

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the **Council**
held on Thursday, 25th February, 2016 at Crewe Alexandra Football Club, Gresty
Road, Crewe, CW2 6EB

PRESENT

Councillor H Gaddum (Mayor/Chairman)
Councillor O Hunter (Deputy Mayor/Vice-Chairman)

Councillors C Andrew, A Arnold, D Bailey, Rachel Bailey, Rhoda Bailey, Baggott, G Barton, P Bates, G Baxendale, M Beanland, D Bebbington, S Brookfield, E Brooks, D Brown, C Browne, B Burkhill, P Butterill, S Carter, C Chapman, J Clowes, S Corcoran, H Davenport, W S Davies, M Deakin, T Dean, B Dooley, L Durham, S Edgar, I Faseyi, JP Findlow, R Fletcher, T Fox, D Flude, S Gardiner, S Gardner, M Grant, P Groves, J Hammond, M Hardy, A Harewood, G Hayes, S Hogben, D Hough, J Jackson, L Jeuda, M Jones, A Kolker, J Macrae, D Mahon, N Mannion, D Marren, A Martin, R Menlove, G Merry, A Moran, B Moran, H Murray, D Newton, M Parsons, S Pochin, J Rhodes, B Roberts, J Saunders, M Sewart, M Simon, L Smetham, D Stockton, A Stott, G Wait, B Walmsley, G M Walton, L Wardlaw, M Warren, M J Weatherill, H Wells-Bradshaw, G Williams and J Wray

64 PRAYERS

The Mayor's Chaplain said prayers, at the request of the Mayor.

65 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors L Gilbert, G Hayes (morning only), S McGrory, L Smetham and J Weston.

66 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Mayor noted that Members have those property interests within the administrative area of the Council as recorded in the Register of Interests.

The Mayor also noted that Members may:

- be a Member of a Town or Parish Council
- be a School Governor
- be a member of an external organisation or amenity group
- be a Director of a Council owned company
- be appointed by the Council to a role in an external organisation
- have previously expressed a view on the preparation of the Local Plan
- been involved in decisions about land in their role as a Member of the Council, or in any of their "wider public life" roles;

but that none of these matters are disclosable pecuniary interests, or automatically preclude Members from participating in the business of the meeting.

The Mayor then invited Members to declare to the meeting if they had a disclosable pecuniary interest (or any other interest); and/or if they felt they were unable to approach the debate and vote on any item on the agenda with an open mind.

The following declaration were made:-

It was noted that the Deputy Mayor would declare a pecuniary interest in respect of item 7, Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor for the 2016/17 Civic year and would leave the Chamber during its consideration.

Councillor C Browne declared an interest in item 13 of the agenda, as his wife was an employee of Cheshire East Council.

Councillor B Dooley declared that she had a disclosable pecuniary interest in Item 21 of the agenda, relating to the Local Plan and would be submitting her apologies for the reconvened meeting on the 26 February when this item would be considered.

Councillor Rachel Bailey referred to a public question which was to be raised under item 6 of the agenda relating to dairy farming and declared that she was a partner in a dairy farm and would, therefore, make no comment and would not be involved in any response to the question.

The Mayor informed the meeting that, as had been her practice in the past, she was not minded to vote on any matter unless a casting vote was required.

67 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting held on 17 December 2015 be approved as a correct record.

68 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor:-

- 1 Reported, with great sadness the recent untimely death of a well-known and highly respected officer of the Council, Jon Robinson. Jon had a key role in a most important function of the Council: Internal Audit, and had been involved in some very important Audit-related matters. Jon had recently been recognised for 25 years' service in his local government career and he would be greatly missed. She had attended Jon's funeral, which had been very touching. Council stood to observe a minute's silence in his memory.

- 2 Warmly welcomed Councillor Geoff Baggott, the recently elected Councillor for the Congleton East Ward.
- 3 Informed Members that a list of all the Mayoral engagements which she and the Deputy Mayor had attended since the last Council meeting had been circulated around the Chamber.
- 4 Informed Members that the Mayor's Charity Lunch would be held at the Swettenham Arms on Sunday 17th April, and invitations for this would be sent out very soon. She hoped that this event would be well supported by Council Members.
- 5 Noted that Caroline Simpson, Executive Director Economic Growth and Prosperity, would be leaving the Council before the next Council meeting. The Mayor thanked Caroline for all the work that she had done for Cheshire East over the past years and wished her well in her new position at Stockport Council.

69 PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME FOR THE ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED ON 25 FEBRUARY 2016

Ms Jane Smith used public speaking time to address Council regarding badger culling and bovine TB and asked what Cheshire East Council's stance was on allowing the culling of badgers on its land.

Cllr Sam Gardner, Cabinet Member for Open Spaces, thanked Ms Smith for raising this issue and responded as follows that Cheshire East Council was aware that parts of Cheshire East were defined by Natural England/Defra as 'high risk' or 'edge of high risk' in terms of bovine TB. A range of measures were already in place for private landowners and, if appropriate, for Cheshire East Council, which was a landowner with tenant farmers. These measures included robust biosecurity and vaccination, measures which the Council had itself undertaken on its own land.

Cheshire East would keep this matter under review, taking full account of the relevant science and research. No cull had yet been authorised in Cheshire East and in the meantime the Council would continue to work with farmers, community groups and the TB eradication group to raise awareness and share best practice around bio-security and farm management.

Mr Bob Jackson used public speaking time to ask the following question:-

"I would like to highlight the current state of domestic rubbish tipping on the pavements in Crewe and the state of the alleys where people dump mattresses, fridges, furniture and bags of rubbish.

This is causing considerable distress to residents, especially the elderly, and is creating the impression of Crewe being a filthy, neglected and uncivilized town.

This has been going on for years and the Council has adopted a coping strategy where people know that if they dump any rubbish on the street it will be collected within a couple of days. There are a few who now treat this as the norm and socially acceptable.

It is not.

Crewe is in desperate need of a dedicated warden to investigate who is responsible and then to educate or actually prosecute when they are identified.

There is not a short term fix because education is not just for our generation but for the next.

I would like to ask why there is an apparent reluctance of Cheshire East Council to do anything to resolve this situation. "

Cllr Glen Williams, Deputy Cabinet Member for Communities, responded, as follows:-

"The issue of increased fly-tipping and side waste incidents in Crewe has been raised by local elected Members. The Council is committed to dealing with fly-tipping and side waste, and has a two pronged approach based around collection and enforcement.

Collection - Ansa clear away any side waste and fly-tipping that is reported to them through the call centre. The resource currently devoted to this operation, in the south of the borough, is a pick-up vehicle and two operatives full time to deal with the worst affected streets in Crewe. This team not only collect fly-tipped rubbish/side waste but also visit known hot spots on a regular basis.

Enforcement - The community wardens will attend incidents of fly-tipping, side waste and littering to determine if there is any evidence that might lead to enforcement action being taken. This could be via a Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) or prosecution through the courts.

During 2015, we saw a monthly increase in the number of fly-tipping incidents. The average number of incidents per month during the 2nd half of 2015 was 220, compared to 146 for the same period in 2014. The highest number of reports was in January 2016, when we has over 300 incidents reported. 85% of all reported incidents are in the south of the borough and predominantly in Crewe. Based on this evidence and the concerns reported by local elected Members in Crewe, as part of the Council's budget making process for next year, we have committed an additional £75,000 to address this issue. The resources will be focused on three areas of work towards reducing fly tipping and side waste within Crewe. Ansa will continue to collect any waste but the community wardens will be involved with:

- a) Education – employ two full-time community wardens to educate residents on how to use the existing refuse services properly. This action to concentrate on those residents without proper refuse storage arrangements, those in houses of multiple occupancy, students and those for whom English is a second language.

- b) Engagement - These wardens will also engage with the local community to harness the groundswell of support for action to improve the local environment. To encourage civic pride.
- c) Enforcement – as Cheshire East is an enforcing council the two full-time community wardens would take a pro-active rather than a reactive approach to fly-tipping ‘hot spots’ and against ‘usual suspects’ to persuade them to desist and to warn away others. This to include action against irresponsible landlords. Cases prosecuted to be publicised.

This will be a 12 month trial that will be carefully monitored to determine the benefits”.

Mr Stuart Redgard used public speaking time to address Council regarding his concerns in respect of the inappropriate parking of Royal Mail vehicles and asked why the Council did not use its civil enforcement powers to prevent this.

Cllr David Brown, Cabinet Member for Highways, undertook to follow this up with Royal Mail.

Mr John Allen, representing Global Justice Macclesfield, used public speaking time to address Council concerning the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP). He considered that the TTIP was undemocratic and that the tribunals were unaccountable and that given the fees were paid by the taxpayer and would impact on the Government there should be corporate lobbying. He supported the Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr Janet Jackson relating to this matter.

Mr Sylvia Dyke used public speaking time to address Council in respect of her concerns regarding the selling off of grazing land and pasture for development and asked that the Council ensure that its policies provide for a balance between what developers got and what was saved for grazing.

Alsager Town Councillor, Sue Helliwell used public speaking time to ask the Council to write to the Prime Minister, David Cameron, in support of Children’s Centres and requesting the retention of them.

Ms Maeve Kelly used public speaking time to address Council in respect of the public consultation regarding Children’s Centre de-designations closure and reduced funding to Children’s Centres, which had been considered at the recent Cabinet meeting. She was concerned that the feedback from the consultation in respect of this issue had not been taken into account in any of the recommendations in the report to Cabinet.

Cllr Rachel Bailey replied that this matter would be debated as part of the item relating to the budget, to be considered later in the meeting and it would not, therefore, be appropriate to respond at this stage.

Mrs Charlotte Peters Rock used public speaking time to address Council regarding the background of the removal of day care, overnight respite care, dementia care and assessment, and the proposed removal of what she

considered to be vital children's services. With the advent of Cheshire East Council's involvement within Caring Together, she had been hoped that services would improve. She referred to issues around accountability for social care services and considered that this lay with the Council.

She requested a written response from the new Leader of the Council.

70 ELECTION OF THE MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR FOR THE 2016/17 CIVIC YEAR

The Deputy Mayor, Councillor O Hunter, had declared a pecuniary interest in respect of this item and left the Chamber during its consideration.

Consideration was given to a report relating the election of the Mayor and Deputy Mayor for the 2016/17 Civic Year. Council was requested to resolve that Councillor Olivia Hunter be designated as the Mayor Elect and that a second Member be designated as the Deputy Mayor Elect, with a view to their formal election and appointment as Mayor and Deputy Mayor for Cheshire East for 2016-17, at the Mayor Making ceremony to be held on 11 May 2016.

It was proposed and seconded that Councillor Arthur Moran be designated as the Deputy Mayor Elect.

Following his nomination, Councillor Moran, declared a non-pecuniary interest and left the meeting during consideration of this matter.

RESOLVED

That Councillor Olivia Hunter be designated as the Mayor Elect and that Councillor Arthur Moran be designated as the Deputy Mayor Elect, with a view to their formal election and appointment as Mayor and Deputy Mayor for Cheshire East for 2016-17, at the Mayor Making ceremony to be held on 11 May 2016.

71 ELECTION OF LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

Consideration was given to a report requesting Council to elect a Leader of the Council for a four year term of office.

The following nominations were proposed and seconded:

Councillor Rachel Bailey
Councillor Damien Bailey

(Councillors Rachel Bailey and Damien Bailey left the Chamber whilst the item was discussed and the vote was taken).

The nominations were put to the vote with the following results:-

Councillor Rachel Bailey – 53 votes
Councillor Damien Bailey – 17 votes
Abstentions - 5

RESOLVED

That Councillor Rachel Bailey is elected as Leader of the Council for a four year term of office.

(Councillor Rachel Bailey thanked the Council for her election to this office and stated that she looked forward to serving Cheshire East as Leader).

72 RECOMMENDATION FROM CABINET : 2015/16 THREE QUARTER YEAR REVIEW

Cabinet, at its meeting on 9 February 2016, had considered a report setting out the Council's financial and non-financial performance at the third quarter stage of 2015/16.

The report included a recommendation to Council to approve fully funded supplementary capital estimates and virements above £1,000,000 in accordance with Finance Procedure Rules, in respect of the Crewe Town centre regeneration and the Care Act Phase 2, system implementation, as set out at Appendix 7 of the Cabinet report.

RESOLVED

That the fully funded supplementary capital estimates and virements above £1,000,000, as set out in Appendix 7 of the report, be approved, in accordance with Finance Procedure Rules.

73 RECOMMENDATION FROM CABINET - THE COUNCIL'S CORPORATE PLAN 2016/20 AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2016/19

Cabinet, at its meeting on 9 February 2016, had considered a report on the Council's Corporate Plan for the years 2016/17 to 2019/20 and the Medium Term Financial Strategy for the years 2016/17 to 2018/19. The report to Cabinet had summarised the resolutions that Cabinet were requested to recommend to Council, at Appendix A.

The Portfolio Holder for Finance and Assets reported that the Government had announced the day before the Cabinet's meeting that the Council would receive transitional grant of £2.97M in 2016/17 and again in 2017/18. He had also informed Cabinet that the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 4th February 2016 had made no specific comments in relation to the report.

The Portfolio Holder also reported that the Medium Term Financial Strategy reflected the confirmation of grant funding levels for Public Health Funding (reduced by £298,000 compared to provisional figures) and the Independent

Living Fund Grant (confirmed as £12,000 above the estimated position) and would both be matched by equal changes in service expenditure. He also reported the renaming of the current “Business Retention Scheme” earmarked reserve to “Collection Fund Management Reserve”, which better reflected the nature of this funding. The balance of this reserve would stand at £8.4m and would be used to manage cash flow implications arising from administration of the Collection Fund.

The recommendations from Cabinet, as set out on pages 89 and 90 of the agenda papers were proposed and seconded, together with additional recommendations from two reports, which had considered by Cabinet as urgent items on 23 February 2016. The first of these related to the findings of a statutory consultation exercise as part of plans to make significant changes to the Children’s Centre delivery in Cheshire East. There was a need to address a significant financial shortfall in the Council’s budget associated with reducing Central Government grant and increasing costs. The savings being consulted upon would achieve a £500k saving against the Council’s base budget.

The second additional recommendation related to the 2016/17 Final Local Government Finance Settlement, which had been received on Monday 8 February 2016. The settlement had contained some good news in the form of temporary Transitional Grant Support, although it also confirmed that by the start of the 2019/20 financial year the Council would have lost all of its Revenue Support Grant. Details were set out in the Cabinet report.

Cabinet had made recommendations to Council on, an appropriate financial strategy that would achieve the best overall impact from the additional temporary Transitional Grant that had now been confirmed.

It was moved and seconded that Council approve:

- 1 The new Corporate Plan 2016/20.
- 2 The Revenue estimates for the 2016/17 budget and the medium term Capital Programme estimates 2016/19, as detailed in the Medium Term Financial Strategy Report 2016/19.
- 3 Band D Council Tax of £1,261.95 representing an increase of 3.75%. This arises from the provisional finance settlement allowing up to a 2% additional charge to fund Adult Social Care pressures.
- 4 The 2016/17 non ring-fenced Specific Grants, and that any amendments to particular grants will be reported to Council if further information is received from Government Departments or other funding bodies.
- 5 The 2016/17 Capital Grants, and that any amendments to particular grants will be reported to Council if further information is received from Government Departments or other funding bodies.

- 6 The relevant Portfolio Holder to agree the use of additional Specific Grants received in conjunction with the Finance Portfolio Holder as further updates to the 2016/17 funding position are received.
- 7 The recommended Prudential Indicators for Capital Financing.
- 8 The Children and Families Portfolio Holder to agree any necessary amendment to the 2016/17 Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) of £147m and the associated policy proposals, in the light of further information received from DfE, pupil number changes, further academy transfers and the actual balance brought forward from 2015/16.
- 9 The recommended Reserves Strategy, and the proposal to contribute £1m from General Reserves to an Earmarked Reserve for the on-going costs of Planning Appeals.
- 10 The Medium Term Financial Strategy 2016/17 reflects the new Transition Grant funding as follows:
 - (a) Income from Government Grant is increased by £2.973m in 2016/17 and by £2.974m in 2017/18.
 - (b) Expenditure in Outcome 5 in 2016/17 is increased by £473,000 to reflect feedback received to proposals within the Pre-Budget Report and to support the transitioning and targeting of services.
 - (c) A 'Transformation' earmarked reserve is established for £2.5m from 1st April 2016. The Portfolio Holder for Finance & Assets (in consultation with the Chief Operating Officer) is given responsibility for managing allocations of funding from the reserve on an 'Invest to Save' basis.
 - (d) Transition Grant of £2.974, receivable in 2017/18 is allocated to the new Transformation Reserve.

And that Council recognises that Cabinet has noted:-

- 11 The Budget Engagement exercise undertaken by the Council, as set out in the attached.
- 12 The comments of the Council's Chief Operating Officer (Section 151 Officer), contained within the MTFs Report, regarding the robustness of estimates and level of reserves held by the Council based on these budget proposals
- 13 The risk assessment detailed in the MTFs Report
- 14 That the estimates and profiling contained within the proposed Capital Programme 2016/17 to 2018/19 reflect the scale of ambition and future

investment plans of the Council. The programme may vary to take advantage of external funding opportunities, maximise private sector investment, prudential borrowing considerations, operational capacity and to ensure optimal delivery of the overall programme.

- 15 That projects will be robustly governed through the Executive Monitoring Board. The Council's Finance Procedure Rules will always apply should any changes in spending requirements be identified.
- 16 That having considered the contents of the Children's Centre Consultation report, at its meeting on 23 February 2016, along with the attached Equality Impact Assessment, confirms its previous recommendation to Council regarding the rationalisation of Children's Centre Provision to save £0.5million.

AMENDMENT

The following amendment was proposed and seconded:-

"That £500,000 of the £2.97m interim funding be used to reverse the proposed rationalisation of Children's Centre provision".

Legislation required the recording in the minutes of how each Member voted on any decision relating to the Budget or Council Tax. Accordingly, a recorded vote was carried out in respect of the amendment, with the following results:-

For

Cllr D Bailey, Cllr S Brookfield, Cllr C Browne, Cllr B Burkill, Cllr P Butterill, Cllr S Carter, Cllr C Chapman, Cllr S Corcoran, Cllr I Faseyi, Cllr R Fletcher, Cllr D Flude, Cllr T Fox, Cllr M Grant, Cllr A Harewood, Cllr S Hogben, Cllr D Hough, Cllr J Jackson, Cllr L Jeuda, Cllr D Mahon, Cllr N Mannion, Cllr D Marren, Cllr A Martin, Cllr A Moran, Cllr D Newton, Cllr M Parsons, Cllr J Rhodes, Cllr B Roberts, Cllr A Stott, Cllr B Walmsley, Cllr M Warren.

Against

Cllr C Andrew, Cllr A Arnold, Cllr G Baggott, Cllr Rachel Bailey, Cllr Rhoda Bailey, Cllr G Barton, Cllr P Bates, Cllr G Baxendale, Cllr M Beanland, Cllr E Brooks, Cllr D Brown, Cllr J Clowes, Cllr H Davenport, Cllr S Davies, Cllr B Dooley, Cllr L Durham, Cllr S Edgar, Cllr JP Findlow, Cllr S Gardiner, Cllr S Gardner, Cllr P Groves, Cllr M Hardy, Cllr O Hunter, Cllr M Jones, Cllr A Kolker, Cllr J Macrae, Cllr R Menlove, Cllr G Merry, Cllr B Moran, Cllr J Saunders, Cllr M Sewart, Cllr M Simon, Cllr D Stockton, Cllr G Wait, Cllr G Walton, Cllr L Wardlaw, Cllr J Weatherill, Cllr H Wells-Bradshaw, Cllr G Williams, Cllr J Wray.

Not Voting

Cllr D Bebbington, Cllr M Deakin, Cllr T Dean, Cllr H Gaddum, Cllr J Hammond, Cllr G Hayes, Cllr H Murray, Cllr S Pochin,

The Motion was declared lost by 30 votes for, 40 against with 8 not voting.

The vote on the substantive budget proposals was taken.

Legislation required the recording in the minutes of how each Member voted on any decision relating to the Budget or Council Tax. Accordingly, a recorded vote was carried out in respect of this item, with the following results:-

For

Cllr C Andrew, Cllr A Arnold, Cllr G Baggott, Cllr Rachel Bailey, Cllr Rhoda Bailey, Cllr G Barton, Cllr P Bates, Cllr G Baxendale, Cllr M Beanland, Cllr D Bebbington, Cllr E Brooks, Cllr D Brown, Cllr J Clowes, Cllr H Davenport, Cllr S Davies, Cllr M Deakin, Cllr T Dean, Cllr B Dooley, Cllr L Durham, Cllr S Edgar, Cllr JP Findlow, Cllr S Gardiner, Cllr S Gardner, Cllr P Groves, Cllr J Hammond, Cllr M Hardy, Cllr O Hunter, Cllr M Jones, Cllr A Kolker, Cllr J Macrae, Cllr D Marren, Cllr A Martin, Cllr R Menlove, Cllr G Merry, Cllr B Moran, Cllr H Murray, Cllr S Pochin, Cllr J Saunders, Cllr M Sewart, Cllr M Simon, Cllr D Stockton, Cllr G Wait, Cllr G Walton, Cllr L Wardlaw, Cllr J Weatherill, Cllr H Wells-Bradshaw, Cllr G Williams, Cllr J Wray

Against

Cllr D Bailey, Cllr S Brookfield, Cllr C Browne, Cllr B Burhill, Cllr P Butterill, Cllr S Carter, Cllr C Chapman, Cllr S Corcoran, Cllr I Faseyi, Cllr R Fletcher, Cllr D Flude, Cllr T Fox, Cllr M Grant, Cllr A Harewood, Cllr S Hogben, Cllr D Hough, Cllr J Jackson, Cllr L Jeuda, Cllr D Mahon, Cllr N Mannion, Cllr A Moran, Cllr D Newton, Cllr M Parsons, Cllr J Rhodes, Cllr B Roberts, Cllr A Stott, Cllr B Walmsley, Cllr M Warren.

Not Voting

Cllr H Gaddum, Cllr G Hayes

The motion was carried by 48 votes for, 28 against with 2 not voting.

RESOLVED

That the following be approved:-

- 1 The new Corporate Plan 2016/20, as provided at Appendix B to the report
- 2 The Revenue estimates for the 2016/17 budget and the medium term Capital Programme estimates 2016/19, as detailed in the Medium Term Financial Strategy Report 2016/19 (Appendix C).
- 3 Band D Council Tax of £1,261.95 representing an increase of 3.75%. This arises from the provisional finance settlement allowing up to a 2% additional charge to fund Adult Social Care pressures (Appendix C, Section 2).

- 4 The 2016/17 non ring-fenced Specific Grants, and that any amendments to particular grants will be reported to Council if further information is received from Government Departments or other funding bodies (Appendix C, Annex 8).
- 5 The 2016/17 Capital Grants, and that any amendments to particular grants will be reported to Council if further information is received from Government Departments or other funding bodies (Appendix C, Annex 9).
- 6 The relevant Portfolio Holder to agree the use of additional Specific Grants received in conjunction with the Finance Portfolio Holder as further updates to the 2016/17 funding position are received.
- 7 The recommended Prudential Indicators for Capital Financing (Appendix C, Annex 11).
- 8 The Children and Families Portfolio Holder to agree any necessary amendment to the 2016/17 Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) of £147m and the associated policy proposals, in the light of further information received from DfE, pupil number changes, further academy transfers and the actual balance brought forward from 2015/16 (Appendix C, Annex 8).
- 9 The recommended Reserves Strategy, and the proposal to contribute £1m from General Reserves to an Earmarked Reserve for the on-going costs of Planning Appeals (Appendix C, Annex 13).
- 10 The Medium Term Financial Strategy 2016/17 reflect the new Transition Grant funding as follows:
 - (a) Income from Government Grant is increased by £2.973m in 2016/17 and by £2.974m in 2017/18.
 - (b) Expenditure in Outcome 5 in 2016/17 is increased by £473,000 to reflect feedback received to proposals within the Pre-Budget Report and to support the transitioning and targeting of services.
 - (c) A 'Transformation' earmarked reserve is established for £2.5m from 1st April 2016. The Portfolio Holder for Finance & Assets (in consultation with the Chief Operating Officer) is given responsibility for managing allocations of funding from the reserve on an 'Invest to Save' basis.
 - (d) Transition Grant of £2.974, receivable in 2017/18 is allocated to the new Transformation Reserve.

Council recognises that Cabinet has noted: -

- 11 The Budget Engagement exercise undertaken by the Council, as set out in the attached (Appendix C, Annex 2).
- 12 The comments of the Council's Chief Operating Officer (Section 151 Officer), contained within the MTFs Report, regarding the robustness of estimates and level of reserves held by the Council based on these budget proposals (Appendix C, Comment from the Chief Operating Officer).
- 13 The risk assessment detailed in the MTFs Report (Appendix C, Annex 5).
- 14 That the estimates and profiling contained within the proposed Capital Programme 2016/17 to 2018/19 reflect the scale of ambition and future investment plans of the Council. The programme may vary to take advantage of external funding opportunities, maximise private sector investment, prudential borrowing considerations, operational capacity and to ensure optimal delivery of the overall programme (Appendix C, Annex 12).
- 15 That projects will be robustly governed through the Executive Monitoring Board. The Council's Finance Procedure Rules will always apply should any changes in spending requirements be identified (Appendix C, Annex 12).
- 16 That Cabinet, at its meeting on 23 February 2016, having considered the contents of the report along with the attached Equality Impact Assessment, confirms its previous recommendation to Budget Council regarding the rationalisation of Children's Centre Provision to save £0.5million and that this recommendation be confirmed as agreed.

*The meeting adjourned for lunch at 1.15 pm and reconvened at 2.15 pm.
Councillors G Barton and M Jones left the meeting and did not return.*

74 RECOMMENDATION FROM CABINET: TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY AND MINIMUM REVENUE PROVISION POLICY STATEMENT 2016/17

Cabinet, at its meeting on 9 February 2016, had considered the Treasury Management Strategy and Minimum Revenue Provision Statement 2016/17.

The key elements of the strategy for 2016/17 were for the Council to:

- Retain capital financing costs within an affordable limit of c.£14m.
- Not enter into any overall additional external borrowing in 2016/17.
- Take an appropriate approach to risk if short term loans were required, by only borrowing from lenders identified in the strategy.

- Maintain security of investments by only using counterparties detailed in the strategy.
- Support a flexible approach to treasury management that could react to opportunities and market conditions to maximise effectiveness, whilst protecting the public funds managed within the strategy.

The Treasury Management Strategy was set out in Appendix A to the Cabinet report and had been reported to the Audit and Governance Committee on 10th December 2015 for scrutiny purposes.

The recommendation from Cabinet was proposed and seconded.

RESOLVED

That the Treasury Management Strategy and the Minimum Revenue Provision Statement Statement for 2016/17, as set out in Appendix A to the report, be approved.

75 COUNCIL TAX STATUTORY RESOLUTION 2016/17

Consideration was given to a report relating to the setting of the Council tax for 2016/17.

Cheshire East Council, as a billing authority, was responsible for the billing and collection of Council Tax due from local taxpayers and must, therefore, make a resolution to set the overall Council Tax level. This meant that the Authority also collected Council Tax income to cover not only its own services but also precepts set by other authorities.

The Council Tax levied was, therefore, made up of four elements:

- Cheshire East Borough Council element
- Town & Parish Council precepts
- Police & Crime Commissioner for Cheshire precept
- Cheshire Fire Authority precept

Legislation required the recording in the minutes of how each Member voted on any decision relating to the Budget or Council Tax. Accordingly, a recorded vote was carried out in respect of this item, with the following results:-

For

Cllr C Andrew, Cllr A Arnold, Cllr G Baggott, Cllr D Bailey, Cllr Rachel Bailey, Cllr Rhoda Bailey, Cllr P Bates, Cllr G Baxendale, Cllr M Beanland, Cllr D Bebbington, Cllr S Brookfield, Cllr E Brooks, Cllr D Brown, Cllr C Browne, Cllr B Burkhill, Cllr P Butterill, Cllr S Carter, Cllr C Chapman, Cllr J Clowes, Cllr S Corcoran, Cllr H Davenport, Cllr S Davies, Cllr M Deakin, Cllr Tony Dean, Cllr B Dooley, Cllr L Durham, Cllr S Edgar, Cllr I Faseyi, Cllr JP Findlow, Cllr R Fletcher, Cllr D Flude, Cllr T Fox, Cllr S Gardiner, Cllr S Gardner, Cllr M Grant, Cllr P Groves, Cllr J Hammond, Cllr M Hardy, Cllr A Harewood, Cllr G Hayes,

Cllr S Hogben, Cllr D Hough, Cllr O Hunter, Cllr J Jackson, Cllr L Jeuda, Cllr A Kolker, Cllr J Macrae, Cllr D Mahon, Cllr N Mannion, Cllr D Marren, Cllr A Martin, Cllr R Menlove, Cllr G Merry, Cllr A Moran, Cllr B Moran, Cllr H Murray, Cllr D Newton, Cllr M Parsons, Cllr S Pochin, Cllr J Rhodes, Cllr B Roberts, Cllr J Saunders, Cllr Sewart, Cllr M Simon, Cllr D Stockton, Cllr A Stott, Cllr G Wait, Cllr B Walmsley, Cllr G Walton, Cllr L Wardlaw, Cllr M Warren, Cllr J Weatherill, Cllr H Wells-Bradshaw, Cllr G Williams, Cllr J Wray.

Not Voting

Cllr H Gaddum

The motion was declared carried with 76 votes for and 1 not voting.

RESOLVED

That the Council Tax for Cheshire East Council for the financial year 2016/17, be set at £1,261.95, in accordance with the formal resolutions as follows:-

Formal Resolution

- 1 That it be noted that on 17th December 2015 the Council calculated the Council Tax base 2016/17:-
 - (a) for the whole Council area as 142,186.60 (item T in the formula in Section 31B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended (the "Act")).
 - (b) for individual parishes, as in Appendix A to the report.
2. Calculated that the Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2016/17 (excluding Parish precepts) is £179,432,775.
- 3 That the following amounts be calculated for the year 2016/17 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Act:-
 - a. £647,789,528 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.
 - b. £461,966,056 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act.
 - c. £185,823,472 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).
 - d. £1,306.90 being the amount at 3(c) above divided by the amount at 1(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 (including Parish precepts).

e. £6,390,697 being the aggregate amount of all special items (Parish precepts) referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act

f. £1,261.95 being the amount at 3(d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 3(e) above by the amount at 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 precept relates.

g. Annex A being the amounts calculated by the Council, in accordance with regulations 3 and 6 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 1992, as its total council tax base for the year and council tax base for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate.

h. Annex B being the amounts given by adding to the amount at (f) above, the amounts of special items relating to dwellings in those parts of the Council's area mentioned above divided by in each case the appropriate tax base from Annex A, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 34(3) of the 1992 Act, as the basic amounts of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of the area to which one or more special items relate. (Band D charges for each Parish area).

i. Annex C being the amounts given by multiplying the amount at (h) above by the number which, in the proportion set out in Section 5(1) of the 1992 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 1992 Act, as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands (Local charges for all Bands).

j. Annex D being the aggregate of the local charges in (i) above and the amounts levied by major precepting authorities, calculated in accordance with Section 30(2) of the 1992 Act (The total Council Tax charge for each band in each Parish area).

- 4 It be noted that the Police & Crime Commissioner and the Fire Authority have issued precepts to Cheshire East Council in accordance with section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 for each category of dwellings in the Council's area, as shown in sections 10 and 11 of the report..
- 5 It was accepted that Cheshire East Council's basic amount of Council tax for 2016/17 was not excessive in accordance with principles

approved under Section 52ZB and 52ZC of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.

76 RECOMMENDATION FROM STAFFING COMMITTEE: PAY POLICY STATEMENT 2016/17

Consideration was given to a recommendation from Staffing Committee relating to the Pay Policy Statement 2016/17.

Section 38 of the Localism Act 2011 required local authorities to produce a Pay Policy Statement by 31 March on an annual basis. Regard had to be given to any guidance from the Secretary of State in producing this statement and the Local Government Transparency Code 2015.

The Pay Policy Statement for 2016/17, which reflected the expected position as at 1st April 2016, was attached as Appendix 1 to the report. Significant changes since last year's Statement were outlined in Section 12 of the report.

The recommendation from Staffing Committee was moved and seconded.

RESOLVED

1. That the significant changes since the 2015/16 Pay Policy Statement be noted, as outlined in Section 12.2 of the report.
2. That the Pay Policy Statement for 2016/17, as recommended by the Staffing Committee, be approved and published accordingly.

77 RECOMMENDATIONS FROM CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE : PROPOSALS TO FURTHER THE COUNCIL'S EFFORTS TO BE MORE OPEN

The Constitution Committee, at its meeting on 18 February 2016, had considered a report outlining a number of proposals by the Constitution Member Working Group.

Council was required to approve one of the proposals, namely a job description for Committee Chairmen, attached at Appendix 1 to the report.

The recommendation from the Constitution Committee was moved and seconded.

RESOLVED

That the job description for Committee Chairmen, as attached at Appendix 1 of the report to the Constitution Committee, be approved and adopted.

78 NOTICES OF MOTION

Two Notices of Motion had been submitted to Council in accordance with Procedure Rule 12. The Motions were proposed and seconded and referred to the relevant decision-making body for determination as follows:

1 **Potential Effects of Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership on Local Authorities**

Proposed by Councillor J Jackson and Seconded by Councillor A Harewood.

This Council notes:

1. That the EU and USA launched negotiations in July 2013 on a Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP).
2. That negotiations are underway to determine which goods and services TTIP will apply to and if new rules can be agreed to protect investors, harmonise standards, reduce tariffs and open new markets throughout the EU and USA.
3. That there has been no impact assessment about the potential impact on local authorities.
4. That there has been no scrutiny of the negotiating texts by local government and no consultation with local government representatives
5. That MPs are also unable to scrutinise the negotiating documents.

This Council wishes to express a concern that:

1. TTIP could have a detrimental impact on local services, employment, suppliers and decision-making.
2. A thorough impact assessment of TTIP on local authorities has not been undertaken and this needs to happen before the negotiations can be concluded.
3. The proposed Investor State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) mechanism has been used by corporations to overturn democratic decisions by all levels of governments at significant public cost. Local decision-making must be protected from ISDS.
4. Sourcing supplies and employment locally is important to strengthening local economies and meeting local needs and TTIP must not impact on local authorities' ability to act in the best interests of its communities.

This Council resolves:

1. To write to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, our local MPs and the North-West region MEPs raising our serious concerns about the potential impact of TTIP (and especially the proposed ISDS mechanism) on local authorities.
2. To call for an impact assessment on the potential impact of TTIP on local authorities.

The Motion was referred to Cabinet.

2 Ethical Investment Guidelines

Proposed by Councillor S Corcoran and Seconded by Councillor L Jeuda.

Council notes with alarm the recent statement from the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) confirming that new guidelines will be introduced in 2016 which will curb councils' powers to divest from or stop trading with organisations or countries they regard as unethical.

Council recognises that the focus of these new measures may be on procurement and investment policies and that they may have profound implications for councils' ethical investment policies more generally.

Council believes that the proposed measures now being outlined by the DCLG will seriously undermine the Council's ability to commit to ethical procurement and investments.

Council also notes that the new guidelines represent an attack on local democracy and decision-making through a restriction on councils' powers. This is directly contrary to the government's own stated commitment to the principle of localism, given a statutory basis by the Localism Act of 2011, which holds that local authorities are best able to do their job when they have genuine freedom to respond to what local people want, not what they are told to do by government.

Council therefore requests Cabinet takes action to oppose these new measures, including writing to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government to express Council's opposition to the proposed changes.

The Motion was referred to Cabinet.

79 **QUESTIONS**

Members asked the following questions:-

Councillor S Carter in respect of meetings between representatives from the Council and the King School, Macclesfield. The Leader of the Council responded.

Councillor J Jackson in respect of the developers selected for the development of Macclesfield Town Centre. The Leader of the Council responded.

Councillor M Hardy in respect of local feedback to the state of the highways. Councillor D Brown responded.

Councillor N Mannion in respect of fracking. The Leader of the Council responded.

Councillor D Bailey in respect of the closing down of respite care in Shavington and Children's Centres. The Leader of the Council responded.

Councillor L Jeuda in respect of Paradise Mill, Macclesfield. The Leader of the Council undertook to provide a written response.

Councillor B Roberts in respect of the Clean for the Queen weekend. Councillor G Williams responded.

80 **ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING**

Council agreed that the meeting would stand adjourned until 10.00 am on Friday 26 February 2016.

Minutes of a re-convened meeting of the **Council**
held on Friday, 26th February, 2016 at Crewe Alexandra Football Club, Gresty
Road, Crewe, CW2 6EB

PRESENT

Councillor H Gaddum (Mayor/Chairman)
Councillor O Hunter (Deputy Mayor/Vice-Chairman)

Councillors C Andrew, A Arnold, D Bailey, Rachel Bailey, Rhoda Bailey, Baggott, G Barton, P Bates, G Baxendale, M Beanland, D Bebbington, S Brookfield, E Brooks, D Brown, C Browne, B Burkhill, P Butterill, C Chapman, J Clowes, S Corcoran, H Davenport, W S Davies, M Deakin, T Dean, L Durham, S Edgar, I Faseyi, JP Findlow, R Fletcher, T Fox, D Flude, S Gardiner, S Gardner, M Grant, P Groves, J Hammond, M Hardy, A Harewood, G Hayes, S Hogben, D Hough, J Jackson, L Jeuda, A Kolker, D Mahon, N Mannion, A Martin, S McGrory, R Menlove, G Merry, A Moran, B Moran, H Murray, D Newton, M Parsons, S Pochin, J Rhodes, B Roberts, J Saunders, M Sewart, M Simon, L Smetham, D Stockton, A Stott, G Wait, B Walmsley, G M Walton, M Warren, M J Weatherill, H Wells-Bradshaw, J Weston, G Williams and J Wray

81 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors S Carter, B Dooley, L Gilbert, M Jones, J Macrae, D Marren, L Wardlaw and J Weston.

82 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Mayor noted again those matters previously noted under item 3 of these Minutes (Declarations of Interest) and then invited Members to declare to the meeting if they had a disclosable pecuniary interest (or any other interest); and/or if they felt they were unable to approach the debate and vote on any item on the agenda with an open mind.

No declarations were made.

The Mayor informed the meeting that, as has been her practice in the past, she was not minded to vote on any matter unless a casting vote was required.

83 PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME FOR THE ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED ON 26 FEBRUARY 2016

The Mayor stated that she would incorporate public speaking into Item 21 (Cheshire East Local Plan), as appropriate, to allow speakers to speak at the beginning of the morning and afternoon session in which it was intended that the item in question would be dealt with. It was proposed that the morning session dealt with the introduction, Strategic Policies and issues relating to Crewe, Macclesfield, Alsager, Congleton, Handforth (including new

settlement), Knutsford, Middlewich and Nantwich. Issues relating to Poynton, Sandbach, Wilmslow and other sites and settlements would be dealt with during the afternoon.

84 **CHESHIRE EAST LOCAL PLAN**

Consideration was given to a report regarding proposed changes to the Cheshire East Local Plan Strategy, alongside the Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) and Sustainability (Integrated) Appraisal (SA) Addendums for public consultation, together with the recommendations of the Strategic Planning Board meeting on 18 February and the Cabinet meeting on 23 February.

The recommendations as set out on page 372 of the report, together with the recommendations of the Strategic Planning Board and of Cabinet, were proposed by Councillor Rachel Bailey and seconded by Councillor David Brown.

Although it was not common practice for officers to speak at full Council meetings, in this instance and in view of the importance of the Local Plan to the Council, a series of presentations was given by Mr A Fisher, the Council's Head of Planning Strategy.

Following a presentation on strategic policies by the Head of Planning Strategy, the following members of the public spoke in respect of the Cheshire East Local Plan:

Mrs Sue Helliwell
Mr Keith Williams
Mr David Lewis
Ms Eileen Furr
Mr Brian Chaplin
Mr Andrew Haldane
Ms Heather Jones
Mr Pat Cullen

The Member debate on strategic policies was followed by closing comments by Councillor Rachel Bailey, the proposer of the motion.

Presentations by the Head of Planning Strategy on Crewe & Nantwich, Macclesfield, Handforth & Knutsford, and Alsager, Congleton & Middlewich were followed by Member debate and closing comments by Councillor Rachel Bailey.

The meeting adjourned for lunch at 1 pm and reconvened at 1.45 pm

The following members of the public spoke in respect of the Cheshire East Local Plan:

Mr Ashley Weinberg
Mr Roger Bagguley
Mr Manuel Golding

Presentations by the Head of Planning Strategy on Poynton & Sandbach, and Wilmslow and “other sites” were followed by Member debate and closing comments by Councillor Rachel Bailey.

The following amendments were proposed and seconded and declared lost:

- On page 89 of the Local Plan Strategy in the section Vision for Key Service Centres – to not delete the words “to meet local needs” Proposed: Councillor D Hough Seconded: Councillor R Fletcher
- To remove CS41 Chelford Road / Whirley Road. This site should be removed the site allocations and therefore the Local Plan Strategy as it fails the site selection methodology namely impact on infrastructure, including transports networks, and schools. Proposed: Councillor M Hardy Seconded: Councillor L Durham
- To omit the Site CS43 ‘Radway Green North’ in Alsager. Proposed: Councillor D Hough Seconded: Councillor R Fletcher
- Policy CS24 (Capricorn): The area in the south of the site currently designated as housing should be designated as mixed use (where planning permission has not already been granted) and add new paragraph to say “the land designated as mixed use will only be used for housing if it can be demonstrated that there is no demand for employment use and/or employment use is not viable.” Proposed: Councillor S Corcoran Seconded: Councillor S Hogben
- To remove Policies CS62 and CS63 from the Local Plan Strategy Proposed: Councillor T Fox Seconded: Councillor A Moran
- That the safeguarded land (Wm 33) at Cumber Lane / Upcast Lane, be reduced to the previously suggested allocation (CS36) as detailed on page LPS 547. This was a late inclusion that fails to take account of widespread local opposition and acknowledged access problems. The impact on Lindow School and local sporting groups such as Lindow Cricket Club would be unacceptable. Proposed: Councillor G Barton Seconded: Councillor E Brooks
- That the land west of Alderley Road (part of CS26) that is a vital green corridor in Wilmslow and was an unwelcome late addition to the Plan, and was previously designated as ‘protected open space’ be removed from the Local Plan Strategy. Proposed: Councillor G Barton Seconded: Councillor R Menlove
- To delete paragraph 2.4 of the Council Report such that after the consultation period is over any further proposed changes to the Local Plan

Strategy should be referred to Full Council. Proposed: Councillor A Moran
Seconded: Councillor M Parsons

The following amendments were proposed and seconded and declared carried:

- The Director of Planning and Sustainable Development, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder, amend the supporting text to policy CS9 to make it clear the site encompasses open farm land as well as the school and its curtilage. Especially at point 15.155 which should include reference to the farmland. Proposed: Councillor M Warren Seconded: Councillor J Jackson
- To add the words “Detailed design considerations would be decided at that future point” at the end of paragraph 15.179k under Policy CS32 of the Local Plan Strategy. Proposed: Councillor L Durham Seconded: Councillor M Hardy
- An amendment to the descriptive wording for the proposed Knutsford employment site, land west of Manchester Road (Policy CS 18(B)) such that the development of this site is restricted to a quality development for B1 use only, with the wording to be delegated to the Director of Planning and Sustainable Development, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder. Proposed: Councillor T Dean Seconded: Councillor S Gardiner
- Strategic sites related to the Congleton Link Road state that funding is for the link road and the A34 Corridor. The reference to the A34 Corridor should be removed from the following policies: CS44, CS45, CS16, CS46, CS17, CS47. Proposed: Councillor D Brown Seconded: Councillor G Baxendale
- The Director of Planning and Sustainable Development, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder, be authorised to amend the introduction to Middlewich to emphasise the role of the By-Pass both strategically and locally, and to modify the wording of paragraphs 2.288 and 15.303 to be consistent in reference to the station and to alter the map figure 15.34 to show better location options for a railway station between CS54 and CS56. Proposed: Councillor S McGrory Seconded: Councillor D Brown
- Policy CS24 (Capricorn): The wording in the Local Plan Strategy relating to 20 hectares of employment land should be strengthened with a view to protecting and safeguarding its retention and delivery. Thus paragraphs 15.344, 15.345 and 15.346 should be enhanced accordingly, with the precise additional wording to be delegated to the Director of Planning and Sustainable Development, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder. Proposed: Councillor B Moran Seconded: Councillor G Wait
- To add wording to Policy CS61 to protect residents overlooking Little Stanneylands, Wilmslow with such wording delegated to the Director of Planning and Sustainable Development, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder. Proposed: Councillor D Stockton Seconded: Councillor R Menlove

- The Director of Planning and Sustainable Development, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder, adds clarity to Policy CS26 so it is clear that additional educational buildings related to the existing and future use of the protected open space as playing fields or school curtilage will be permitted in principle. Proposed: Councillor G Hayes Seconded: Councillor P Bates

A requisition for a recorded vote on the substantive motion was submitted and duly supported in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 15.2, with the following result:

For

Councillors C Andrew, A Arnold, G Baggott, D Bailey, Rachel Bailey, Rhoda Bailey, P Bates, G Baxendale, D Bebbington, S Brookfield, D Brown, C Browne, P Butterill, C Chapman, J Clowes, H Davenport, S Davies, M Deakin, T Dean, L Durham, S Edgar, I Faseyi, J P Findlow, S Gardiner, S Gardner, M Grant, P Groves, J Hammond, A Harewood, G Hayes, O Hunter, A Kolker, A Martin, S McGrory, R Menlove, G Merry, A Moran, B Moran, D Newton, M Parsons, S Pochin, J Rhodes, B Roberts, M Simon, L Smetham, D Stockton, G Wait, B Walmsley, G Walton, J Weatherill, H Wells-Bradshaw, G Williams, J Wray

Against

Councillors B Burkhill, T Fox

Not Voting

Councillors G Barton, M Beanland, E Brooks, R Fletcher, D Flude, H Gaddum, M Hardy, S Hogben, D Hough, J Jackson, L Jeuda, D Mahon, H Murray, J Saunders, M Sewart, A Stott, M Warren

The motion was carried by 53 votes for, 2 against and 17 not voting.

RESOLVED

1. That the Sustainability (Integrated) Appraisal and Habitats Regulation Assessment Addendums (Appendix 5 to the report) be approved for public consultation and submission to the Inspector.
2. That the proposed changes to the Local Plan Strategy (Appendix 1 to the report) be approved for public consultation and submission to the Inspector, subject to the following amendments:
 - An amendment to be made by the Head of Planning Strategy to the plan at figure 15.50 on page LPS525 to remove from that plan a small area of land hatched red to the north of the site (Mereside Car Park) which had been included in the red hatching in error.

- Replace the wording in paragraph 15.96F as follows:

EXISTING PARAGRAPH 15.96F (REPLACE)

A new pedestrian and cycle link will be created south of the railway line to Basford East. This must provide a safe and secure environment for children to travel to school. For example it could take the form of an attractive country lane with low density housing, which will afford a lit and overlooked route.

PARAGRAPH 15.96F NEW WORDING:

A new pedestrian and cycle link will be created to Basford East. This must provide a safe and secure environment for children to travel to school . Priority should be given to a route on the north of the Railway line, combined with a cycle / footbridge. Only if after thorough exploration a northern route proves unfeasible, will an access south of the railway be permitted. This could take the form of an all-weather lit route. No vehicular link to Basford East will be permitted.

- The Director of Planning and Sustainable Development, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder, amend the supporting text to policy CS9 to make it clear the site encompasses open farm land as well as the school and its curtilage. Especially at point 15.155 which should include reference to the farmland.
- To add the words “Detailed design considerations would be decided at that future point” at the end of paragraph 15.179k under Policy CS32 of the Local Plan Strategy.
- An amendment to the descriptive wording for the proposed Knutsford employment site, land west of Manchester Road (Policy CS 18(B)) such that the development of this site is restricted to a quality development for B1 use only, with the wording to be delegated to the Director of Planning and Sustainable Development, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder.
- Strategic sites related to the Congleton Link Road state that funding is for the link road and the A34 Corridor. The reference to the A34 Corridor should be removed from the following policies: CS44, CS45, CS16, CS46, CS17, CS47.
- The Director of Planning and Sustainable Development, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder, be authorised to amend the introduction to Middlewich to emphasise the role of the By-Pass both strategically and locally, and to modify the wording of paragraphs 2.288 and 15.303 to be consistent in reference to the station and to alter the map figure 15.34 to show better location options for a railway station between CS54 and CS56.
- Policy CS24 (Capricorn): The wording in the Local Plan Strategy relating to 20 hectares of employment land should be strengthened with a view to protecting and safeguarding its retention and delivery. Thus paragraphs 15.344, 15.345 and 15.346 should be enhanced

accordingly, with the precise additional wording to be delegated to the Director of Planning and Sustainable Development, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder.

- To add wording to Policy CS61 to protect residents overlooking Little Stanneylands, Wilmslow with such wording delegated to the Director of Planning and Sustainable Development, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder.
 - The Director of Planning and Sustainable Development, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder, adds clarity to Policy CS26 so it is clear that additional educational buildings related to the existing and future use of the protected open space as playing fields or school curtilage will be permitted in principle.
3. That the Director of Planning and Sustainable Development be authorised (in consultation with the Portfolio Holder) to make any typographical, formatting and/or inconsequential changes to the Local Plan Strategy documents to correct any drafting errors or anomalies identified prior to the lodging of the same for consultation.
 4. That authority be delegated to the Executive Director of Growth & Prosperity in consultation with the Cabinet Portfolio Holder, Party Group Leaders and the Chairman & Vice-Chairman of Strategic Planning Board to approve any further proposed changes to the Local Plan Strategy that may be necessary or appropriate following consultation.

85 LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Leader made announcements in relation to the following:

- Performance monitoring
- Member Development
- A review of Overview and Scrutiny
- Changes to Cabinet. Appointments to the Cabinet, and the responsibilities allocated to each Cabinet Member, were announced, as appended to these minutes
- Strategic Infrastructure, including HS2 and the local highway network
- Countryside, Culture & Visitor Economy
- Investment, including the launch of the Council's latest ASDV, *The Skills and Growth Company*
- Planning and Development Management
- Regeneration, including development projects in Crewe and Macclesfield
- The appointment of a Corporate Parenting Committee
- Endorsement of the work of the Council's ASDVs

The appointment of Councillor Ellie Brooks as Heritage Champion was announced by the Leader and noted by Council.

A copy of the Leader's announcements would be circulated to all Members of the Council.

On Thursday 25 February 2016 the meeting commenced at 10.00 am and concluded at 2.45 pm and on Friday 26 February 2016 the meeting commenced at 10.00 am and concluded at 5.35 pm

Councillor H Gaddum (Mayor/Chairman)
CHAIRMAN