

**MINUTES
OF THE MEETING OF THE
COUNCIL
THURSDAY, 7 MARCH 2019**

Held at 7.00 pm in the Council Chamber - Rushcliffe Borough Council

PRESENT:

Councillors Mrs M Stockwood (Chairman), Mrs C Jeffreys (Vice-Chairman), R Adair, S Bailey, K Beardsall, M Buckle, B Buschman, R Butler, H Chewings, T Combellack, N Clarke, J Cottee, A Dickinson, M Edwards, A Edyvean, J Greenwood, R Hetherington, S Hull, R Inglis, K Khan, R Jones, N Lawrence, J Lungley, A MacInnes, Mrs M Males, R Mallender, S Mallender, D Mason, G Moore, A Phillips, L Plant, F Purdue-Horan, S J Robinson, Mrs J Smith, J Stockwood, J Thurman, R Upton, R Walker, G Wheeler and J Wheeler

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

10 members of the public.

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

T Coop	Constitutional Services Officer
D Banks	Executive Manager - Neighbourhoods
C Caven-Atack	Performance, Reputation and Constitutional Services Manager
A Graham	Chief Executive
P Linfield	Executive Manager - Finance and Corporate Services
K Marriott	Executive Manager - Transformation and Operations
D Mitchell	Executive Manager - Communities
S Sull	Borough Solicitor

APOLOGIES:

Councillors A Brown, B Cooper, G Davidson and J Donoghue

40 Declarations of Interest

The Chief executive declared an interest in item 15 on behalf of himself and his management team who would all leave the room when that item was considered.

41 Minutes of the meeting Thursday 6 December 2018

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 6 December 2018 were considered by the Council. Councillor Jones requested an amendment to minute number 38 to include the following statement as read out at the

meeting:

“That restructuring is wasteful of resources and expertise economies of scale and shared benefits is best obtained by cooperation. Already this Council has several such arrangements with adjacent local authorities for specific services. Cross district officer meetings provide important learning and sharing of ideas. I believe that accountability of public services should not become more remote: local democracy should not be diluted or diminished”.

Following agreement to the amendment, the minutes from the meeting held on Thursday 6 December 2018 were received as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

42 Mayor's Announcements

The Mayor reported a quieter start to 2019 than the last quarter of 2018. She made particular note of the Sutton Bonington presentation evening, the service attended for National Holocaust Memorial Day, and her Civic Dinner, which this year focused upon upskilling future generations.

As this was the final Council meeting of the civic year, she thanked the Council for allowing her to preside as Mayor again and went on to mention that with the upcoming Borough Council elections in May some Councillors had already made their intention not to return clear. The Mayor particularly wanted to recognise her long standing friendship and rivalry at the ballot box with fellow Bingham Councillor, George Davidson; the witty repartee of Councillor Alistair MacInnes in Council meetings; and her mentor, and role model, Councillor Mrs Marie Males, whose 40 years of service to the Borough she was in awe of.

To conclude, the Mayor wished all Councillors well in whatever ventures awaited them in the future.

43 Leader's Announcements

The Leader informed Council that he had recently attended the first meeting of the Development Corporation Board which would be instrumental in shaping the future of the west of the Borough following the future closure of the power station in Ratcliffe-on-Soar. He reported that the Council had successfully acquired a significant property on an established business park in Castle Donington which would draw around £60k to the authority each year. Councillor Robinson informed the Council that he and the Chief Executive had been delighted to recently visit the Defence Medical Rehabilitation Centre (DMRC) at Stanford Hall where they were given a tour of the £300m world-class facilities. He also reported on the success of the first year of the Council's tree planting scheme and expressed a desire to complement this scheme with other environmental projects in future years.

The Leader also recognised that this was the final Council of the year and announced that a reception would be held after the first Council of the new term to celebrate the contribution of all councillors. He thanked all councillors

not intending to return after the election for their incredible service to the local community and made special mention of Councillor MacInnes, leader of the Labour party, and Councillor Davidson, who was sadly too unwell to attend his last meeting.

44 Chief Executive's Announcements

The Chief Executive wished all councillors the very best in the upcoming elections. He reassured them that staff were willing and ready to ensure the election runs smoothly. He recognised those not standing again and thanked them for playing a vital role in upholding local democracy.

Mr Graham then presented the Mayor with a limited edition book published to commemorate the opening of the DMRC last year.

45 Citizens' Questions

There were no questions from Citizens' to answer at this meeting.

46 Budget and Financial Strategy 2019/20

The Leader presented the report of the Executive Manager – Finance and Corporate Services that outlined the Council's Budget for 2019/20. Councillor Robinson thanked both the officers and councillors for yet another excellent year, especially considering the backdrop of significant central budget cuts. He reported that he was proud to say that the Council was now financially self-sufficient having risen to financial challenges in 2018 to grow a sustainable vision for the future. The Leader reflected back on the projects delivered in the last twelve months including the Tour of Britain, the tree-planting scheme, activities to reduce single-use plastics, the ban on helium balloons and Chinese lanterns, the ongoing Cotgrave developments, Rushcliffe Arena and the wider Investment Strategy, all recognised by both the MJ and LGC in their 2018 awards ceremonies.

Councillor Robinson informed Council that £47m was committed in the Budget for forward looking developments such as a new leisure centre and office facility in Bingham, a crematorium to serve the whole Borough, and significant housing and employment growth especially in Fairham Pastures. He was very pleased to report that the Abbey Road site would soon become available for development. The Leader warned Council that to achieve this level of growth in the timescale desired, some borrowing may be necessary, but assured Council that this would be prudent as well as balancing risk and reward.

Councillor Robinson paid particular tribute to the Council's Planning and Growth team. Rushcliffe has delivered 2,600 new homes in the last 7 years, more than any other district in Nottinghamshire. He added that Rushcliffe had also delivered more affordable homes than any other district in Nottinghamshire. Councillor Robinson also made reference to the new Empty Homes Strategy approved by the Cabinet recently which will assist owners of unused homes to bring them back on to the market as well as charging 300% Council Tax for those that remain vacant.

To summarise, the Leader outlined the key indicators of financial stability and urged his fellow councillors to support the Budget as presented. Councillor Moore seconded this recommendation and reserved the right to speak.

Councillor MacInnes informed Council that the Labour Group had serious concerns about the sustainability of the budget as set out in the report. The significant increase in the capital programme will cause financial problems in the future if not managed properly and the Group did not understand how it was considered prudent to invest such large sums, especially if that included borrowing, in projects such as the building of a crematorium when so much uncertainty remained including Brexit, the Fair Funding review, uncertainties over the future of the new Homes Bonus and Business Rates Retention, the future of the power station in the Borough, and central government plans to overhaul the waste strategy. Councillor MacInnes also reported that he felt there was no mention of affordable housing in the budget and so welcomed the leader's update about the Abbey Road site.

Councillor R Mallender thanked officers for the time they had spent on the budget report this year. He accepted that it had been a difficult task as the Revenue Support Grant had now been reduced to zero. Councillor Mallender congratulated officers on their continued ability to provide excellent services to a growing population within a reducing budget, and stated that he was looking forward to future developments including the new leisure centre in Bingham and improvements to Tudor Square in West Bridgford.

Councillor Jones also noted the reduction in central government funding and welcomed the Council's efforts to secure a long-term commitment to the New Homes Bonus. Councillor Jones noted that he would support the budget but did not agree with the notion set out in the report that Rushcliffe Borough Council's council tax remained the lowest in Nottinghamshire as in Rushcliffe over 50% of properties were placed in the two highest council tax bands. He also expressed concerns about the impact on borrowing on future generations and asked the Council to consider using s106 funding to improve traffic congestion and air pollution in the vicinity of the new Sharphill development.

Councillor Clarke reported that the Council has a strong track record of financial stability and challenged Councillor MacInnes to provide an alternative budget if his Group was to oppose the one put forward. He reminded Councillor MacInnes that councillors had a legal duty to set a budget and that by not proposing an alternative he ran the risk of leaving the Council in limbo.

Councillor Moore expressed his disappointment in the opposition to the budget. He reminded Council that all councillors had been invited to the annual budget workshops and encouraged to participate in shaping the budget. Councillor Moore was also concerned about the view that Rushcliffe reaped more in Council Tax payments because of the higher proportion of large homes in the Borough and he went on to add that with a sliding scale for Council Tax those in smaller homes paid less.

Councillor Robinson thanked Councillor Clarke for his astute comments and reminded Council that Rushcliffe had delivered more affordable housing in the last 7 years than any other district in Nottinghamshire due to the commitment of councillors, the Cabinet and officers. In summary, he drew Council's attention to the ambitious capital programme and stated that this budget will deliver what residents want.

In accordance with the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014, a recorded vote was taken for this item as follows:

FOR: Councillors R A Adair, S Bailey, K P Beardsall, M Buckle, B R Buschman, R L Butler, J N Clarke, T Combellack, J E Cottee, A J Edyvean, J E Greenwood, R Hetherington, S J Hull, R A Inglis, Mrs C E M Jeffreys, R M Jones, K Khan, N C Lawrence, E J Lungley, Mrs M M Males, G R Mallender, S E Mallender, D Mason, G S Moore, A Phillips, F A Purdue-Horan, S J Robinson, Mrs J A Smith, J A Stockwood, Mrs M Stockwood, J E Thurman, R G Upton, R Walker, D G Wheeler, J G A Wheeler

AGAINST: Councillors H A Chewings, M J Edwards, A MacInnes, E A Plant

ABSTENTION: None

It was **RESOLVED** that:

- a) the report of the Council's Responsible Financial Officer on the robustness of the Council's budget and the adequacy of reserves be noted
- b) the budget setting report and associated financial strategies 2019/20 to 2023/24 including the Transformation Strategy and Efficiency Statement to deliver efficiencies over the five year period, be adopted
- c) the Capital Programme be adopted
- d) the Capital and Investment Strategy be adopted
- e) Rushcliffe's 2019/20 Council Tax for a Band D property be set at £137.39
- f) the Special Expenses for West Bridgford, Ruddington and Keyworth, be set at the following Band D Council Tax levels:
 - i) West Bridgford £48.51
 - ii) Keyworth £1.60
 - iii) Ruddington £3.37
- g) with regards to 2e) and 2f) the associated Bands be set in accordance with the formula in section 36(1) of the Local Government Finance Act

1992; and

h) the 2019/20 Pay Policy be adopted.

47 **Council Tax for 2019/20**

The Portfolio Holder for Finance presented the report of the Executive Manager – Finance and Corporate Services that set out the statutory Council Tax Resolution for 2019/20. It was noted that the resolution was a statutory requirement for billing authorities to approve prior to the billing and collection of Council Tax for the forthcoming financial year. Councillor Moore informed Council that Council Tax for a Band D property in Rushcliffe had been set for £137.79 for the coming year, the lowest Council Tax in Nottinghamshire and one of the lowest in the East Midlands.

The resolution consolidated the precepts of Nottinghamshire County Council, Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner, Nottinghamshire Fire Authority, Rushcliffe Borough Council and individual Town and Parish Councils. The recommendations were seconded by Councillor Edyvean.

It was **RESOLVED** that it be noted that the Council calculated the following amounts for the year 2019/20 in accordance with the Local Government Finance Act 1992 as amended (the “Act”);

a) Rushcliffe Borough Council’s Council Tax Base for 2019/20 has been calculated as 43,178.5 [Item T in the formula in Section 31B of the Local Government finance Act 1992 as amended by Section 74 of the Localism Act 2011 (the “Act”)]

b) For dwellings in those parts of the Borough to which a Parish Precept relates as detailed in Appendix Ai

c) The Council Tax requirement for the Council’s own purposes for 2019/20 (excluding Parish Precepts) is £5,949,566

d) That the following amounts be now calculated by the Council for the year 2019/20 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 as amended by Section 74 of the Localism Act 2011

i. £36,682,812 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31 A (2)(a) to (f) of the Act taking into account all precepts issued to it by Parish Councils. (Gross expenditure, parish and special expenses, any contingencies, any provisions for reserves)

ii. £27,870,800 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section (A) (3) (a) to (d) of the Act. (Gross income, any use of reserves)

iii. £8,812,012 being the amount by which the aggregate at (d)(i) above exceeds the aggregate of (d) (ii) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31A (4) of the Act, as its Council Tax Requirement. [Item R in the formula in Section 31B of the Act] (Expenditure less income)

iv. £204.08 being the amount at (d) (iii) above [Item R], all divided by Item T (a) 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 (including parish precepts and special expenses)

v. £2,862,412 being the aggregate amount of the Parish Precepts and Special Expenses referred to in Section 34 (3) of the Act. (Total amount of parish precepts as per Appendix Ai)

vi. £137.79 being the amount at (d) (iii) above less (d) (v) above dividing the result 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 Parish Precepts or Special Expenses relate. (i.e. the Borough Council's precept of £5,949,566 divided by the Council Tax base of 43,178.5 this Council's own Council Tax at Band D)

e) That it be noted for the year 2019/20 Nottinghamshire County Council, Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner and Nottinghamshire and City of Nottingham Fire Authority have issued precepts in accordance with Section 40 of the Act for each of the categories of dwellings shown in Table 1

f) That the Council in accordance with Sections 30 and 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the aggregate amounts shown in the Appendices A(i) and A(ii) for 2019/20 for each part of the Borough and for each of the categories of dwellings

g) The Council has determined that its relevant basic amount of Council Tax for 2019/20 is **not** excessive in accordance with principles approved under Section 52ZB Local Government Finance Act 1992 (as amended by the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014). As the billing authority, the Council has **not** been notified by a major precepting authority that its relevant basic amount of Council Tax for 2019/20 is excessive and that the billing authority is not required to hold a referendum in accordance with Section 52ZK Local Government Finance Act 1992.

Table 1

Band	Rushcliffe Borough Council	Nottinghamshire County Council	Nottinghamshire Police & Crime Commissioner	Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Fire Authority	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
A	91.86	984.04	146.22	53.20	1,275.32
B	107.17	1,148.05	170.59	62.07	1,487.88
C	122.48	1,312.05	194.96	70.93	1,700.42
D	137.79	1,476.06	219.33	79.80	1,912.98
E	168.41	1,804.07	268.07	97.53	2,338.08
F	199.03	2,132.09	316.81	115.27	2,763.20
G	229.65	2,460.10	365.55	133.00	3,188.30
H	275.58	2,952.12	438.66	159.60	3,825.96

Appendix A (i)

Council Tax to be Levied Within the Borough for the Year Ending 31 March 2020

2018/19 PARISH/AREA	TAX BASE	PRECEPT	SPECIAL CHARGES	TAX RATE PARISH AREA	MAJOR PRECEPTS	COUNCIL TAX BAND D
ASLOCKTON	415.7	9,148		22.01	1,912.98	1,934.99
BARTON-IN-FABIS	143.4	3,717		25.92	1,912.98	1,938.90
BINGHAM	3,545.9	283,414		79.93	1,912.98	1,992.91
BRADMORE	167.5	3,022		18.04	1,912.98	1,931.02
BUNNY	293.7	19,000		64.69	1,912.98	1,977.67
CAR COLSTON	81.9	0		0.00	1,912.98	1,912.98
CLIPSTON	31.0	0		0.00	1,912.98	1,912.98
COLSTON BASSETT	123.2	11,000		89.29	1,912.98	2,002.27
COSTOCK	298.5	19,500		65.33	1,912.98	1,978.31
COTGRAVE	2,344.7	219,300		93.53	1,912.98	2,006.51
CROPWELL BISHOP	634.5	91,735		144.58	1,912.98	2,057.56
CROPWELL BUTLER	337.7	12,300		36.42	1,912.98	1,949.40
EAST BRIDGFORD	820.7	39,634		48.29	1,912.98	1,961.27
EAST LEAKE	3,025.7	283,356		93.65	1,912.98	2,006.63
ELTON-ON-THE-HILL	45.7	0		0.00	1,912.98	1,912.98
FLAWBOROUGH	26.3	0		0.00	1,912.98	1,912.98
FLINTHAM	220.3	14,250		64.68	1,912.98	1,977.66
GOTHAM	600.8	38,146		63.49	1,912.98	1,976.47
GRANBY-CUM-SUTTON	176.0	10,226		58.10	1,912.98	1,971.08
HAWKSWORTH	66.9	9,920		148.28	1,912.98	2,061.26
HICKLING	249.4	7,520		30.15	1,912.98	1,943.13
HOLME PIERREPONT & GAMSTON	1,085.7	37,300		34.36	1,912.98	1,947.34
KEYWORTH	2,617.5	176,850	4,200	69.16	1,912.98	1,982.14
KINGSTON-ON-SOAR	128.6	4,125		32.08	1,912.98	1,945.06
KINOULTON	422.7	6,500		15.38	1,912.98	1,928.36
KNEETON	21.9	0		0.00	1,912.98	1,912.98
LANGAR-CUM-	349.5	36,941		105.70	1,912.98	2,018.68

BARNSTONE						
NEWTON	322.9	18,200		56.36	1,912.98	1,969.34
NORMANTON-ON-SOAR	187.5	13,603		72.55	1,912.98	1,985.53
NORMANTON-ON-THE-WOLDS	152.3	7,296		47.91	1,912.98	1,960.89
ORSTON	218.2	9,211		42.21	1,912.98	1,955.19
OWTHORPE	48.6	0		0.00	1,912.98	1,912.98
PLUMTREE	121.8	4,923		40.42	1,912.98	1,953.40
RADCLIFFE-ON-TRENT	3,205.6	300,118		93.62	1,912.98	2,006.60

2018/19 PARISH/AREA	TAX BASE	PRECEPT	SPECIAL CHARGES	TAX RATE PARISH AREA	MAJOR PRECEPTS	COUNCIL TAX BAND D
RATCLIFFE-ON-SOAR	53.2	0		0.00	1,912.98	1,912.98
REMPSTONE	201.9	5,088		25.20	1,912.98	1,938.18
RUDDINGTON	2,700.7	299,590	9,100	114.30	1,912.98	2,027.28
SAXONDALE	14.1	0		0.00	1,912.98	1,912.98
SCARRINGTON	84.6	750		8.87	1,912.98	1,921.85
SCREVETON	78.3	0		0.00	1,912.98	1,912.98
SHELFORD	116.0	10,000		86.21	1,912.98	1,999.19
SHELTON	62.3	600		9.63	1,912.98	1,922.61
SIBTHORPE	58.4	1,700		29.11	1,912.98	1,942.09
STANFORD-ON-SOAR	63.8	5,125		80.33	1,912.98	1,993.31
STANTON-ON-THE-WOLDS	213.7	7,240		33.88	1,912.98	1,946.86
SUTTON BONINGTON	647.6	25,801		39.84	1,912.98	1,952.82
THOROTON	70.0	0		0.00	1,912.98	1,912.98
THRUMPTON	73.7	3,680		49.93	1,912.98	1,962.91
TOLLERTON	812.1	58,674		72.25	1,912.98	1,985.23
UPPER BROUGHTON	161.9	8,500		52.50	1,912.98	1,965.48
WEST BRIDGFORD	14,078.3	0	683,000	48.51	1,912.98	1,961.49
WEST LEAKE	68.0	2,033		29.90	1,912.98	1,942.88
WHATTON-IN-THE-VALE	375.8	15,815		42.08	1,912.98	1,955.06
WIDMERPOOL	170.2	6,036		35.46	1,912.98	1,948.44
WILLOUGHBY-ON-WOLDS	286.2	10,925		38.17	1,912.98	1,951.15
WIVERTON & TITHBY	53.3	0		0.00	1,912.98	1,912.98
WYSALL & THORPE IN THE GLEBE	202.1	14,300		70.76	1,912.98	1,983.74
TOTAL RUSHCLIFFE BOROUGH COUNCIL	43,178.5	2,166,112	696,300	66.29	1,912.98	1,979.27

Appendix A (ii)

ALL PRECEPTS PARISH AREA	COUNCIL TAX BAND							
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
ASLOCKTON	1,289.99	1,505.00	1,719.98	1,934.99	2,364.98	2,794.99	3,224.98	3,869.98
BARTON-IN-FABIS	1,292.60	1,508.04	1,723.46	1,938.90	2,369.76	2,800.64	3,231.50	3,877.80
BINGHAM	1,328.61	1,550.05	1,771.47	1,992.91	2,435.77	2,878.65	3,321.52	3,985.82
BRADMORE	1,287.35	1,501.91	1,716.46	1,931.02	2,360.13	2,789.26	3,218.37	3,862.04
BUNNY	1,318.45	1,538.19	1,757.92	1,977.67	2,417.15	2,856.64	3,296.12	3,955.34
CAR COLSTON	1,275.32	1,487.88	1,700.42	1,912.98	2,338.08	2,763.20	3,188.30	3,825.96
CLIPSTON	1,275.32	1,487.88	1,700.42	1,912.98	2,338.08	2,763.20	3,188.30	3,825.96
COLSTON	1,334.85	1,557.33	1,779.79	2,002.27	2,447.21	2,892.17	3,337.12	4,004.54

BASSETT								
COSTOCK	1,318.87	1,538.69	1,758.49	1,978.31	2,417.93	2,857.57	3,297.18	3,956.62
COTGRAVE	1,337.67	1,560.63	1,783.56	2,006.51	2,452.39	2,898.30	3,344.18	4,013.02
CROPWELL BISHOP	1,371.71	1,600.33	1,828.94	2,057.56	2,514.79	2,972.04	3,429.27	4,115.12
CROPWELL BUTLER	1,299.60	1,516.21	1,732.79	1,949.40	2,382.59	2,815.81	3,249.00	3,898.80
EAST BRIDGFORD	1,307.51	1,525.44	1,743.34	1,961.27	2,397.10	2,832.95	3,268.78	3,922.54
EAST LEAKE	1,337.75	1,560.72	1,783.66	2,006.63	2,452.54	2,898.47	3,344.38	4,013.26
ELTON-ON-THE- HILL	1,275.32	1,487.88	1,700.42	1,912.98	2,338.08	2,763.20	3,188.30	3,825.96
FLAWBOROUGH	1,275.32	1,487.88	1,700.42	1,912.98	2,338.08	2,763.20	3,188.30	3,825.96
FLINTHAM	1,318.44	1,538.19	1,757.91	1,977.66	2,417.13	2,856.63	3,296.10	3,955.32
GOTHAM	1,317.65	1,537.26	1,756.86	1,976.47	2,415.68	2,854.91	3,294.12	3,952.94
GRANBY-CUM- SUTTON	1,314.05	1,533.07	1,752.06	1,971.08	2,409.09	2,847.12	3,285.13	3,942.16
HAWKSWORTH	1,374.17	1,603.21	1,832.22	2,061.26	2,519.31	2,977.38	3,435.43	4,122.52
HICKLING	1,295.42	1,511.33	1,727.22	1,943.13	2,374.93	2,806.75	3,238.55	3,886.26
HOLME PIERREPONT & GAMSTON	1,298.23	1,514.60	1,730.96	1,947.34	2,380.08	2,812.83	3,245.57	3,894.68
KEYWORTH	1,321.43	1,541.67	1,761.89	1,982.14	2,422.61	2,863.10	3,303.57	3,964.28
KINGSTON-ON- SOAR	1,296.71	1,512.83	1,728.94	1,945.06	2,377.29	2,809.54	3,241.77	3,890.12
KINOULTON	1,285.57	1,499.84	1,714.09	1,928.36	2,356.88	2,785.42	3,213.93	3,856.72
KNEETON	1,275.32	1,487.88	1,700.42	1,912.98	2,338.08	2,763.20	3,188.30	3,825.96
LANGAR-CUM- BARNSTONE	1,345.79	1,570.09	1,794.38	2,018.68	2,467.27	2,915.88	3,364.47	4,037.36
NEWTON	1,312.89	1,531.72	1,750.52	1,969.34	2,406.96	2,844.61	3,282.23	3,938.68
NORMANTON-ON- SOAR	1,323.69	1,544.31	1,764.91	1,985.53	2,426.75	2,867.99	3,309.22	3,971.06
NORMANTON-ON- THE-WOLDS	1,307.26	1,525.14	1,743.01	1,960.89	2,396.64	2,832.40	3,268.15	3,921.78
ORSTON	1,303.46	1,520.71	1,737.94	1,955.19	2,389.67	2,824.17	3,258.65	3,910.38
OWTHORPE	1,275.32	1,487.88	1,700.42	1,912.98	2,338.08	2,763.20	3,188.30	3,825.96
PLUMTREE	1,302.27	1,519.32	1,736.35	1,953.40	2,387.48	2,821.58	3,255.67	3,906.80
RADCLIFFE-ON- TRENT	1,337.73	1,560.70	1,783.64	2,006.60	2,452.50	2,898.43	3,344.33	4,013.20
RATCLIFFE-ON- SOAR	1,275.32	1,487.88	1,700.42	1,912.98	2,338.08	2,763.20	3,188.30	3,825.96
REMPSTONE	1,292.12	1,507.48	1,722.82	1,938.18	2,368.88	2,799.60	3,230.30	3,876.36
RIDDINGTON	1,351.52	1,576.78	1,802.02	2,027.28	2,477.78	2,928.30	3,378.80	4,054.56
SAXONDALE	1,275.32	1,487.88	1,700.42	1,912.98	2,338.08	2,763.20	3,188.30	3,825.96
SCARRINGTON	1,281.23	1,494.78	1,708.30	1,921.85	2,348.92	2,776.01	3,203.08	3,843.70
SCREVETON	1,275.32	1,487.88	1,700.42	1,912.98	2,338.08	2,763.20	3,188.30	3,825.96
SHELFORD	1,332.79	1,554.93	1,777.05	1,999.19	2,443.45	2,887.73	3,331.98	3,998.38
SHELTON	1,281.74	1,495.37	1,708.98	1,922.61	2,349.85	2,777.11	3,204.35	3,845.22
SIBTHORPE	1,294.73	1,510.52	1,726.30	1,942.09	2,373.66	2,805.25	3,236.82	3,884.18
STANFORD-ON- SOAR	1,328.87	1,550.36	1,771.82	1,993.31	2,436.26	2,879.23	3,322.18	3,986.62
STANTON-ON- THE-WOLDS	1,297.91	1,514.23	1,730.54	1,946.86	2,379.49	2,812.14	3,244.77	3,893.72
SUTTON BONINGTON	1,301.88	1,518.87	1,735.83	1,952.82	2,386.77	2,820.75	3,254.70	3,905.64
THOROTON	1,275.32	1,487.88	1,700.42	1,912.98	2,338.08	2,763.20	3,188.30	3,825.96
THRUMPTON	1,308.61	1,526.71	1,744.80	1,962.91	2,399.11	2,835.32	3,271.52	3,925.82
TOLLERTON	1,323.49	1,544.07	1,764.64	1,985.23	2,426.39	2,867.56	3,308.72	3,970.46
UPPER BROUGHTON	1,310.32	1,528.71	1,747.09	1,965.48	2,402.25	2,839.03	3,275.80	3,930.96
WEST BRIDGFORD	1,307.66	1,525.61	1,743.54	1,961.49	2,397.37	2,833.27	3,269.15	3,922.98
WEST LEAKE	1,295.25	1,511.14	1,727.00	1,942.88	2,374.62	2,806.39	3,238.13	3,885.76
WHATTON-IN- THE-VALE	1,303.37	1,520.61	1,737.82	1,955.06	2,389.51	2,823.98	3,258.43	3,910.12
WIDMERPOOL	1,298.96	1,515.46	1,731.94	1,948.44	2,381.42	2,814.42	3,247.40	3,896.88
WILLOUGHBY-ON- THE-WOLDS	1,300.77	1,517.57	1,734.35	1,951.15	2,384.73	2,818.33	3,251.92	3,902.30
WIVERTON & TITHBY	1,275.32	1,487.88	1,700.42	1,912.98	2,338.08	2,763.20	3,188.30	3,825.96
WYSALL & THORPE IN THE GLEBE	1,322.49	1,542.92	1,763.32	1,983.74	2,424.56	2,865.41	3,306.23	3,967.48

48 **Independent Review of Councillors' Allowances**

Councillor Robinson introduced the report of the Chief Executive and highlighted that the Council was required by law to independently review the Members' Allowance Scheme at regular intervals. He outlined the approach of the independent members of the Panel and welcomed the interesting benchmarking material contained in the appendices of the report. He believed that the Panel had taken consideration of the views expressed by individual councillors, and the background information provided, to reach a balanced view with regard to the Members' Allowances Scheme. Councillor Mason seconded the proposal.

Councillor Plant considered the review to have been a thorough examination and, stated that whilst it is clear that individuals do not become local councillors for the money, it is imperative that the scheme of allowances does not deter potential candidates. She felt this had been achieved. Councillor S Mallender was also pleased to see that the allowances had not been reduced as she felt this would detrimentally affect people on low incomes becoming councillors. Councillor Jones considered the recommendations to present a fair and balanced allowances scheme.

It was **RESOLVED** that:

- a) the Panel's report be noted and all of the Panel's recommendations be adopted
- b) b) the Scrutiny SRAs proposed in paragraph 4.6 of this report for the year 2019/20 be included in the 2019/20 Member Allowances Scheme.

49 **Scrutiny Review**

Councillor Robinson informed Council that the review of scrutiny had been requested by the Cabinet as they felt that the current structure was out of date and did not reflect the current aspirations of the Council. Independent assistance had been secured from the Centre for Public Scrutiny who had observed meetings, interviewed councillors and analysed data to provide insight. He drew Council's attention to the best practice recommendations in the report and highlighted the desired model of scrutiny as well as the transitional model proposed for introduction following Annual Council in May 2019.

Councillor Beardsall seconded the report and reminded councillors that due to its ambitious programme of development the Council needed to ensure that decisions were being properly scrutinised over the coming years. He agreed with the stepped change approach allowing time to train both new and returning councillors following the election in May and urged Council to ensure that current actions emerging from existing scrutiny arrangements were not lost in the transition.

Councillor Chewings welcomed the review and recognised the hard work of officers and partners involved in scrutiny but reflected that some aspects of scrutiny could be better. She looked forward to being able to shape the new structure alongside a refreshed Council after May. Councillor Jones expressed concern about the best practice recommendation relating to daytime meetings as he felt this would make it difficult for councillors who worked to attend. Councillor Walker expressed similar concerns as prospective councillors had been recruited on their ability to combine a potential position as a councillor with a normal job. Councillor Mallender felt that the transitional model provided new councillors room to grow and shape part of the Council once they had received their training. He also noted the open participation in the process and the follow-up workshops from all councillors.

Councillor Lawrence reflected back on the introduction of scrutiny and his many years as vice chairman of a scrutiny committee. He advised that one overview group may find themselves with a very challenging agenda during the first year of operation.

It was **RESOLVED** that:

- a) the CfPS Review of Scrutiny report be noted
- b) the current scrutiny structure is disbanded at the end of the municipal year
- c) the creation of the transitional model of scrutiny including the Corporate Overview Group and three themed scrutiny groups of growth, communities and governance be agreed and operational from 1 June 2019
- d) the size and proportionality of the new scrutiny groups as outlined in paragraphs 4.13 and 4.16 is agreed
- e) the Chief Executive explores options for independent support during the transitional period as outlined in paragraph 4.18
- f) the Chief Executive to bring forward Terms of Reference for all scrutiny groups to Annual Council to allow nomination to groups to be made.

50 **Notices of Motion**

a. The following Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor S Mallender and seconded by Councillor R Mallender.

“In the light of the recent Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report, declaring a climate emergency, Rushcliffe Borough Council will evaluate the implications of the report and review its 2010 Carbon Management Plan. The review should be undertaken by a relevant scrutiny group, and their findings shall be considered by the Cabinet by no later than March 2020. This

Council calls upon the designated scrutiny group to consider the Council setting a carbon neutral target to be achieved by 2030. The commitment to review and implement a refreshed target should also be integrated into the Council's commitment and leadership to parish councils, business and strategic partners, to deliver widespread carbon reductions across the borough. Rushcliffe Borough Council will continue to call on the Government to provide the necessary powers and resources to make local action on climate change easier."

In presenting the motion, Councillor S Mallender outlined the impact of climate change as highlighted in the IPCC report and the consequences of not taking any action locally. These include increased risk of flash floods damaging crops, property and infrastructure as well as crop failure and damage to human health as a result of extreme and prolonged heat. She called upon Council to support the motion to update the Carbon Management Plan and consider setting a carbon neutral target.

Councillor Robinson stated that his Group would be proud to support the motion and that climate change was a global concern in which Rushcliffe was keen to play a part. Councillor Butler reminded Council of the environmental projects undertaken in the last twelve months and the Council's involvement in Agenda 21 before the turn of the century. Councillor Edwards made reference to the Council's strapline and in particular to the part that the environment plays in ensuring residents achieve a great lifestyle. Councillor Jones focused upon the need to revise building control measures to encourage developers to create carbon neutral homes.

On being put to the vote the Motion was carried.

51 **Questions from Councillors**

a) Question from Councillor Jones to Councillor Robinson

"Given the Conservative Government's undertaking to take 20,000 Syrian refugee adults and children from the camps by the end of 2019 and Rushcliffe Council pledged to take only 41 based proportionately on population despite being a relatively wealthy area – what numbers will the Council take by the end of this year?"

Councillor Robinson responded that Rushcliffe Borough Council has to date accepted 27 individuals in seven families since June 2016 under the UK's resettlement schemes, including the County's first contribution to the Vulnerable Children's Resettlement Scheme. This is well on the way to our commitment number of 41.

Supplementary question

Councillor Jones asked the Leader to commit to meeting the target by the end of the year.

Councillor Robinson replied that the Council would continue to work with partners working towards the targets set.

b) Question from Councillor Jones to Councillor Mason

“What action will the Cabinet Member for Environmental Health take to dissuade food outlets in Rushcliffe, large and small to seriously reduce their use of single-use plastic?”

Councillor Mason responded that the Council has no statutory powers to formally require food businesses to reduce single use plastics. However, building upon our own initiative, we look forward to responding to the Government’s consultation scheduled for later in the year.

c) Question from Councillor Jones to Councillor Mason

“Given the national increase in hate crime what action will the Council take on its own or with partners to monitor and report to Councillors on the experiences of religious and other minority groups in our community?”

Councillor Mason responded that in contrast to the national picture the latest data for January 2019 shows a 20.3% reduction in reported hate crimes in Rushcliffe.

Supplementary question

Councillor Jones asked if there would be regular reports to councillors to keep them informed.

Councillor Mason replied that the Council will continue to refer any reported hate crimes to the Police and will work to support investigations as part of our strong community safety partnership working.

d) Question from Councillor Sue Mallender to Councillor Edyvean

“Given that some councils have assigned their emergency planning officers to deal with the possible impacts on residents and businesses arising from uncertainty over when, if or how the United Kingdom leaves the European Union, what plans does the Rushcliffe borough have in place to manage this?”

Councillor Edyvean responded that the Chief Executive and his management team have been working closely with the Nottinghamshire Local Resilience Forum, Nottinghamshire County Council, other districts and key government departments regarding any impacts of Brexit locally.

Supplementary question

Councillor Mallender asked is there was a role for individual councillors as community leaders.

Councillor Edyvean replied that it was up to individual councillors to get involved in the various local forums and community events.

e) Question from Councillor Sue Mallender to Councillor Upton

“In order to further Rushcliffe Borough Council's commitment to the reduction of single use plastics, and in particular to help reduce the demand for plastic water bottles, will the borough council investigate the provision of public water fountains and consider using planning advice to introduce them in major developments?”

Councillor Upton responded that the Council already has a commitment to promote the Refill Rushcliffe scheme which is progressing well and also helps to support footfall into local businesses.

Supplementary question

Councillor Mallender stated that if businesses were closed then a public water fountain would be more helpful.

The Mayor informed Councillor Mallender that she had not asked a question.

f) Question from Councillor Richard Mallender to Councillor Moore

“Nottingham City Council have indicated that they are withdrawing funding for the Local Link L22/L23 bus service. This provides a vital service to the residents of West Bridgford, as the sole direct public transport link from Gamston, Lady Bay and central West Bridgford to the GP Surgeries on Wilford Lane. Will the borough council seek discussion with the City and County Councils and local bus companies to secure funding in order to retain this service?”

Councillor Moore responded that the Borough Council does not fund bus services and it is for the City and County councils to determine which bus services will be funded. However, a meeting was held this afternoon with new providers as Nottinghamshire County Council are committed to keeping that service going but we have not yet been updated on the outcome of that meeting.

Supplementary question

Councillor Mallender asked councillors to consider spending s106 funding on supporting local bus services.

Councillor Moore replied some rural areas had no buses and that s106 monies are secured for bus services but s106 funding is finite – it will run out.

g) Question from Councillor Richard Mallender to Councillor Mason

“Given Rushcliffe Council's commitment to sustainability with initiatives such as the reduction of single use plastics and high levels of recycling, will the borough be creating a Rushcliffe Good Food partnership in order to create an economically vibrant, sustainable food culture enjoyed by citizens and visitors alike?”

Councillor Mason responded that the Council already delivers a well-supported Taste of Rushcliffe event each year which attracts existing and new food businesses to participate. This is further supported by the Rushcliffe Business Partnership which includes many local food businesses.

52 Exclusion of the Public

It was **RESOLVED** that under section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that exempt information may be disclosed as defined in paragraph 1 of part 1 of schedule 12A of the Act (as amended).

53 Staffing Matter

Council considered the report of the Leader regarding the early retirement of the Chief Executive.

It was **RESOLVED** that:

- a) the early retirement of the Chief Executive (and Head of Paid Service) in the interests of the efficient exercise of the Authority's functions with effect from 30 June 2019 and the costs associated with this be approved
- b) the appointment of an interim Chief Executive (and Head of Paid Service) from 1 July 2019 until 30 May 2020, with the current Executive Manager for Operations and Transformation taking up this role be approved
- c) that any other interim arrangements in relation to supporting the interim Chief Executive (and Head of Paid Service) be reported through the Council's normal budget monitoring arrangements to Cabinet.

The meeting closed at 8.52 pm.

CHAIRMAN