

THE SPECIAL MEETING OF EXETER CITY COUNCIL

Guildhall
Tuesday 22 February 2011

The Right Worshipful the Lord Mayor (Cllr Choules)
The Deputy Lord Mayor (Cllr Sheldon)
Councillors D Baldwin, M A Baldwin, Branston, P J Brock, S Brock, Coates, Cole, Crow,
Mrs Danks, Edwards, Fullam, A Hannaford, R M Hannaford, Mrs Henson, Hobden,
Macdonald, Martin, Mitchell, Morris, Mrs J Morrish, Mottram, Newby, Newcombe, Newton,
Payne, Prowse, Robson, Ruffle, Shiel, Spackman, Sterry, Sutton, Taghdissian, Thompson,
Wardle, Wadham and Winterbottom

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BUDGET 2011/12

Councillor Newton declared a personal interest as one of her employers had previously received funding from the Exeter Positive Steps Fund.

Councillor Martin declared a personal interest as a Trustee of Exeter Community Transport Association.

Councillor Spackman declared a personal interest as an employee of a Union involved in the negotiations in respect of the Local Government pay agreement.

Councillor Edwards, the Leader of the Council, moved and Councillor D. Baldwin seconded the resolution as set out on the agenda papers in respect of the Council Tax for 2011-2012.

Executive, 8 February 2011 – Minute 14

Councillor Mrs Henson moved and Councillor Taghdissian seconded an amendment to Minute 14 of the recommendation of Executive of 8 February 2011 in the following terms:

“That this Council gives a commitment to work with all groups participating in recreational playing opportunities by allowing leagues, clubs and other partners the opportunity of working/engaging with the City Council to explore alternative ways to save costs and deliver the Council’s priorities whilst avoiding closure or reduction in facilities which are of immense value to the community”.

The amendment was carried.

In light of the guidance issued by the Local Government Employers that there would be no pay rise for council staff in the coming financial year, the Liberal Democrat Group proposed that the provision set aside by the Council for a pay rise of 1% would not be fully required. The Liberal Democrat Group proposed that £60,000 of that provision be used to reduce some of the proposed cuts now and the rest to be set against cuts required in coming years. The Group was therefore putting forward a revenue-neutral amendment for consideration.

Councillor Fullam, having given notice as required by Standing Order 10 (7) and on behalf of the Liberal Democrat Group, moved and Councillor Mitchell seconded a further amendment to Minute 14(1) of the recommendation of Executive of 8 February 2011, and a consequential amendment to the Council’s budget resolution, in the following terms:

“The Executive minute be amended so that minute 14(1) becomes 14(1)(a) below and 14(1)(b) to 14(1)(f) inserted:

- (1a) the Council’s overall spending proposals in respect of both its revenue and capital budgets be approved;
- (1b) the provision for next year’s pay award be reduced by £60,000, a reduction in provision from 1% to approximately 0.7%;
- (1c) the proposal to reduce the Parks and Open Spaces Reactive Team budget by £17,300 be removed;
- (1d) the proposal to reduce the Community Patrol budget by £68,000 be amended to propose a reduction of £42,300;
- (1e) the proposal to stop the contribution of £31,200 to Exeter Positive Steps be amended to propose a contribution of £15,000; and
- (1f) the proposal to stop the contribution of £7,000 to the Vibrasonic Festival be amended to propose a contribution of £2,000.”

Councillors spoke on the amendment.

The amended motion was put to the vote and carried. Minute 14(1) of the meeting of Executive on 8 February 2011 was consequently adopted as amended.

Budget 2011/12

The following resolution, as set out on the agenda papers, which sought to maintain Exeter City Council’s Council Tax at the current level was adopted:-

RESOLVED:-

- (1) That the following, as submitted in the Estimates Book, be approved:-
 - (a) the Revenue estimates for 2011-2012;
 - (b) the Capital programme for 2011-2012;
- (2) That it be noted that, at the meeting of the Executive on the 25 January 2011, the Council calculated the figure of 37,943, as its council tax base for the year 2011-2012 in accordance with regulation 2 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2003 made under Section 33(5) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992;
- (3) That the following amounts be now calculated by the Council for the year 2011-2012 in accordance with Sections 32 to 36 of the Local Government and Finance Act 1992:-
 - (a) £105,403,000 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32(2)(a) to (e) of the Act;
 - (b) £91,267,950 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32(3)(a) to (c) of the Act;

- (c) £14,135,050 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 32(4) of the Act, as its budget requirement for the year;
- (d) £9,398,246 being the aggregate of the sums which the Council estimates will be payable for the year into its General Fund in respect of redistributed non-domestic rates, revenue support grant and indicative council tax freeze grant;
- (e) £124.84 being the amount at (3)(c) above less the amount at (3)(d) above, all divided by the amount at 2 above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 33(1) of the Act, as the basic amount of its council tax for the year;

(f) Valuation Bands

A	B	C	D
£83.23	£97.10	£110.97	£124.84
E	F	G	H
£152.58	£180.32	£208.07	£249.68

being the amount given by multiplying the amount at (3)(e) 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 that, for the year 2011-2012, Devon County Council, the Devon and Cornwall Police Authority and the Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Authority have stated the following amounts in precepts issued to the Council, in accordance with Section 83 of the Local Government Act 2003, for each of the categories of the dwellings shown below:-

Devon County Council
Valuation Bands

A	B	C	D
£744.24	£868.28	£992.32	£1,116.36
E	F	G	H
£1,364.44	£1,612.52	£1,860.60	£2,232.72

Devon and Cornwall Police Authority
Valuation Bands

A	B	C	D
£104.40	£121.80	£139.20	£156.60
E	F	G	H
£191.40	£226.20	£261.00	£313.20

Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Authority
Valuation Bands

A	B	C	D
£47.85	£55.82	£63.80	£71.77
E	F	G	H
£87.72	£103.67	£119.62	£143.54

- (5) That, having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at (3)(f) and (4) above, the Council, in accordance with Section 30(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby set the following amounts as the amounts of council tax for the year 2011-2012 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:-

Valuation Bands

A	B	C	D
£979.72	£1,143.00	£1,306.29	£1,469.57
E	F	G	H
£1,796.14	£2,122.71	£2,449.29	£2,939.14

(The meeting commenced at 6.03 pm and closed at 7.45 pm)

Chair