, Cllr M Dower, Cllr M Earl, Cllr J Edwards, Cllr D Farr, Cllr D A Flagg, Cllr M Gillett, Cllr C Goodall, Cllr A Hadley, Cllr J Hanna, Cllr E Harman, Cllr R Herrett, Cllr B Hitchcock, Cllr A Keddie, Cllr M Le Poidevin, Cllr S Mackrow, Cllr R Pattinson-West, Cllr A Martin, Cllr D Martin, Cllr G Martin, Cllr J Martin, Cllr C Matthews, Cllr S McCormack, Cllr P Miles, Cllr S Moore, Cllr A-M Moriarty, Cllr B Nanovo, Cllr L Northover, Cllr M Phipps, Cllr K Rampton, Cllr Dr F Rice, Cllr V Ricketts, Cllr C Rigby, Cllr K Salmon, Cllr J Salmon, Cllr P Sidaway, Cllr P Slade, Cllr T Slade, Cllr V Slade, Cllr M Tarling, Cllr T Trent, Cllr O Walters, Cllr C Weight, Cllr K Wilson and Cllr G Wright

60. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors J Bagwell, J Butt, J Challinor, J Clements, G Farquhar, A Filer, P Hilliard, M Howell, J Richardson and L Williams.

61. Declarations of Interests

Council was advised that the Monitoring Officer had granted all Members dispensations to enable all Councillors to fully and freely participate in the debate relating to all aspects of the budget setting for the forthcoming year and the Council Tax base.

In relation to this Council was advised that the granting of the dispensation would be reported to the next meeting of the Standards Committee.

62. Confirmation of Minutes

The Minutes of the Council meetings held on 10 December 2024 and 15 January 2025 were confirmed as a correct record.

63. Announcements and Introductions from the Chairman

The Chairman reported the sad passing of former Councillor Bob Williams who was a serving Poole Councillor from 1996-2003 representing Broadstone.

Councillor Vikki Slade relayed personal experiences of Bob Williams following which Councillors stood in silent tribute.

The Chairman advised Council that given the budget specific nature of the meeting Council would be updated with regards to engagements attended at the next meeting of the Council on the 25 February.

64. Public Issues

Council was advised that there had been no petitions, questions or statements submitted by members of the public on this occasion.

65. Cabinet 15 January 2025 - Minute No. 101 - Council Tax - Tax base 2025/26

The Portfolio Holder for Finance, Councillor Mike Cox presented the report on the Council Tax – Tax base 2025/26 and outlined the recommendations as set out on the agenda.

**RESOLVED that: -**

- (a) Cabinet approves the report for the calculation of the council's tax base for the year 2025/26 and recommends the tax base to Full Council**
- (b) Pursuant to the report, and in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 1992, as amended, the amount calculated as the council tax base for Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council for 2025/26 is 151,574.2**

Voting: Agreed with no dissent

66. Audit and Governance Committee 27 January 2025 - Minute No. 63 - Treasury Management Monitoring report for the period April to December 2024 and Treasury Management Strategy 2025/26

The Chair of the Audit and Governance Committee, Councillor M Andrews presented the report on the Treasury Management Monitoring for the period April to December 2024 and Treasury Management Strategy 2025/26 and outlined the recommendations as set out on the agenda.

Council was advised that the report set out the monitoring of the Council's Treasury Management function for the period 1 April 2024 to 31 December 2024.

In presenting the report the Chair of the Audit and Governance Committee highlighted an amendment to the report whereby

Members raised concerns with regards to the council borrowing money in order to avoid a capitalisation directive.

**RESOLVED that Council: -**

- (2) Approve the Treasury Management Strategy 2025/26 (Appendix 1) and;**

**(3) Approve Treasury Management Practices and Policies 2025/26 (Appendix 2)**

Note – resolution (1) was a resolved matter by the Audit and Governance Committee.

Voting: For: 46 Against: 0 Abstentions: 20

67. Recommendations from the Cabinet - 5 February 2025

Council was advised that there were four budget related items from the Cabinet meeting held on the 5 February with recommendations to Council.

Minute No. 113 – Council Budget Monitoring 2024/25 at Quarter Three

The Portfolio Holder for Finance, Councillor Mike Cox presented the report on Council Budget Monitoring 2024/25 at Quarter Three and outlined the recommendations as set out in the supplementary agenda papers.

**RESOLVED that Council: -**

**(c) Agrees the acceptance of capital grant for the HRA detailed in Appendix D paragraph 20**

Note – resolutions (a) and (b) were resolved matters by the Cabinet.

Voting: Agreed with no dissent

Minute No. 117 – Early Years and Mainstream Schools Funding 2025/26

The Portfolio Holder for Children, Young People, Education and Skills, Councillor Richard Burton presented the report on the Early Years and Mainstream Schools Funding 2025/26 and outlined the recommendations as set out in the supplementary agenda papers.

**RESOLVED that Council agrees: -**

**(a) The early years funding formula detailed in Appendix 1; and**

**(b) The mainstream schools funding formula options detailed in Appendix 2 (paragraph 18), with the final outcome dependent on DfE decisions.**

Voting: Agreed with no dissent

Minute No. 114 – Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Budget Setting 2025/26

The Portfolio Holder for Housing and Regulatory Services, Councillor Kieron Wilson presented the report on the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Budget Setting 2025/26 and outlined the recommendations as set out in the supplementary agenda papers.

**RESOLVED that Council agrees: -**

**(a) The revenue budget for 2025/26 is set using the following principles:**

**(i) That dwelling rents are increased by 2.7 per cent (CPI for September 2024 + 1 per cent) from 7 April 2025 in line with the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local**

**Government Policy statement on rents for social housing published in February 2019 (Rent Policy Statement).**

- (ii) That garage, garage bases and parking plot rental charges are increased by 5 percent from 7 April 2025 and an additional £1.00 per week increase is made to garages in parts of Poole so that charges begin to align.**
- (iii) That leasehold services are charged to leaseholders in line with actual costs incurred.**
- (iv) That shared ownership dwelling rents are increased in line with lease terms.**
- (v) That the changes to services charges are agreed as set out in appendix 2.**
- (vi) That HRA reserves are set at £8.6 million.**
- (b) That the Income and Expenditure budget as set out in Appendix 3 is agreed;**
- (c) That capital budgets for 2025/26 are set using the following principles;**
  - (i) That the major project capital programme as set out in Appendix 4 is noted.**
  - (ii) That the planned maintenance programme as set out in Appendix 5 is agreed.**
  - (iii) That £0.5 million for the acquisition of individual properties (Acquire and Repair) is agreed.**

Note – resolution (d) was a resolved matter by the Cabinet

Voting: Agreed with no dissent

Minute No. 112 – Budget 2025/26 and Medium-Term Financial Plan

The Portfolio Holder for Finance, Councillor Mike Cox presented the report on the Budget 2025/26 and Medium-Term Financial Plan and outlined the recommendations as set out in the supplementary agenda papers.

Councillor Philip Broadhead moved an amended budget, this was seconded by Councillor John Beesley, copies of which had been circulated to all councillors and had been published as a supplement to the agenda papers prior to the meeting and a copy of which will be appended to the signed minutes in the signed minute book.

Council comprehensively debated the amendment which proposed a reduction in car parking charges off season in Bournemouth and Poole Town Centres for a trial period.

Following discussion, the proposed amended budget was put to a recorded vote and fell with voting 10:55 (1 Abstentions):-

For: 10

Cllr Cameron Adams	Cllr David d'Orton Gibson	Cllr Toby Slade
Cllr Hazel Allen	Cllr Bobbie Dove	Cllr Gavin Wright
Cllr John Beesley	Cllr Duane Farr	
Cllr Philip Broadhead	Cllr Karen Rampton	

Against: 55

Cllr Sue Aitkenhead	Cllr Matthew Gillett	Cllr Bernadette Nanovo
Cllr Marcus Andrews	Cllr Crispin Goodall	Cllr Lisa Nothover
Cllr Sara Armstrong	Cllr Andy Hadley	Cllr Rachel Pattinson-West
Cllr David Brown	Cllr Jeff Hanna	Cllr Margaret Phipps
Cllr Olivia Brown	Cllr Emily Harman	Cllr Dr Felicity Rice
Cllr Simon Bull	Cllr Richard Herrett	Cllr Vanessa Ricketts
Cllr Richard Burton	Cllr Brian Hitchcock	Cllr Chris Rigby
Cllr Patrick Canavan	Cllr Alasdair Keddie	Cllr Joe Salmon
Cllr Sharon Carr-Brown	Cllr Marion Le Poidevin	Cllr Kate Salmon
Cllr Adrian Chapmanlaw	Cllr Sandra Mackrow	Cllr Peter Sidaway
Cllr Brian Chick	Cllr Andy Martin	Cllr Paul Slade
Cllr Eleanor Connolly	Cllr David Martin	Cllr Vikki Slade
Cllr Peter Cooper	Cllr Gillian Martin	Cllr Michael Tarling
Cllr Mike Cox	Cllr Jamie Martin	Cllr Tony Trent
Cllr Lesley Dedman	Cllr Chris Matthews	Cllr Oliver Walters
Cllr Michelle Dower	Cllr Simon McCormack	Cllr Clare Weight
Cllr Millie Earl	Cllr Pete Miles	Cllr Kieron Wilson
Cllr Jackie Edwards	Cllr Sandra Moore	
Cllr David Flagg	Cllr Anne-Marie Moriarty	

Abstentions: 1

Cllr Stephen Bartlett		
-----------------------	--	--

The meeting adjourned at 8.47pm and reconvened at 9.00pm

Councillors Brian Hitchcock and Pete Miles left the meeting at 8.47pm

Council then debated the substantive budget proposals in detail as originally proposed.

Following comprehensive debate Council moved to a recorded vote where the motion as set out below was carried with voting 39:19 (6 Abstentions): -

For: 39

Cllr Marcus Andrews	Cllr Crispin Goodall	Cllr Lisa Northover
Cllr Stephen Bartlett	Cllr Andy Hadley	Cllr Richard Pattinson-West
Cllr David Brown	Cllr Jeff Hanna	Cllr Margaret Phipps
Cllr Olivia Brown	Cllr Emily Harman	Cllr Dr Felicity Rice
Cllr Richard Burton	Cllr Richard Herrett	Cllr Vanessa Ricketts
Cllr Adrian Chapmanlaw	Cllr Marion Le Poidevin	Cllr Peter Sidaway
Cllr Brian Chick	Cllr Sandra Mackrow	Cllr Paul Slade
Cllr Mike Cox	Cllr Andy Martin	Cllr Vikki Slade
Cllr Lesley Dedman	Cllr David Martin	Cllr Michael Tarling
Cllr Millie Earl	Cllr Chris Matthews	Cllr Tony Trent
Cllr Jackie Edwards	Cllr Simon McCormack	Cllr Oliver Walters
Cllr David Flagg	Cllr Sandra Moore	Cllr Clare Weight
Cllr Matthew Gillett	Cllr Bernadette Nanovo	Cllr Kieron Wilson

Against: 19

Cllr Cameron Adams	Cllr Eleanor Connolly	Cllr Jamie Martin
Cllr Sue Aitkenhead	Cllr Peter Cooper	Cllr Anne-Marie Moriarty
Cllr Hazel Allen	Cllr David d'Orton-Gibson	Cllr Karen Rampton
Cllr John Beesley	Cllr Bobbie Dove	Cllr Toby Slade
Cllr Philip Broadhead	Cllr Michelle Dower	Cllr Gavin Wright
Cllr Patrick Canavan	Cllr Duane Farr	
Cllr Sharon Carr-Brown	Cllr Gillian Martin	

Abstentions: 6

Cllr Sara Armstrong	Cllr Alasdair Keddie	Cllr Joe Salmon
Cllr Simon Bull	Cllr Chris Rigby	Cllr Kate Salmon

**RESOLVED that Council: -**

- (a) Undertakes a recorded vote in relation to the following items as required by the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendments) Regulations 2014;**
  - (i) Agrees that a net budget of £356m, resulting in a total council tax requirement of £281.2m, is set for 2025/26 based on the draft local government financial settlement figures published by government in December 2024.**
  - (ii) Agrees an increase in council tax of 2.99% for 2025/26 in respect of the basic annual threshold and the collection of the additional social care precept of 2%.**
  - (iii) Confirms the key assumptions and provisions made in the budget as proposed and as set out in Appendix 3.**

- (iv) Agrees the allocations to service areas in the budget as set out in Appendix 5.
  - (v) Agrees the implementation of £7.8m of savings as set out in Appendix 5a.
  - (vi) Approves the flexible use of capital receipts efficiency strategy as the mechanism for funding the council's transformation related expenditure as set out in Appendix 6.
  - (vii) Approves the capital investment programme (CIP) as set out in paragraphs 84 to 97 and Appendix 7.
  - (viii) Approves the asset management plan as set out in Appendix 8.
  - (ix) Agrees the treasury management strategy (TMS) and
  - (x) prudential indicators as set out in paragraphs 100 to 103 and Appendix 9.
  - (xi) Accepts and supports the formal advice of the chief finance officer on the robustness of the budget and the adequacy of the reserves as set out in paragraphs 118 to 124 and Appendix 10.
- (b) Accepts the government revenue and capital grant announcements linked to the 2025/26 local government finance settlement. This includes a £1.373m UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) grant for 2025/26 split between revenue and capital as set out in paragraphs 37 to 40;
- (c) Agree to borrow to fund the 2025/26 excess Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) High Needs DSG revenue expenditure above the government grant being made available. This is subject to clarification and negotiation with government, including whether or not a capitalisation direction will be required. A capitalisation direction may also be considered in respect of the associated interest costs;
- (d) Approves an increase in the permanent pay bill of the authority due to the implementation of the pay and reward project from the £1.641m pa agreed in December 2024 to £2.793m pa (1.5%) after the end of the pay protection period;
- (e) Delegate to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Director of Finance, Leader, and Portfolio Holder for Finance, the allocation of any additional resources that become available through the final 2025/26 local government finance settlement or any other means; and
- (f) Approves the chief officers' pay policy statement 2025/2026 for consideration and approval by the council in accordance with the provisions of the Localism Act 2011 as set out in paragraphs 126 to 128 and Appendix 12.

Voting: 39:19 (6 Abstentions)

68. 2025/26 Council Tax Resolution

The Portfolio Holder for Finance presented a report, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member and a copy of which appears as Appendix 'A' to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

Council was advised that under the Local Government Finance Act 1992 the council as the billing authority must calculate a council tax requirement and basic amount of council tax for the following year.

Further to this Council was informed that if the formal council tax resolution at Appendix A is approved the BCP Council Band D council tax will be £1,855.41 from 1 April 2025.

Following debate Council moved to a recorded vote where the motion as set out below was carried with voting 48:9 (9 Abstentions): -

For: 48

Cllr Sue Aitkenhead	Cllr Jackie Edwards	Cllr Sandra Moore
Cllr Marcus Andrews	Cllr David Flagg	Cllr Anne-Marie Moriarty
Cllr Stephen Bartlett	Cllr Matthew Gillett	Cllr Bernadette Nanovo
Cllr David Brown	Cllr Crispin Goodall	Cllr Lisa Northover
Cllr Olivia Brown	Cllr Andy Hadley	Cllr Rachel Pattinson-West
Cllr Richard Burton	Cllr Jeff Hanna	Cllr Margaret Phipps
Cllr Patrick Canavan	Cllr Emily Harman	Cllr Dr Felicity Rice
Cllr Sharon Carr-Brown	Cllr Richard Herrett	Cllr Vanessa Ricketts
Cllr Adrian Chapmanlaw	Cllr Marion Le Poidevin	Cllr Peter Sidaway
Cllr Brian Chick	Cllr Sandra Mackrow	Cllr Paul Slade
Cllr Eleanor Connolly	Cllr Andy Martin	Cllr Vikki Slade
Cllr Peter Cooper	Cllr David Martin	Cllr Michael Tarling
Cllr Mike Cox	Cllr Gillian Martin	Cllr Tony Trent
Cllr Lesley Dedman	Cllr Jamie Martin	Cllr Oliver Walters
Cllr Michelle Dower	Cllr Chris Matthews	Cllr Clare Weight
Cllr Millie Earl	Cllr Simon McCormack	Cllr Kieron Wilson

Against: 9

Cllr Camreon Adams	Cllr Philip Broadhead	Cllr Duane Farr
Cllr Hazel Allen	Cllr David d'Orton-Gibson	Cllr Toby Slade
Cllr John Beesley	Cllr Bobbie Dove	Cllr Gavin Wright

Abstentions: 6

Cllr Sara Armstrong	Cllr Alasdair Keddie	Cllr Chris Rigby
Cllr Simon Bull	Cllr Karen Rampton	Cllr Joe Salmon



**RESOLVED that Council: -**

**(a) Approved the council tax resolution as set out in Appendix A**

Voting: 48:9 (6 Abstentions)

The meeting ended at 10.03 pm

CHAIRMAN