

# **BROXTOWE BOROUGH COUNCIL**

## **COUNCIL MEETING**

**7 MARCH 2018**

Councillor H G Khaled MBE, Mayor

|              |                 |                   |
|--------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Councillors: | E H Atherton    | J W Handley       |
|              | D Bagshaw       | M Handley         |
|              | S A Bagshaw     | A Harper          |
|              | L A Ball BEM    | G Harvey          |
|              | J S Briggs      | R I Jackson       |
|              | T P Brindley    | E Kerry           |
|              | M Brown         | S Kerry           |
|              | D A Burnett BEM | L A Lally         |
|              | B C Carr        | R D MacRae        |
|              | S J Carr        | G Marshall        |
|              | M J Crow        | J W McGrath       |
|              | E Cubley        | J M Owen          |
|              | T A Cullen      | P J Owen          |
|              | R H Darby       | J C Patrick       |
|              | J A Doddy       | M E Plackett      |
|              | S Easom         | M Radulovic MBE   |
|              | D A Elliott     | P D Simpson       |
|              | L Fletcher      | A W G A Stockwell |
|              | J C Goold       |                   |

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors P Lally, W J Longdon, J K Marsters, C H Rice, K E Rigby and R S Robinson, in addition to A Russell, Youth Mayor and W Mee, Deputy Youth Mayor.

### 88. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

### 89. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 31 January 2018 were confirmed and signed.

90. REFERENCE

Finance and Resources Committee – 15 February 2018  
PAY AWARD AND REVIEW OF ALLOWANCES

The Committee had considered the recommendation of the Independent Remuneration Panel to adopt a 2% pay award for 2018/19 on allowances to be paid to members. It was proposed that no increase to Members' Allowances be made.

**RESOLVED that there be no increase in allowances for members.**

91. REFERENCE

Finance and Resources Committee – 15 February 2018  
MEMBER ALLOWANCES

Members had considered the level of allowance to be recommended for the Ad Hoc and Investigatory and Disciplinary Committee. The Committee had also considered whether roles within the new governance structure were being paid at the correct level.

It was proposed that no change to the existing remuneration policy or remuneration levels be made and that allowances to members of the Ad Hoc and the Investigatory and Disciplinary Committees be reviewed when the current investigation had concluded.

**RESOLVED that:**

1. **No changes be made to the existing remuneration policy or remuneration levels.**
2. **Allowances to members of the Ad Hoc and the Investigatory and Disciplinary Committees be reviewed when all processes relating to the current investigation have been concluded.**

92. PAY POLICY STATEMENT – 2018/19

Section 38 of the Localism Act 2011 required local authorities to publish an annual Pay Policy Statement. The purpose of the statement was to increase accountability in relation to payments made to senior members of local authority staff by enabling public scrutiny.

**RESOLVED that the Pay Policy Statement for 2018/19 be approved.**

93. TO APPROVE THE REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGETS, PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS, TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY, INVESTMENT STRATEGY, MEDIUM TERM GENERAL FUND FINANCIAL STRATEGY AND FIX THE COUNCIL TAX FOR THE YEAR COMMENCING 1 APRIL 2018

The Finance and Resources Committee, at its meeting held on 15 February 2018, considered a report dealing with budget consultation, impact analysis, the Housing Revenue Account budget and council house rents 2018/19, capital programme 2018/19 to 2020/21, General Fund revenue budget 2018/19, prudential indicators 2018/19 to 2020/21, treasury management strategy 2018/19 to 2020/21, investments strategy 2018/19 to 2020/21 and the medium term General Fund financial strategy to 2020/21.

The precept figures for Nottinghamshire County Council had not been finalised at the time of printing the agenda. These were considered and resolved at a meeting held on 28 February 2018 and the final figures resulting from the meeting were distributed to members.

The motion was moved by Councillor R I Jackson and seconded by Councillor P D Simpson and it was stated that Council Tax had been frozen for the third year in succession and although the New Homes Bonus was lower than expected the Council was on a clear path to self-sufficiency.

The following amendment was moved by Councillor M Radulovic MBE and seconded by Councillor D A Elliott:

“This Council establishes, with immediate effect, a personnel committee whose role and function will be primarily to bring the on-going investigation to a conclusion and control the cost of the investigation much more effectively, with full scrutiny from elected members.

This Council supports the principle of acquiring and adapting appropriate accommodation for ex-forces and services personnel, currently either homeless or living in substandard conditions. Responsibility for the servicing arrangements fall upon the Housing Revenue Account and proposals be brought to the Housing Committee as a first priority.

This Council commits to no further cuts in jobs or services and agrees to undertake a full evaluation of this Council’s financial position and that the Member of Parliament and the Minister responsible for Local Government be formally requested to attend an all-party committee of this Council where evidence can be given in full view of the public as to the Council’s financial position.

Broxtowe Borough Council accepts the government’s advice and agrees to raise its basic amount of Council Tax by 2.99% and, in doing so under item c) Resource Allocation (see below), the amount of withdrawal from balances be reduced to approximately £1,007,000, and agrees the subsequent changes to Council Tax bills across the Authority’s area.

c) Resources Allocation – General Fund Revenue Budget 2018/19

1. The General Fund revenue budgets as submitted be approved
2. An amount of £25,000 be provided for a General Contingency in 2018/19 (this amount is included in the General Fund revenue budgets as submitted)
3. The council tax requirement for 2018/19 including special expenses (but excluding local precepting requirements) be £5,603,606
4. An amount of £1,007,342 be withdrawn from general non-earmarked reserves in 2018/19.”

Members considered the amendment and the following points were amongst those made:

- The amendment would make it possible to protect the most vulnerable of Broxtowe’s residents.
- Jobs would continue to be lost at the Council unnecessarily and there was no need to follow the programme of cuts.
- The current proposals would not alleviate the pressures faced by the Council. Broxtowe may follow the experiences of Northamptonshire County Council as it will be severely stretched. The Council’s finances needed a radical rethink.
- The amendment contained no mention of cash offices closures or Durban House and was therefore a climb-down from previous suggestions.

In accordance with the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014, a recorded vote was required. The voting was as follows:

| <u>For</u>      | <u>Against</u>  | <u>Abstention</u> |
|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| D Bagshaw       | E H Atherton    |                   |
| S A Bagshaw     | L A Ball BEM    |                   |
| B C Carr        | J S Briggs      |                   |
| S J Carr        | T P Brindley    |                   |
| T A Cullen      | M Brown         |                   |
| R H Darby       | D A Burnett BEM |                   |
| D A Elliott     | M J Crow        |                   |
| L A Lally       | E Cubley        |                   |
| R D MacRae      | J A Doddy       |                   |
| G Marshall      | S Easom         |                   |
| J W McGrath     | L Fletcher      |                   |
| J C Patrick     | J C Goold       |                   |
| M Radulovic MBE | J W Handley     |                   |
|                 | M Handley       |                   |
|                 | A Harper        |                   |
|                 | G Harvey        |                   |
|                 | R I Jackson     |                   |
|                 | E Kerry         |                   |
|                 | S Kerry         |                   |
|                 | H G Khaled MBE  |                   |

J M Owen  
P J Owen  
M E Plackett  
P D Simpson  
A W G A Stockwell

The amendment, on being put to the meeting, was lost.

Members debated the original motion and discussion included the following points:

- The Council's reserves were now dangerously low as was the morale of the Council's staff. Local government in Broxtowe was plunging toward extinction.
- Housing completions had seen their third consecutive increase whereas previously sites had lain dormant for too long.
- This was a far sighted budget and proposals for investment in parks and open spaces would help to improve the mental health of residents.
- Reduction in services would adversely affect the mental health of residents and more funding was needed. There was an ideological march towards abolishing local councils.
- The Council had appealed to Westminster over levels of funding for Broxtowe. There was a need for the Council to be creative. The budget presented was balanced and there was now the chance of an optimistic future. Decisions taken on Pest Control, Durban House and Cash Offices had saved £300,000 each year. The Council had become entrepreneurial and had improved services.
- The Council was facing dwindling reserves, a reduction in income and the morale of staff was low. The budget was unambitious, defeatist and appealed to the lowest common denominator.
- There was a need to build more homes in the Borough and the housing plans were ambitious.
- Universal Credit would have an effect on Council finances.
- The external investigation had resulted in difficult times for all councillors. Information would be shared with councillors as soon as possible.
- The Council was not on a course to bankruptcy as was proved by the Section 151 Officer signing the budget off. The budget was a fair investment in the whole of the Borough.
- The next administration would face difficult times.
- There was a need in Stapleford for a purpose built hub to assist young people and reduce crime.
- The course of the external investigation was necessary due to the seniority of the staff involved. Members were obliged to ensure that hearings were conducted fairly and any expenses paid as a consequence were much less costly than conducting the process incorrectly.

- Homelessness and mental health were serious issues and the leading group was looking at methods by which to strengthen housing in order to assist.
- The fairer funding consultation would be shared with the three group leaders and the independent member.

In accordance with the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014, a recorded vote was required. The voting was as follows:

| <u>For</u>        | <u>Against</u>  | <u>Abstention</u> |
|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| E H Atherton      | D Bagshaw       |                   |
| L A Ball BEM      | S A Bagshaw     |                   |
| J S Briggs        | B C Carr        |                   |
| T P Brindley      | S J Carr        |                   |
| M Brown           | T A Cullen      |                   |
| D A Burnett BEM   | R H Darby       |                   |
| M J Crow          | D A Elliott     |                   |
| E Cubley          | L A Lally       |                   |
| J A Doddy         | R D MacRae      |                   |
| S Easom           | G Marshall      |                   |
| L Fletcher        | J W McGrath     |                   |
| J C Goold         | J C Patrick     |                   |
| J W Handley       | M Radulovic MBE |                   |
| M Handley         |                 |                   |
| A Harper          |                 |                   |
| G Harvey          |                 |                   |
| R I Jackson       |                 |                   |
| E Kerry           |                 |                   |
| S Kerry           |                 |                   |
| H G Khaled MBE    |                 |                   |
| J M Owen          |                 |                   |
| P J Owen          |                 |                   |
| M E Plackett      |                 |                   |
| P D Simpson       |                 |                   |
| A W G A Stockwell |                 |                   |

The motion, on being put to the meeting, was carried.

**RESOLVED that:**

1. **The recommendations arising from the Finance and Resources Committee meeting of 15 February 2018 as set out below be approved and adopted.**
  - a) **Housing Revenue Account and Council House Rents 2018/19**
    1. **The Housing Revenue Account budget as submitted be approved.**
  - b) **Resources Allocation - Capital Programme to 2020/21**

1. The capital submissions and priorities within them be approved.
2. The Interim Deputy Chief Executive be authorised to arrange the financing of the capital programme as necessary.

**c) Resources Allocation – General Fund Revenue Budget 2018/19**

1. The General Fund revenue budgets as submitted be approved.
2. An amount of £25,000 be provided for a General Contingency in 2018/19 (this amount is included in the General Fund revenue budgets as submitted).
3. The council tax requirement for 2018/19 including special expenses (but excluding local precepting requirements) be £5,438,606.
4. An amount of £1,172,342 be withdrawn from general non-earmarked reserves in 2018/19.

**d) Prudential indicators to 2020/21**

1. The prudential indicators as set out be approved.
2. The Minimum Revenue Provision policy as set out be approved.

**e) Treasury management strategy to 2020/21**

1. The treasury management strategy statement be approved.

**f) Investments strategy to 2020/21**

1. The investments strategy be approved.

**g) Medium term General Fund financial strategy to 2021/22**

1. The General Fund Medium Term Financial Strategy be approved.
2. It be noted that, at its meeting on 8 January 2018, The Finance and Resources Committee approved the following amounts for the year 2018/19 in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (England) Regulations 2012:
  - (a) 33,448.29 being the amount calculated by the Council, in accordance with regulation 3 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (England) Regulations 2012, as its council tax base for the year.

**(b) Part of the Council's area**

|                     |          |
|---------------------|----------|
| Parish of Awsworth  | 614.08   |
| Parish of Brinsley  | 688.93   |
| Parish of Cossall   | 209.52   |
| Parish of Eastwood  | 2,725.54 |
| Parish of Greasley  | 3,673.87 |
| Parish of Kimberley | 1,772.69 |

|                              |           |
|------------------------------|-----------|
| Parish of Nuthall            | 2,260.64  |
| Parish of Stapleford         | 4,021.34  |
| Parish of Trowell            | 810.14    |
| Beeston Special Expense Area | 16,490.26 |

being the amounts calculated by the Council, in accordance with regulation 6 of the Regulations as the amounts of its council tax base for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate.

The amount calculated for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no special item relates is 181.28.

3. The following amounts be now calculated by the Council for the year 2018/19 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (the Act) as amended:

- (a) £56,999,462 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A (2) of the Act.
- (b) £50,752,722 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A (3) of the Act.
- (c) £6,246,740 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.
- (d) £186.76 being the amount at 3(c) above divided by the amount at 2(a) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B of the Act, as the basic amount of its council tax for the year.
- (e) £833,134 being the aggregate amount of all special items (including parish precepts and special expenses) referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act.
- (f) £161.85 being the amount at 3(d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 3(e) above by the amount at 2(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.



|  |                |
|--|----------------|
| <b>(g) <u>Part of the Council's Area</u></b> |                |
| <b>Parish of Awsworth</b>                    | <b>£265.74</b> |
| <b>Parish of Brinsley</b>                    | <b>£255.17</b> |
| <b>Parish of Cossall</b>                     | <b>£214.78</b> |
| <b>Parish of Eastwood</b>                    | <b>£198.82</b> |
| <b>Parish of Greasley</b>                    | <b>£214.76</b> |
| <b>Parish of Kimberley</b>                   | <b>£228.00</b> |
| <b>Parish of Nuthall</b>                     | <b>£215.13</b> |
| <b>Parish of Stapleford</b>                  | <b>£180.22</b> |
| <b>Parish of Trowell</b>                     | <b>£238.69</b> |
| <b>Beeston Special Expense Area</b>          | <b>£163.37</b> |

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 Council's area mentioned above divided in each case by the amount at 2(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) | PART OF THE COUNCIL'S AREA                   | VALUATION BANDS |        |        |               |        |        |        |        |
|-----|--|-----------------|--------|--------|---------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
|     |  | A<br>£          | B<br>£ | C<br>£ | D<br>£        | E<br>£ | F<br>£ | G<br>£ | H<br>£ |
|     | <u>Parish of Awsworth</u>                    | 177.16          | 206.69 | 236.31 | <b>265.74</b> | 324.79 | 383.85 | 442.90 | 531.48 |
|     | <u>Parish of Brinsley</u>                    | 170.11          | 198.47 | 226.82 | <b>255.17</b> | 311.87 | 368.58 | 425.28 | 510.34 |
|     | <u>Parish of Cossall</u>                     | 143.19          | 167.05 | 190.92 | <b>214.78</b> | 262.51 | 310.24 | 357.97 | 429.56 |
|     | <u>Parish of Eastwood</u>                    | 132.55          | 154.64 | 176.73 | <b>198.82</b> | 243.00 | 287.18 | 331.37 | 397.64 |
|     | <u>Parish of Greasley</u>                    | 143.17          | 167.04 | 190.90 | <b>214.76</b> | 262.48 | 310.21 | 357.93 | 429.52 |
|     | <u>Parish of Kimberley</u>                   | 152.00          | 177.33 | 202.67 | <b>228.00</b> | 278.67 | 329.33 | 380.00 | 456.00 |
|     | <u>Parish of Nuthall</u>                     | 143.42          | 167.32 | 191.23 | <b>215.13</b> | 262.94 | 310.74 | 358.55 | 430.26 |
|     | <u>Parish of Stapleford</u>                  | 120.15          | 140.17 | 160.20 | <b>180.22</b> | 220.27 | 260.32 | 300.37 | 360.44 |
|     | <u>Parish of Trowell</u>                     | 159.13          | 185.65 | 212.17 | <b>238.69</b> | 291.73 | 344.77 | 397.82 | 477.38 |
|     | <u>Beeston Special Expense Area</u>          | 108.91          | 127.07 | 145.22 | <b>163.37</b> | 199.67 | 235.98 | 272.28 | 326.74 |
|     | <u>All other parts of the Council's area</u> | 107.90          | 125.88 | 143.87 | <b>161.85</b> | 197.82 | 233.78 | 269.75 | 323.70 |

being the amounts given by multiplying the amounts at 3(f) and 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.

4. That it be noted for the year 2018/19 the Nottinghamshire and City of Nottingham Fire and Rescue Authority, Nottinghamshire County Council and the Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner and are proposing the following amounts in precepts issued to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

| Precepting Authority  | VALUATION BANDS |          |          |                 |          |          |          |          |
|---|-----------------|----------|----------|-----------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
|   | A<br>£          | B<br>£   | C<br>£   | D<br>£          | E<br>£   | F<br>£   | G<br>£   | H<br>£   |
| <u>Nottinghamshire and City of Nottingham Fire and Rescue Authority</u> | 51.67           | 60.29    | 68.90    | <b>77.51</b>    | 94.73    | 111.96   | 129.18   | 155.02   |
| <u>Nottinghamshire County Council</u>                                   | 946.29          | 1,104.00 | 1,261.72 | <b>1,419.43</b> | 1,734.86 | 2,050.29 | 2,365.72 | 2,838.86 |
| <u>Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner</u>                    | 130.26          | 151.97   | 173.68   | <b>195.39</b>   | 238.81   | 282.23   | 325.65   | 390.78   |

5. That, having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 3(h) and 4 above, the Council, in accordance with Section 30(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the following amounts as the amounts of council tax for the year 2018/19 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

| PART OF THE COUNCIL'S AREA                          | VALUATION BANDS |          |          |                 |          |          |          |          |
|---|-----------------|----------|----------|-----------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
|   | A<br>£          | B<br>£   | C<br>£   | D<br>£          | E<br>£   | F<br>£   | G<br>£   | H<br>£   |
| <b><u>Parish of Awsworth</u></b>                    | 1,305.38        | 1,522.95 | 1,740.51 | <b>1,958.07</b> | 2,393.19 | 2,828.33 | 3,263.45 | 3,916.14 |
| <b><u>Parish of Brinsley</u></b>                    | 1,298.33        | 1,514.73 | 1,731.12 | <b>1,947.50</b> | 2,380.27 | 2,813.06 | 3,245.83 | 3,895.00 |
| <b><u>Parish of Cossall</u></b>                     | 1,271.41        | 1,483.31 | 1,695.22 | <b>1,907.11</b> | 2,330.91 | 2,754.72 | 3,178.52 | 3,814.22 |
| <b><u>Parish of Eastwood</u></b>                    | 1,260.77        | 1,470.90 | 1,681.03 | <b>1,891.15</b> | 2,311.40 | 2,731.66 | 3,151.92 | 3,782.30 |
| <b><u>Parish of Greasley</u></b>                    | 1,271.39        | 1,483.30 | 1,695.20 | <b>1,907.09</b> | 2,330.88 | 2,754.69 | 3,178.48 | 3,814.18 |
| <b><u>Parish of Kimberley</u></b>                   | 1,280.22        | 1,493.59 | 1,706.97 | <b>1,920.33</b> | 2,347.07 | 2,773.81 | 3,200.55 | 3,840.66 |
| <b><u>Parish of Nuthall</u></b>                     | 1,271.64        | 1,483.58 | 1,695.53 | <b>1,907.46</b> | 2,331.34 | 2,755.22 | 3,179.10 | 3,814.92 |
| <b><u>Parish of Stapleford</u></b>                  | 1,248.37        | 1,456.43 | 1,664.50 | <b>1,872.55</b> | 2,288.67 | 2,704.80 | 3,120.92 | 3,745.10 |
| <b><u>Parish of Trowell</u></b>                     | 1,287.35        | 1,501.91 | 1,716.47 | <b>1,931.02</b> | 2,360.13 | 2,789.25 | 3,218.37 | 3,862.04 |
| <b><u>Beeston Special Expense Area</u></b>          | 1,237.13        | 1,443.33 | 1,649.52 | <b>1,855.70</b> | 2,268.07 | 2,680.46 | 3,092.83 | 3,711.40 |
| <b><u>All other parts of the Council's area</u></b> | 1,236.12        | 1,442.14 | 1,648.17 | <b>1,854.18</b> | 2,266.22 | 2,678.26 | 3,090.30 | 3,708.36 |

94. OFFICER DELEGATED DECISIONS

Members noted the report on Officer Delegated Decisions.

95. COMMON SEAL

**RESOLVED** that the Common Seal be affixed to or the Proper Officer do sign on behalf of the Council, where appropriate, any orders, deeds or documents necessary to give effect to any resolutions of the Council or Committees.