

Minutes of the MEETING OF MILTON KEYNES COUNCIL held on WEDNESDAY  
24 FEBRUARY 2021 at 7.30 pm

**Present:** Councillor A Geary (Mayor)  
Councillors Baines, Baume, Bint, Bowyer, Brackenbury,  
K Bradburn, M Bradburn, R Bradburn, Brown, Cannon, Carr, Crooks,  
Cryer-Whitehead, Darlington, Exon, Ferrans, P Geary, Gilbert,  
Gowans, Green, D Hopkins, V Hopkins, Hosking, Jenkins, Khan,  
Lancaster, Long, Marland, Marlow, McCall, McLean, McPake,  
Middleton, Miles, Minns, Montague, Nazir, Nolan, O'Neill, Petchey,  
Priestley, Raja, Rankine, Reilly, Trendall, Townsend, Wales, Walker,  
Wallis, Williams, C Wilson-Marklew and J Wilson-Marklew  
Alderman Bartlett

**Apologies:** Councillors Alexander and Legg and Aldermen Beeley, Bristow,  
Coventry, Henderson, Howell and McKenzie and Alderwomen  
Henderson, Irons, Lloyd and Saunders

**Also Present:** 37 members of the public

**CL92**

**MINUTES**

RESOLVED -

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on  
20 January 2021 be approved and signed by the Mayor as a correct  
record.

**CL93**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor reminded councillors that the deadline for submission of  
Ward Based Budget Applications was Sunday 28 February 2021 and  
that the pre-election restrictions on publicity would come into force  
from 24 March 2021.

The Mayor also wished, on behalf of the Council, Councillor Alexander,  
who was currently ill in hospital, a speedy recovery.

**CL94**

**DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS**

The Council was advised that as any payment of, or liability to pay,  
Council Tax did not create a disclosable pecuniary interest as defined  
in the national rules; all councillors were eligible to take part in the  
business of setting the Council Tax or precept.

Councillor Wales advised the Council, in respect of the Council's  
consideration of the Council Budget 2021/22 and the Medium Term

Financial Plan 2021/22 to 2024/25, in particular the Conservative amendment regarding the flood alleviation works on London Road, Loughton, that she was a resident of London Road, but had never experienced the flooding of her property and therefore she did not consider, having taken advice from officers, that she was precluded from taking part in any discussions or votes the Council might have on the matter.

## CL95

### QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

- (a) Question from Susan Fitch to Councillor Middleton (Cabinet member for Resources)

Susan Fitch, referring to the recent budget consultation by the Council, asked Councillor Middleton how many of the submissions by members of the public asked for funding to be included in the budget to renovate the Galley Hill Community Centre.

- (b) Question from David Tavener to Councillor Middleton (Cabinet member for Resources)

David Tavener, expressing his opinion that the draft budget failed to include sufficient monies to renovate the Galley Hill Community Centre and referring to a recent survey of Galley Hill residents which identified 199 households who would back the Community Centre and Arts Centre being renovated and given back to the local area for community use, with 77 of those households having residents who were prepared to help with the running of the Centre, asked Councillor Middleton if the Council would ensure that sufficient funds were available to carry out the renovation of the Galley Hill Community Centre.

- (c) Question from Paul Randall to Councillor Middleton (Cabinet member for Resources)

Paul Randall, referring to lobbying by many Galley Hill residents, the Galley Hill Residents Association and Stony Stratford Town Council for the renovation of the Galley Hill Community Centre along with the attached Arts Centre, asked Councillor Middleton if the Council would arrange for funds to be made available to renovate the Community Centre.

- (d) Question from Roy Adams to Councillor Middleton (Cabinet member for Resources)

Roy Adams, referring to what he believed to be a lack of action by the Council to renovate Galley Hill Community Centre and bring the building back into proper community use, asked Councillor Middleton if the Council would confirm that it would earmark sufficient funds to refurbish the building and actively work with Stony Stratford Town Council to bring the building back to a state where it can be used by residents.

Councillor Middleton referred to the Leader's comments previously and the commitment he gave to refurbishing the Community Centre for the benefits of the community.

Councillor Middleton urged the persons asking the questions to continue to listen to the meeting as the Leader would reference the funding of the Community Centre as part of his comments when introducing the Budget.

David Tavener, referring to Galley Hill being one of the oldest estates in Milton Keynes, celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> year this year, as a supplementary question asked Councillor Middleton if the Council would also commit to funding a number of other items on the Galley Hill Estate, which had fallen into disrepair, alongside the Community Centre refurbishment.

Councillor Middleton indicated that the Leader would also be referring to the Council's intended investment in 'getting the basics right' which would see a considerable investment in ensuring that areas across Milton Keynes looked their best.

Paul Randall, referring to the £150,000 that was to be included in the Budget to undertake the refurbishment of the Community Centre suggested that the sum might not be sufficient to undertake all of the works necessary. As a supplementary question, Paul Randall asked Councillor Middleton to commit to fully funding a complete refurbishment.

Councillor Middleton reiterated his previous comment urging the persons asking questions to continue to listen to the meeting, as the Leader would reference the funding of the Community Centre as part of his comments when introducing the Budget.

Roy Adams, referring to the Council's undertaking to carry out a condition survey of the Community Centre, asked Councillor Middleton, as a supplementary question, if the survey had been completed and, if so, would the results be shared with Stony Stratford Town Council and the wider Galley Hill community.

Councillor Middleton indicated that the survey had been completed and the Council was therefore aware of the state of the building and the cost of the refurbishment.

Councillor Middleton again suggested that the persons asking questions should continue to listen to the meeting and the Leader's statement.

(e) Question from Ethan Wilkinson to Councillor Darlington (Cabinet member for Public Realm)

Ethan Wilkinson, referring to the £7.9 million the Council had received from the Government for road repairs including potholes, asked Councillor Darlington how and when the Council would use the money to make the Borough's roads safe.

Councillor Darlington indicated that the money allocated by Government for pothole repairs remained the same as the previous year, so allowing the Council to continue with its current repair programme. However, the overall funding provided by Government towards the Highways Maintenance Budget had been reduced by £1.3m, jeopardising road safety schemes such as introducing 20mph speed limits.

Ethan Wilkinson, as a supplementary question, asked Councillor Darlington why, if the Council had the money, all the potholes on Burchard Crescent, Shenley Church End had not been filled or the road resurfaced.

Ethan Wilkinson also asked when the remaining potholes on Burchard Crescent would be fixed.

Councillor Darlington reiterated that the Council had received the same amount of Grant from the Government as in 2019/20 and indicated that complaints about potholes had halved. The Council now tried to repair potholes permanently and was one of the top 10 local authorities in the country when it came to repairing potholes.

Councillor Darlington outlined that this was one of the worst times of year for potholes to form because of the rain and ice, but that the Council was making every effort to fix potholes as fast as possible.

Councillor Darlington advised Ethan Wilkinson to contact Councillor Nolan, his local councillor, who would be able to help find out when the remaining potholes on Burchard Crescent would be repaired.

- (f) Question from Bill Walford to Councillor Middleton (Cabinet member for Resources)

Bill Walford, referring to the response given to his question asked at the Council meeting on 25 November 2020, which appeared to suggest that the Council intended to go ahead with the Evolve proposals for the Windmill Hill Golf Course site, asked Councillor Middleton why it appeared that no other potential developer had been invited to make proposals for the future of the site.

- (g) Question from Alan Hastings to Councillor Middleton (Cabinet member for Resources)

Alan Hastings, suggesting that the Council had a public duty to obtain value for money, by employing accepted procedures, such as preparing a detailed specification for contracts and seeking at least three tenders from suitable organisations that were financially, technically and managerially capable, asked Councillor Middleton to assure local tax payers that the Council had fully implemented all aspects of normally accepted procedures in selecting Evolve to go ahead with its ever changing development proposals for Windmill Hill Golf Course, thus giving the essential requirements of financial, technical and managerial certainty.

- (h) Question from Tarun Goel to Councillor Middleton (Cabinet member for Resources)

Tarun Goel, referring to the Evolve proposals for the redevelopment of the Windmill Hill Golf Course site which included a commitment to no net tree loss, asked Councillor Middleton if the Council would insist on any developer following Council Policy to plant two trees for every tree removed.

- (i) Question from Iain Layden to Councillor Middleton (Cabinet member for Resources)

Iain Layden, referring to his belief that there had been insufficient public and stakeholder involvement in developing proposals for the future of Windmill Hill Golf Course and the concerns of local people about the current proposals, asked Councillor Middleton to implement an extensive public consultation with local residents users and stakeholders before going any further with the Evolve proposals.

- (j) Question from Dr Simone Pitman to Councillor Middleton (Cabinet member for Resources)

Dr Simone Pitman, referring to the impact on the Economy of the Covid-19 Pandemic, asked Councillor Middleton to explain how the Council's development strategy would be shaped by the Pandemic and how the Council would plan future commercial, retail and leisure infrastructure and how that would impact on the redevelopment of the Windmill Hill Golf Course site.

- (j) Question from Dr Mark Pitman to Councillor Middleton (Cabinet member for Resources)

Dr Mark Pitman, referring to the Council's aspirations for Milton Keynes to be greenest and most sustainable city in the world, along with the extensive plans for the development of many green field sites, asked Councillor Middleton when the Council would start protecting its existing green leisure spaces such as Windmill Hill Golf Course, which provided a low carbon leisure facility .

Councillor Middleton advised that due to the various issues raised by the numerous questions that evening it had been decided to reschedule the decision on the future of Windmill hill Golf Course until June, to allow further engagement with interested residents, Ward councillors and West Bletchley Parish Council. To this end Councillor Middleton hoped to be able to hold an open meeting later in May.

Councillor Middleton also advised that the extra time would allow further discussions to take place with the Lawn Tennis Association which was looking for a regional base for its operations promoting and supporting the development of racquet-based sport.

Councillor Middleton confirmed that the Council had made no commitment to Evolve or any other company regarding the future of the Golf Course.

Councillor Middleton stressed the Council's commitment to developing biodiversity as part of any proposals for the Golf Course and committed to increase biodiversity while developing a regional sports facility which would benefit communities across Milton Keynes.

As far as any land transaction was concerned, Councillor Middleton was of the view that due to the number of options available this was best dealt with by the Council's expert officers. The land was currently being valued and Councillor Middleton hoped to share the valuation report with the Parish Council, Ward councillors and interested residents once it became available.

Bill Walford, as a supplementary question, asked Councillor Middleton if the Council would now be involving other companies that could develop a golf course.

Councillor Middleton indicated that the independent valuation report had been requested as a result of concerns expressed by residents. A decision on how best to proceed with the land transaction would be taken once the report was received. Councillor Middleton confirmed that the process being followed was no different to that which would be adopted by the Council for the disposal of any major asset.

Alan Hastings, as a supplementary question sought confirmation from Councillor Middleton that the public meeting in May would definitely take place.

Councillor Middleton confirmed his definite commitment to hold an open meeting with interested residents, Ward councillors and West Bletchley Parish Council later in May.

Iain Layden, as a supplementary question, asked Councillor Middleton if he agreed that involving local residents, golf course users and golf course staff in a full consultation process independent of the Evolve proposals was more likely to generate buy-in by local people than the approach currently being adopted and might also potentially generate new ideas, which Evolve hadn't considered.

Councillor Middleton indicated that he believed that as a result of the number of meetings with the community and the level of correspondence he had received, he had a good understanding of the community's views on the future of the Golf course.

Councillor Middleton explained that Windmill Hill Golf Course was making a loss in common with a number of other courses in the region and therefore it was not possible to maintain the status-quo and any proposals for the future of the Course needed to be viable.

Councillor Middleton undertook to work with Iain Layden so that he could understand how he could better listen to the views of the local community.

Dr Simone Pitman, as a supplementary question, asked Councillor Middleton to provide a written response to her original question which asked him to address the potential impact of the Covid-19 Pandemic on the planning of the commercial, retail and leisure infrastructure across Milton Keynes, bearing in mind the change in working habits which had seen more people working from home.

Councillor Middleton indicated that it was clear that the Covid-19 Pandemic would have a significant impact on how everybody lived their lives going forward. However, Windmill Hill Golf Course was a loss-making facility which the Council could not sustain. Therefore, it was necessary to come up with proposals that provided residents across Milton Keynes with a thriving leisure facility which allowed residents to be able to enjoy the green space and other sporting facilities.

Dr Mark Pitman, referring to Councillor Middleton's repeated statement that Windmill Hill Golf Course was loss making, as a supplementary question, asked Councillor Middleton whether it was true that he had been challenged on that statement.

Councillor Middleton confirmed that the issue had been raised with him on a number of occasions, also that he had seen the commercial accounts for the Golf Course which clearly showed that the Course was making a loss.

Councillor Middleton emphasised that all he was trying to do was to find a way to make the site viable while keeping it as a leisure facility.

(k) Question from Alderman Bartlett to Councillor Darlington  
(Cabinet member for Public Realm)

Alderman Bartlett asked Councillor Darlington on what legal basis was the Council using race and ethnicity as criteria in the appointment of elected Parish and Town councillors to the Parish Advisory Group and how the selection criteria adhered to and reflected the Council's equal opportunities policy and the Equalities Act.

Councillor Darlington outlined that the Parish Advisory Group was a non-statutory body set up by the Cabinet to advise and help inform decision making. There was no formal appointments process, but the Group's Terms of Reference provided for a diverse membership to reflect the communities the Council served.

Councillor Darlington emphasised that positive action of this nature was permitted by legislation, principally the Equalities Act 2010.

(l) Question from Scot Balazs to Councillor Marland (Leader of the Council)

Scot Balazs, referring to a recent judgement that statements made by senior officers of the Council regarding how data had been handled and released in respect of the Blakelands Warehouse Planning Application begged as many questions as they answered, asked Councillor Marland if agreed with the Judge.

Councillor Marland, referring to his previous apology to Blakelands' residents, emphasised that the Council had not always got things right and Blakelands was one of them, including how the Council had retained its data. However, the recent judgement on Freedom of Information / Environmental Information Regulations Request, was not against the Council, instead the Information Commissioner, who had supported the Council's approach.

Councillor Marland indicated that, as the Information Commissioner had supported the Council's approach, he did not believe that the Council had overstepped the mark. However, clearly the Council's record keeping should have been better and unfortunately this meant that some questions would have to remain unanswered, or not answered to the standard the Council would wish.

Scot Balazs, as a supplementary question, asked Councillor Marland if the Council would now commission a full external and independent audit report, bearing in mind the recent decision of the First Tier Tribunal Judge, about inappropriate data release and because it appeared that the findings in the Dorfman Report conflicted with those of the General Regulatory Chamber.

Councillor Marland indicated that he did not believe the statement by Scot Balazs correctly represented the findings in the Dorfman Report.

With regard to an external independent audit report Councillor Marland outlined that the possibility had been considered by the Council's Audit Committee and rejected.

Councillor Marland also addressed the decision by the Development Control Committee which had been found by three separate reports to be sound and lawful.

Councillor Marland suggested that if people had concerns about unlawful behaviour in the granting of the Blakelands Planning Permission they should present the evidence to the Police for investigation.

(m) Question from Shazna Muzammil to Councillor Darlington (Cabinet member for Public Realm)

Shazna Muzammil, referring to the recent introduction of an online booking system for the Household Waste Recycling Centres and noting the 16% increase in fly tipping, asked Councillor Darlington what the Administration was doing to tackle the noticeable increase in fly tipping.

Councillor Darlington stressed that the Council took fly tipping very seriously and to provide enhanced enforcement it would be seeking to double the allocation in the Budget 2021/22 to £200k.

Shazna Muzammil, referring to fly tipping on the Lakes Estate in Bletchley, asked Councillor Darlington as a supplementary question if she would commit to supporting the amendment to the Budget 2021/22, to be moved on behalf of the Conservative Group, to remove the booking system for the Waste Recycling Centres and the proposed charges for the disposal of some waste.

Councillor Darlington referred to the efforts of residents on the Lakes Estate and Town Councillor Ed Hume, to ensure that fly tipping was reported and / or cleared.

Councillor Darlington stated that there was no evidence linking the booking system for Waste Recycling Centres and the increase in fly tipping. There had been a 300% increase in fly tipping nationally, which had not been mirrored in Milton Keynes and which demonstrated that the measures being taken by the Council were working. So far during the year, the Council had issued 66 fixed penalty notices and 96 incidents had been caught on CCTV. Efforts would be doubled next year if the Budget increase was agreed.

- (n) Question from Joseph Hearnshaw to Councillor Darlington (Cabinet member for Public Realm)

Joseph Hearnshaw asked Councillor Darlington if the Council could promise that it would resurface roads in the Stony Stratford Ward where there was significant road damage, such as Wolverton Road and Vicarage Road.

Councillor Darlington indicated that both Wolverton Road and Vicarage Road were scheduled to be resurfaced during 2021/22.

Joseph Hearnshaw, as a supplementary question, asked Councillor Darlington if she could give a specific date as to when the roads would be resurfaced.

Councillor Darlington explained that due to the £1.3m cut in the Highways Grant provide by the Government, the 2021/22 Highways Maintenance Programme would be reviewed. However, Councillor Darlington gave an undertaking that both Wolverton Road and Vicarage Road would be resurfaced during 2021/22.

The Mayor indicated that as the 30 minutes allocated for questions from members of the public had been exceeded, the following questions from Charlotte Hall and Jonathan Street would receive written answers from Councillor Darlington, which would also be published on the CMIS pages of the Council's website.

- (o) Question from Charlotte Hall to Councillor Darlington (Cabinet member for Public Realm)

Noting that there had been 4,300 reports to the Council about Fly-tipping in the 9 months between April to December 2020, could Councillor Darlington please advise how many of these incidents had Council employees responded to and at what were the costs for collection and disposal of the waste.

- (p) Question from Jonathan Street to Councillor Darlington (Cabinet member for Public Realm)

How much was the current Administration investing in sorting out potholes in Redways.

**CL96**

**COUNCIL TAX BASE 2021/22 (FUNDING CONTRIBUTION TO PARISH AND TOWN COUNCILS)**

Councillor Middleton (Cabinet member for Resources) moved the following recommendation from the meeting of the Cabinet held on December 2020, which was seconded by Councillor Marland:

“That the proposed 2021/22 funding contribution to parish and town councils of £0.325m be approved as part of the final Budget in February 2021.”

On being put to the vote the recommendation was declared carried by acclamation.

RESOLVED -

That the proposed 2021/22 funding contribution to parish and town councils of £0.325m be agreed.

**CL97**

**COUNCIL BUDGET FOR 2021/22 AND MEDIUM-TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2021/22 – 2024/25**

Councillor Marland moved the recommendations from the meeting of the Cabinet held on 2 February 2021, together with recommendations relating to the precepts from the Thames Valley Police and Crime Commissioner, the Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes Fire Authority and parish / town councils, necessary for the Council to adopt when setting the level of Council Tax, which were seconded by Councillor O’Neill:

1. That the Revenue Budget 2021/22 totalling £210.434m be approved.
2. That the Council Tax at Band D of £1,465.59, for the Milton Keynes element of the Council Tax, be approved, noting that this is an increase of 2.50%, consisting of a 1.99% general increase and 0.51% Adult Social Care Precept.
3. That the Council Tax requirement for the Council’s own purposes for 2021/22 (excluding Parish Precepts) of £126.354m, be noted.
4. That the following amounts be calculated for the year 2021/22 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 [the “Act”]:

(a)	£56.800m	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 and town councils. (Gross expenditure including precepts)
(b)	£426.380m	Being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3). (Net income excluding Council Tax requirement.)
(c)	£135.420m	As its Council Tax requirement for the year, being the amount by which the aggregate at (a) above exceeds the aggregate at (b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31A(4).
(d)	£1,570.74	As the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year (including Parish Precepts), being the amount at (c) above, divided by the Council Tax Base agreed on 15 December 2020.
(e)	£9,065,655	Being the aggregate amount of all special items (Parish Precepts) referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act.
(f)	£1,465.59	Being the amount at (d) less the result given by dividing the amount at (e) above by the Council Tax Base agreed on 5 November 2019, as the basic amount of Council Tax for the year for Milton Keynes Council, excluding Parish and Major Precepting Authorities.

5. That the following amounts be calculated for Milton Keynes Council Tax:

	VALUATION BANDS							
	A £	B £	C £	D £	E £	F £	G £	H £
MKC with 1.99% Increase	893.48	1,042.39	1,191.31	1,340.22	1,638.05	1,935.87	2,233.70	2,680.44
Adult Social Care Levy Further 0.51% Increase	83.58	97.51	111.44	118.08	153.23	181.09	208.95	250.74
MKC Total 2.50%	977.06	1,139.90	1,302.75	1,465.59	1,791.28	2,116.96	2,442.65	2,931.18

6. That the amounts given by multiplying the amount at (f) by the number which, in the proportion set out in Section 5(1) of the Act, is applicable to all dwellings listed in each 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.
7. That for the year 2021/22, Police and Crime Commissioner for Thames Valley, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Act 1992, has stated the following precepts to the Council for each of the categories of dwellings:

VALUATION BANDS							
A £	B £	C £	D £	E £	F £	G £	H £
154.19	179.88	205.58	231.28	282.68	334.07	385.47	462.56

8. That for the year 2021/22, Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes Fire Authority, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Act 1992, has stated the following precepts to the Council for each of the categories of dwellings:

VALUATION BANDS							
A £	B £	C £	D £	E £	F £	G £	H £
44.77	52.24	59.70	67.16	82.08	97.01	111.93	134.32

9. That as a result of the above, the amounts of Council Tax (shown in **Appendices A and B**) be set in accordance with Sections 30 and 36 of the Local Government Act 1992, for each of the categories of dwelling shown in the Schedule.
10. That the 2021/22 levies payable to the Buckingham and River Ouzel Internal Drainage Board and the Environment Agency be noted.11. That the estimated position for the Dedicated Schools Grant for 2021/22 be noted.
11. That the estimated position for the Dedicated Schools Grant for 2021/22 be noted.
12. That the forecast parking surplus be noted.
13. That the Housing Revenue Account Revenue Budget 2021/22 be adopted.
14. That the Housing Revenue Account Dwelling Rent 2021/22, an increase of 1.5% as set out in paragraph 2.63, an average of £1.33 per week, be agreed.

15. That the advance payment of £17.606m employer pension contributions for 2021/22 be approved.
16. That the fees and charges for 2021/22 (including those fees and charges which are exceptions to the Income and Collection Policy) be approved.
17. That the Capital Strategy be approved.
18. That the Capital Programme for 2021/22 to 2024/25 be approved.
19. That the resource allocation for the 2021/22 Tariff programme be approved.
20. That the Treasury Management Strategy for 2021/22 to 2025/26 and the Treasury Policy Statement, including the Minimum Revenue Provision Policy, Borrowing Limits be approved.
21. That the financial forecast set out in the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP), in relation to both resources and expenditure, be noted.
22. The equalities impact assessments for the Revenue Budget 2021/22, as set out in Section 3 be noted.”

The Council heard from the Leaders of the Conservative and Liberal Democrat Groups, together with Councillor R Bradburn, Chair of the Budget and Resources Scrutiny Committee as well as receiving the response from Councillor Middleton, Cabinet member for Resources to the recommendations of the Budget and Resources Scrutiny Committee.

The Council also received the responses to the public consultation on its draft budget.

Councillor R Bradburn moved the following amendment on behalf of the Liberal Democrat Group, which was seconded by Councillor McCall:

- “1. That the following words are added to the end of recommendation 1 from the Cabinet meeting held on 2 February 2021:

‘, subject to:

- (a) Child Poverty and Assisting Looked After Children Leaving Care £170,000

The inclusion of an additional item to one-off expenditure pressures of £170,000 in 2021/22 to fund:

- Overarching support to assist the progression of the Poverty Strategy £35,000
- Community Homework clubs that provide a meal. £30,000
- Using positive activity sessions through Children's Centres which include physical exercise and group activities to build resilience and strengthen purpose amongst parents and children in material need, helping parents and children make their next steps £35,000
- Further support to Care leavers in their deposits on renting accommodation as they move towards increased independence £20,000
- Development of a Bond scheme for Care leavers which will support them on the road to property ownership £50,000

(b) Additional Planning Enforcement Support £65,000

The inclusion of an additional item to one-off expenditure pressures of £65,000 in 2021/22 to recruit a senior enforcement officer for a period of 12 months. This role will provide additional capacity for pro-active enforcement across the team.

(c) Waste Collection – Additional Neighbourhood Litter Bins £100,000

The inclusion of an additional item to one-off expenditure pressures of £100,000 in 2021/22 to fund 15 smart bins and 50 new bins. The 50 new bins would replace those that are no longer fit for purpose or damaged. This will be beneficial for renovation and local neighbourhood improvements. The 15 smart bins will increase our migration towards fully smart operations and implementation of street scene principles.

(d) Mental Health – Dealing with Isolation £50,000

The inclusion of an additional item to one-off expenditure pressures of £50,000 in 2021/22 to fund investment in two temporary work experience roles for a 12 month period. The posts will provide outreach support to vulnerable and isolated people where there are risks to their mental health and wellbeing.

- (e) Volunteer Flood wardens – Training and Equipment  
£15,000

The inclusion of an additional item to one-off expenditure pressures of £15,000 in 2021/22, to fund training for Volunteer Flood Wardens to build up a network for communications and direct action. The training will include advice on local resilience, crisis management, communication, water safety and roles and responsibilities before, during and after a flood situation. Within the budget will be some provision for safety equipment such as high visibility waistcoats and portable lighting.

Note: All five budget changes, totalling £400,000, to be funded from unallocated 2021/22 New Homes Bonus Reserve.”

Councillor Crooks moved the following amendment, which was seconded by Councillor K Bradburn:

“That the following words are added to the end of recommendation 18 from the Cabinet meeting held on 2 February 2021:

‘, subject to a scheme for £1 million for road safety measures mitigating the impact of the Milton Keynes East Development on surrounding areas including Willen, Broughton and Brooklands being added to the pipeline Capital Programme, with details of the required measures and potential costs being assessed together with potential funding from the Tariff and Tariff 2 being explored and the scheme being brought forward into the Capital Programme once business cases have been finalised.”

Councillor Rankine moved the following amendments on behalf of the Conservative Group, which were seconded by Councillor Walker and on which recorded votes were requested:

“That the following words are added to the end of recommendation 1 from the Cabinet meeting held on 2 February 2021:

- (a) Additional One-off Allocations in Annex R:

- (i) Support for Families, Jobs and Businesses

- (1) The insertion of an additional subtitle: ‘Support for Families, Jobs and Businesses’ with £500,000 being allocated over two years to Prevent Mass Unemployment

- (2) £500,000 over two years – ‘Global MK’ aimed at bringing international business to Milton Keynes, as the United Kingdom begins its Post-Brexit journey.
- (ii) Under ‘Economic Recovery’ £200,000 be added for High Streets & District Centre Support.
- (iii) Under ‘Supporting our health and wellbeing’ add the following spending:
  - (1) £200,000 over two years - Children’s Mental Health Support to help ensure children have access to mental health counselling and other support tools as schools go back and children begin to return to some level of normality following the significant mental health challenges COVID, lockdowns and the loss of loved ones, will have caused.
  - (2) £200,000 over two years to provide emergency support to tackle Domestic Violence to support MK Act and Council services to help manage the continued challenges caused by increased domestic violence rates during COVID-19 lockdowns.
- (iv) In ‘Supporting Health and Wellbeing’, under ‘Key Infrastructure Fund’:
  - (1) after the words ‘through the pandemic’ a new sentence be added as follows  
‘This is inclusive of £105,000 for Newport Pagnell Town Council to ensure the survival of Middleton Pool, a critical part of Newport Pagnell’s local health and wellbeing infrastructure’.
  - (2) £50,000 for Community Infrastructure Fund Investment to further support the match funding grant scheme for parish councils and communities to repair and improve play areas across Milton Keynes.

- (v) Under 'Tackling Climate Change' £300,000 for the Creation of a Community Forest to support the Council's ambition to plant more trees by identifying areas for new forestry and nature reserves that can be set up as natural boundaries to urbanisation and managed with the assistance of volunteer groups and education programmes.
- (vi) Under 'Safer Communities'
  - (1) £200,000 – CCTV Ward Action Force to finance 19 additional deployable CCTV cameras, one for each ward, managed by a Parish Council/TVP action team to crack down on issues like fly tipping, Anti-Social Behaviour and Pet Theft.
  - (2) £25,000 to set up a Pet Theft Task Force made up of local charities, businesses and owner representatives, in partnership with the Thames Valley Police and Crime Commissioner.
- (vii) Under 'Getting the Basics Right' add an additional £300,000 for Additional Highways Maintenance.
- (viii) Under 'London Road Flooding Improvements' 'Getting the Basics Right' £140,000 for flood alleviation work on London Road, Loughton.
- (ix) 'Lavendon Flooding Improvements' 'Getting the Basics Right', £487,000 for flood alleviation work in Lavendon.
- (x) 'Newport Pagnell Flood Defence' 'Getting the Basics Right', £4,350 for Flood defence investment in Newport Pagnell to purchase 2,500 hydrogel sandbags to be stored in Newport Pagnell.
- (xi) 'Stony Stratford Flood Defence' 'Getting the Basics Right', £4,350 for Flood defence investment in Stony Stratford to purchase 2,500 hydrogel sandbags to be stored in Stony Stratford.
- (xii) 'Ravenstone Flood Defence' 'Getting the Basics Right', £4,350 for Flood defence investment in Ravenstone to purchase 2,500 hydrogel sandbags to be stored in Ravenstone.
- (xiii) 'Lavendon Flood Defence' 'Getting the Basics Right', £4,350 for Flood defence investment in Lavendon to purchase 2,500 hydrogel sandbags to be stored in Lavendon.

- (xiv) 'Pedestrian Crossing Improvements - Buckingham Road, Bletchley' 'Getting the Basics Right', £200,000 to provide improvements to pedestrian safety on the Buckingham Road, Newport Road, Shenley Road interchange that would fund four new pedestrian crossing points to ensure mobility and increased safety for drivers and pedestrians.
  - (xv) 'Albert Street, Bletchley - Public Conveniences' 'Getting the Basics Right', £40,000 Grant to Bletchley and Fenny Stratford Town Council to keep the Public Conveniences in Albert Street, Bletchley open for the community and market traders, to allow Funding to enable decisions to be made on long term funding within the regeneration zone and potential distribution of towns fund support.'
  - (xvi) 'Road Safety Improvements, Oakridge Park' 'Getting the Basics Right', £50,000 for a 20mph scheme for Oakridge Park.
  - (xvii) 'Road Safety Improvements, Broughton' 'Getting the Basics Right', £100,000 for junction and carriageway safety improvements on Fen Street, Countess Way, Newport Road in Broughton/Brooklands.
  - (xviii) 'Galley Hill Community Centre' 'Getting the Basics Right', £150,000 to refurbish/renovate Galley Hill Community Centre.
- (b) Budget Reductions and Income Growth - Annex E: S068-N  
(Waste Charging In 2021/22)
- £150,000 one off funding to cancel plans to make recycling centre bookings permanent with savings to be determined as part of the 2022/23 budget exercise.

Note: Amendments (f) to (g) to be funded by £2.034 million from the General Fund Reserves and £575,000 from the New Homes Bonus with the exception of Amendment (f)(ii) which will be funded from Existing Milton Keynes Council schemes and Amendments (f)(i)(1), (f)(i)(2) and (f)(iv) which will be funded by the redistribution of expenditure currently listed in Annex R.

Councillor Marland, mover of the motion, accepted the amendments moved by Councillor R Bradburn to the draft Revenue Budget 2021/22, on behalf of the Liberal Democrat Group and the amendment to the Capital Programme moved by Councillor Crooks, also on behalf of the Liberal Democrat Group.

The voting on the Conservative amendments was as follows:

### **Conservative Amendment 1**

FOR: Councillors Bint, Bowyer, P Geary, Gilbert, Green, D Hopkins, V Hopkins, Hosking, Jenkins, Lancaster, Marlow, McLean, Nazir, Raja, Rankine and Walker (16)

AGAINST: Councillors Baume, Brackenbury, K Bradburn, M Bradburn, R Bradburn, Brown, Cannon, Carr, Crooks, Cryer-Whitehead, Darlington, Exon, Ferrans, Gowans, Long, Marland, McCall, McPake, Middleton, Miles, Minns, Montague, Nolan, O'Neill, Petchey, Priestley, Reilly, Townsend, Trendall, Wales, Wallis, Williams, C Wilson-Marklew and J Wilson-Marklew (34)

ABSTENTIONS: Councillor Baines (1)

The Mayor declared the Amendment Lost.

### **Conservative Amendment 2**

FOR: Councillors Baines, Bint, Bowyer, P Geary, Gilbert, Green, D Hopkins, V Hopkins, Hosking, Jenkins, Lancaster, Marlow, McLean, Nazir, Raja, Rankine and Walker (17)

AGAINST: Councillors Baume, Brackenbury, K Bradburn, M Bradburn, R Bradburn, Brown, Cannon, Carr, Crooks, Cryer-Whitehead, Darlington, Exon, Ferrans, Gowans, Long, Marland, McCall, McPake, Middleton, Miles, Minns, Montague, Nolan, O'Neill, Petchey, Priestley, Reilly, Townsend, Trendall, Wales, Wallis, Williams, C Wilson-Marklew and J Wilson-Marklew (34)

ABSTENTIONS: (0)

The Mayor declared the Amendment Lost.

### **Conservative Amendment 3**

FOR: Councillors Baines, Bint, Bowyer, P Geary, Gilbert, Green, D Hopkins, V Hopkins, Hosking, Jenkins, Lancaster, Marlow, McLean, Nazir, Raja, Rankine and Walker (17)

AGAINST: Councillors Baume, Brackenbury, K Bradburn, M Bradburn, R Bradburn, Brown, Cannon, Carr, Crooks, Cryer-Whitehead, Darlington, Exon, Ferrans, Gowans, Long, Marland, McCall, McPake, Middleton, Miles, Minns, Montague, Nolan, O'Neill, Petchey, Priestley, Reilly, Townsend, Trendall, Wales, Wallis, Williams, C Wilson-Marklew and J Wilson-Marklew (34)

ABSTENTIONS: (0)

The Mayor declared the Amendment Lost.

#### **Conservative Amendment 4**

FOR: Councillors Baines, Bint, Bowyer, P Geary, Gilbert, Green, D Hopkins, V Hopkins, Hosking, Jenkins, Lancaster, Marlow, McLean, Nazir, Raja, Rankine and Walker (17)

AGAINST: Councillors Baume, Brackenbury, K Bradburn, M Bradburn, R Bradburn, Brown, Cannon, Carr, Crooks, Cryer-Whitehead, Darlington, Exon, Ferrans, Gowans, Long, Marland, McCall, McPake, Middleton, Miles, Minns, Montague, Nolan, O'Neill, Petchey, Priestley, Reilly, Townsend, Trendall, Wales, Wallis, Williams, C Wilson-Marklew and J Wilson-Marklew (34)

ABSTENTIONS: (0)

The Mayor declared the Amendment Lost.

#### **Conservative Amendment 5**

FOR: Councillors Baines, Bint, Bowyer, P Geary, Gilbert, Green, D Hopkins, V Hopkins, Hosking, Jenkins, Lancaster, Marlow, McLean, Nazir, Raja, Rankine and Walker (17)

AGAINST: Councillors Baume, Brackenbury, K Bradburn, M Bradburn, R Bradburn, Brown, Cannon, Carr, Crooks, Cryer-Whitehead, Darlington, Exon, Ferrans, Gowans, Long, Marland, McCall, McPake, Middleton, Miles, Minns, Montague, Nolan, O'Neill, Petchey, Priestley, Reilly, Townsend, Trendall, Wales, Wallis, Williams, C Wilson-Marklew and J Wilson-Marklew (34)

ABSTENTIONS: (0)

The Mayor declared the Amendment Lost.

### **Conservative Amendment 6**

FOR: Councillors Baines, Bint, Bowyer, P Geary, Gilbert, Green, D Hopkins, V Hopkins, Hosking, Jenkins, Lancaster, Marlow, McLean, Nazir, Raja, Rankine and Walker (17)

AGAINST: Councillors Baume, Brackenbury, K Bradburn, M Bradburn, R Bradburn, Brown, Cannon, Carr, Crooks, Cryer-Whitehead, Darlington, Exon, Ferrans, Gowans, Long, Marland, McCall, McPake, Middleton, Miles, Minns, Montague, Nolan, O'Neill, Petchey, Priestley, Reilly, Townsend, Trendall, Wales, Wallis, Williams, C Wilson-Marklew and J Wilson-Marklew (34)

ABSTENTIONS: (0)

The Mayor declared the Amendment Lost.

### **Conservative Amendment 7**

FOR: Councillors Baines, Bint, Bowyer, P Geary, Gilbert, Green, D Hopkins, V Hopkins, Hosking, Jenkins, Lancaster, Marlow, McLean, Nazir, Raja, Rankine and Walker (17)

AGAINST: Councillors Baume, Brackenbury, K Bradburn, M Bradburn, R Bradburn, Brown, Cannon, Carr, Crooks, Cryer-Whitehead, Darlington, Exon, Ferrans, Gowans, Long, Marland, McCall, McPake, Middleton, Miles, Minns, Montague, Nolan, O'Neill, Petchey, Priestley, Reilly, Townsend, Trendall, Wales, Wallis, Williams, C Wilson-Marklew and J Wilson-Marklew (34)

ABSTENTIONS: (0)

The Mayor declared the Amendment Lost.

### **Conservative Amendment 8**

FOR: Councillors Bint, Bowyer, P Geary, Gilbert, Green, D Hopkins, V Hopkins, Hosking, Jenkins, Lancaster, Marlow, McLean, Nazir, Raja, Rankine and Walker (16)

AGAINST: Councillors Baines, Baume, Brackenbury, K Bradburn, M Bradburn, R Bradburn, Brown, Cannon, Carr, Crooks, Cryer-Whitehead, Darlington, Exon, Ferrans, Gowans, Long, Marland, McCall, McPake, Middleton, Miles, Minns, Montague, Nolan, O'Neill, Petchey, Priestley, Reilly, Townsend, Trendall, Wales, Wallis, Williams, C Wilson-Marklew and J Wilson-Marklew (35)

ABSTENTIONS: Councillor (0)

The Mayor declared the Amendment Lost.

#### **Conservative Amendment 9**

FOR: Councillors Baines, Bint, Bowyer, P Geary, Gilbert, Green, D Hopkins, V Hopkins, Hosking, Jenkins, Lancaster, Marlow, McLean, Nazir, Raja, Rankine and Walker (17)

AGAINST: Councillors Baume, Brackenbury, K Bradburn, M Bradburn, R Bradburn, Brown, Cannon, Carr, Crooks, Cryer-Whitehead, Darlington, Exon, Ferrans, Gowans, Long, Marland, McCall, McPake, Middleton, Miles, Minns, Montague, Nolan, O'Neill, Petchey, Priestley, Reilly, Townsend, Trendall, Wales, Wallis, Williams, C Wilson-Marklew and J Wilson-Marklew (34)

ABSTENTIONS: (0)

The Mayor declared the Amendment Lost.

#### **Conservative Amendment 10**

FOR: Councillors Bint, Bowyer, P Geary, Gilbert, Green, D Hopkins, V Hopkins, Hosking, Jenkins, Lancaster, Marlow, McLean, Nazir, Raja, Rankine and Walker (16)

AGAINST: Councillors Baines, Baume, Brackenbury, K Bradburn, M Bradburn, R Bradburn, Brown, Cannon, Carr, Crooks, Cryer-Whitehead, Darlington, Exon, Ferrans, Gowans, Long, Marland, McCall, McPake, Middleton, Miles, Minns, Montague, Nolan, O'Neill, Petchey, Priestley, Reilly, Townsend, Trendall, Wales, Wallis, Williams, C Wilson-Marklew and J Wilson-Marklew (35)

ABSTENTIONS: (0)

The Mayor declared the Amendment Lost.

**Conservative Amendment 11**

FOR: Councillors Baines, Bint, Bowyer, P Geary, Gilbert, Green, D Hopkins, V Hopkins, Hosking, Jenkins, Lancaster, Marlow, McLean, Nazir, Raja, Rankine and Walker (17)

AGAINST: Councillors Baume, Brackenbury, K Bradburn, M Bradburn, R Bradburn, Brown, Cannon, Carr, Crooks, Cryer-Whitehead, Darlington, Exon, Ferrans, Gowans, Long, Marland, McCall, McPake, Middleton, Miles, Minns, Montague, Nolan, O'Neill, Petchey, Priestley, Reilly, Townsend, Trendall, Wales, Wallis, Williams, C Wilson-Marklew and J Wilson-Marklew (34)

ABSTENTIONS: (0)

The Mayor declared the Amendment Lost.

**Conservative Amendment 12**

FOR: Councillors Baines, Bint, Bowyer, P Geary, Gilbert, Green, D Hopkins, V Hopkins, Hosking, Jenkins, Lancaster, Marlow, McLean, Nazir, Raja, Rankine and Walker (17)

AGAINST: Councillors Baume, Brackenbury, K Bradburn, M Bradburn, R Bradburn, Brown, Cannon, Carr, Crooks, Cryer-Whitehead, Darlington, Exon, Ferrans, Gowans, Long, Marland, McCall, McPake, Middleton, Miles, Minns, Montague, Nolan, O'Neill, Petchey, Priestley, Reilly, Townsend, Trendall, Wales, Wallis, Williams, C Wilson-Marklew and J Wilson-Marklew (34)

ABSTENTIONS: (0)

The Mayor declared the Amendment Lost.

**Conservative Amendment 13**

FOR: Councillors Baines, Bint, Bowyer, P Geary, Gilbert, Green, D Hopkins, V Hopkins, Hosking, Jenkins, Lancaster, Marlow, McLean, Nazir, Raja, Rankine and Walker (17)

AGAINST: Councillors Baume, Brackenbury, K Bradburn, M Bradburn, R Bradburn, Brown, Cannon, Carr, Crooks, Cryer-Whitehead, Darlington, Exon, Ferrans, Gowans, Long, Marland, McCall, McPake, Middleton, Miles, Minns, Montague, Nolan, O'Neill, Petchey, Priestley, Reilly, Townsend, Trendall, Wales, Wallis, Williams, C Wilson-Marklew and J Wilson-Marklew (34)

ABSTENTIONS: (0)

The Mayor declared the Amendment Lost.

The voting on the substantive motion was as follows:

FOR: Councillors Baines Baume, Brackenbury, K Bradburn, M Bradburn, R Bradburn, Brown, Cannon, Carr, Crooks, Cryer-Whitehead, Darlington, Exon, Ferrans, Gowans, Long, Marland, McCall, McPake, Middleton, Miles, Minns, Montague, Nolan, O'Neill, Petchey, Priestley, Reilly, Townsend, Trendall, Wales, Wallis, Williams, C Wilson-Marklew and J Wilson-Marklew (35)

AGAINST: Councillors Bint, Bowyer, P Geary, Gilbert, Green, D Hopkins, V Hopkins, Hosking, Jenkins, Lancaster, Marlow, McLean, Nazir, Raja, Rankine and Walker (16)

ABSTENTIONS: (0)

The substantive motion was declared carried.

RESOLVED -

1. That the Revenue Budget 2021/22 totalling £210.434m be approved, subject to the following being added to the Budget:
  - (a) Ward Budgets being increased, for 2021/22 only, by £1,000 to enable individual members to support local organisations and groups to fund the costs of COVID prevention, education and support projects and schemes, to be funded from the Contain Outbreak Management Fund;
  - (b) £50,000 funding being allocated immediately from reserves for additional highway defect repairs to be spent before 30 March 2021;
  - (c) Child Poverty and Assisting Looked After Children

The inclusion of an additional item to one-off expenditure Leaving Care pressures of £170,000 in 2021/22, to be funded from the unallocated 2021/22 New Homes Bonus Reserve, to fund:

- Overarching support to assist the progression of the Poverty Strategy £35,000
- Community Homework clubs that provide a meal £30,000
- Using positive activity sessions through Children's Centres which include physical exercise and group activities to build resilience and strengthen purpose amongst parents and children in material need, helping parents and children make their next steps £35,000
- Further support to Care leavers in their deposits on renting accommodation as they move towards increased independence £20,000
- Development of a Bond scheme for Care Leavers which will support them on the road to property ownership £50,000

(d) Additional Planning Enforcement Support

The inclusion of an additional item to one-off expenditure pressures of £65,000 in 2021/22, to be funded from the unallocated 2021/22 New Homes Bonus Reserve, to recruit a senior enforcement officer for a period of 12 months to provide additional capacity for pro-active enforcement across the team.

(e) Waste Collection – Additional Neighbourhood Litter Bins

The inclusion of an additional item to one-off expenditure pressures of £100,000 in 2021/22, to be funded from the unallocated 2021/22 New Homes Bonus Reserve, to fund 15 smart bins and 50 new bins, the 50 new bins to replace those that are no longer fit for purpose or damaged, benefitting renovation and local neighbourhood improvements. The 15 smart bins will increase the Council's migration towards fully smart operations and implementation of street scene principles.

(f) Mental Health – Dealing with Isolation

The inclusion of an additional item to one-off expenditure pressures of £50,000 in 2021/22, to be funded from the unallocated 2021/22 New Homes Bonus Reserve, to fund investment in two temporary work experience roles for a 12 month period. to provide outreach support to vulnerable and isolated people where there are risks to their mental health and wellbeing.

(g) Volunteer Flood Wardens – Training and Equipment

The inclusion of an additional item to one-off expenditure pressures of £15,000 in 2021/22, to be funded from the unallocated 2021/22 New Homes Bonus Reserve, to fund training for Volunteer Flood Wardens to build up a network for communications and direct action. The expenditure to provide training to include advice on local resilience, crisis management, communication, water safety and roles and responsibilities before, during and after a flood situation and safety equipment such as high visibility waistcoats and portable lighting.

2. That the Council Tax at Band D of £1,465.59, for the Milton Keynes element of the Council Tax, be approved, noting that this is an increase of 2.50%, consisting of a 1.99% general increase and 0.51% Adult Social Care Precept.
3. That the Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2021/22 (excluding Parish Precepts) of £126.354m, be noted.
4. That the following amounts be calculated for the year 2021/22 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 [the "Act"]:

(a)	£56.800m	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 and town councils. (Gross expenditure including precepts)
(b)	£426.380m	Being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3). (Net income excluding Council Tax requirement.)
(c)	£135.420m	As its Council Tax requirement for the year, being the amount by which the aggregate at (a) above exceeds the aggregate at (b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31A(4).
(d)	£1,570.74	As the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year (including Parish Precepts), being the amount at (c) above, divided by the Council Tax Base agreed on 15 December 2020.
(e)	£9,065,655	Being the aggregate amount of all special items (Parish Precepts) referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act.

(f)	£1,465.59	Being the amount at (d) less the result given by dividing the amount at (e) above by the Council Tax Base agreed on 5 November 2019, as the basic amount of Council Tax for the year for Milton Keynes Council, excluding Parish and Major Precepting Authorities.
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10. That the following amounts be calculated for Milton Keynes Council Tax:

	VALUATION BANDS							
	A £	B £	C £	D £	E £	F £	G £	H £
MKC with 1.99% Increase	893.48	1,042.39	1,191.31	1,340.22	1,638.05	1,935.87	2,233.70	2,680.44
Adult Social Care Levy Further 0.51% Increase	83.58	97.51	111.44	118.08	153.23	181.09	208.95	250.74
MKC Total 2.50%	977.06	1,139.90	1,302.75	1,465.59	1,791.28	2,116.96	2,442.65	2,931.18

11. That the amounts given by multiplying the amount at (f) by the number which, in the proportion set out in Section 5(1) of the Act, is applicable to all dwellings listed in each 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.
12. That for the year 2021/22, Police and Crime Commissioner for Thames Valley, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Act 1992, has stated the following precepts to the Council for each of the categories of dwellings:

VALUATION BANDS							
A £	B £	C £	D £	E £	F £	G £	H £
154.19	179.88	205.58	231.28	282.68	334.07	385.47	462.56

13. That for the year 2021/22, Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes Fire Authority, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Act 1992, has stated the following precepts to the Council for each of the categories of dwellings:

VALUATION BANDS							
A £	B £	C £	D £	E £	F £	G £	H £
44.77	52.24	59.70	67.16	82.08	97.01	111.93	134.32

14. That as a result of the above, the amounts of Council Tax (shown in **Appendices A and B**) be set in accordance with Sections 30 and 36 of the Local Government Act 1992, for each of the categories of dwelling shown in the Schedule.

15. That the 2021/22 levies payable to the Buckingham and River Ouzel Internal Drainage Board and the Environment Agency be noted.
16. That the estimated position for the Dedicated Schools Grant for 2021/22 be noted.
17. That the forecast parking surplus be noted.
18. That the Housing Revenue Account Revenue Budget 2021/22 be adopted.
19. That the Housing Revenue Account Dwelling Rent 2021/22, an increase of 1.5% as set out in paragraph 2.63, an average of £1.33 per week, be agreed.
20. That the advance payment of £17.606m employer pension contributions for 2021/22 be approved.
21. That the fees and charges for 2021/22 (including those fees and charges which are exceptions to the Income and Collection Policy) be approved.
22. That the Capital Strategy be approved.
23. That the Capital Programme for 2021/22 to 2024/25 be approved, subject to a scheme for £1 million for road safety measures mitigating the impact of the Milton Keynes East Development on surrounding areas including Willen, Broughton and Brooklands being added to the pipeline Capital Programme, with details of the required measures and potential costs being assessed together with potential funding from the Tariff and Tariff 2 being explored and the scheme being brought forward into the Capital Programme once business cases have been finalised.
24. That the resource allocation for the 2021/22 Tariff programme be approved.
25. That the Treasury Management Strategy for 2021/22 to 2025/26 and the Treasury Policy Statement, including the Minimum Revenue Provision Policy, Borrowing Limits be approved.
26. That the financial forecast set out in the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP), in relation to both resources and expenditure, be noted.
27. The equalities impact assessments for the Revenue Budget 2021/22, as set out in Section 3 be noted.

**CL98                      PROCEDURE MOTION – COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 8: WAIVING OF CLOSURE**

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 21, Councillor Walker moved and Councillor Jenkins seconded that Council Procedure Rule 8, as far as it related to the closure of the meeting be suspended be waived in order to allow debate on the remaining items and Councillor Questions.

On being put to the vote the Procedure Motion was declared lost with 17 councillors voting in favour, 34 councillors voting against and 0 councillors abstaining from voting.

**CL99**

**LOCAL COUNCIL TAX REDUCTION SCHEME 2021/22**

Councillor Middleton (Cabinet member for Resources) moved the following recommendation from the meeting of the Cabinet held on 2 February 2021, which was seconded by Councillor Marland:

“That a Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme, which contains the following, be approved to take effect from 1 April 2021:

1. The introduce of a tolerance rule on all working age cases, which would prevent the reissue of a Council Tax bill in every case where the Council Tax Reduction award has changed by £0.50 or less a week;
2. Delegation, to the Director of Finance and Resources, approval of any additional technical legislative amendments required, to reflect changes to related benefits and retain administrative simplicity; and
3. Retains all other aspects of the Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme, as adopted by the Council on 22 January 2020.”

On being put to the vote the recommendation was declared carried by acclamation.

RESOLVED -

That a Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme, which contains the following, be approved to take effect from 1 April 2021:

1. The introduce of a tolerance rule on all working age cases, which would prevent the reissue of a Council Tax bill in every case where the Council Tax Reduction award has changed by £0.50 or less a week;
2. Delegation, to the Director of Finance and Resources, approval of any additional technical legislative amendments required, to reflect changes to related benefits and retain administrative simplicity; and
3. Retains all other aspects of the Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme, as adopted by the Council on 22 January 2020

**CL100**

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND HOUSING ACT 1989 AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT (COMMITTEES AND POLITICAL GROUPS) REGULATIONS 1990**

The Mayor moved, and Deputy Mayor seconded, the following motion:

“That the revised political makeup of the Council be noted, the revised Committee allocations agreed and any nominations to vacancies on committees confirmed.”

The Leader nominated Councillor Cryer-Whitehead to the vacancies on the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee, the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee Call-in Sub-Committee, the Licensing Committee, the Licensing Sub-Committee, the Regulatory Committee and the Regulatory Sub-Committee be confirmed

RESOLVED -

1. That the revised political makeup of the Council be noted and the revised Committee allocations agreed.
2. That the nomination of Councillor Cryer-Whitehead to the vacancies on the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee, the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee Call-in Sub-Committee, the Licensing Committee, the Licensing Sub-Committee, the Regulatory Committee and the Regulatory Sub-Committee be confirmed.

THE MAYOR CLOSED THE MEETING AT 10.57 PM