

Minutes of the MILTON KEYNES COUNCIL held on WEDNESDAY 19 FEBRUARY 2014 at 7.30 pm

**Present:** Councillor White (Mayor)  
Councillors Alexander, Bald, Barney, Bint, Brackenbury, Bradburn, Bramall, Brock, Brunning, M Burke, S Burke, Coventry, Dransfield, Eastman, Edwards, Exon, Ferrans, A Geary, P Geary, Hawthorn, Hopkins, Hoyle, Jury, Kennedy, Khan, Klein, Legg, Long, Maric, Marland, D McCall, I McCall, McDonald, McKenzie, McLean, Middleton, Miles, Morris, O'Neill, Richards, Shafiq, Small, Tallack, Wales, Wallis, Webb, Wharton, C Williams, P Williams and Zealley

**Apologies:** Alderpersons Beeley, Bristow, Ellis, E Henderson, I Henderson, Howell, Irons, Lloyd and Saunders

**Also Present:** 40 members of the public

## **CL102 MINUTES**

RESOLVED -

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 15 January 2014 be approved and signed by the Mayor as a correct record, subject to:

- (a) the name of 'Kelly' in Minute C73(b) to (e) being changed to 'Kelley';
- (b) the words 'service user involvement at' being added to the third paragraph of Minute C73(e), before the words 'the Board';
- (c) the word 'Metal' being amended to 'Mental' and the word 'Partnership' being amended to 'Programme' in the fifth paragraph of Minute C73(e); and
- (d) the word 'Information' being spelt correctly in the heading of Minute C74.

## **CL103 ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- (a) New Year Honours

The Mayor, referring to his announcements at the last meeting with regard to New Year Honours, announced that Gillian Hammond (CBE) and John Daggart (OBE) who had received New Year Honours had been able to join him in the Parlour earlier this evening and were also in attendance at the meeting.

The Mayor also announced that Mr John McCafferty who became the longest surviving heart transplant patient, receiving his transplant over 30 years ago, had also been able to join him in the Parlour and was also able to attend the meeting.

The Council congratulated Ms Hammond, Mr Doggart and Mr McCafferty.

(b) Response During Bad Weather

The Mayor expressed thanks, on behalf of the Council, to staff and partner agencies for their efforts and hard work during the recent period of bad weather to safeguard the communities of Milton Keynes. The Mayor indicated that he would be writing to pass on the Council's thanks.

(c) Former Councillor Bill Jones

The Mayor announced the death of former Councillor and Mayor Bill Jones who died on 23 January 2014. Mr Jones had served from 1974 to 1984 and was Mayor in 1983/84. The Mayor, together with the Chief Executive, had attended the funeral, and had sent condolences to Mr Jones' family.

The Council also heard from Councillor Legg.

The Council stood in silence as a mark of respect.

(d) Deputy Mayor

The Council also heard that the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Shafiq, had recently become a father again following the birth of a son.

The Council congratulated Councillor Shafiq.

**CL104**

**QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

Question from Mr M Pourshahram to Councillor A Geary (Leader of the Council)

Mr Pourshahram asked Councillor A Geary about what could be done to enable him to get a Hackney Carriage Plate for his vehicle, which he had purchased just days before the Council imposed a limit on the number of Plates available.

Councillor A Geary indicated that he would ask Councillor S Burke (Chair of the Regulatory Committee), and Councillor P Geary (the responsible Cabinet member) to look into the circumstances of Mr Pourshahram's case and provide a written response.

In response to the supplementary question, at the request of the Leader, Councillor S Burke confirmed that he would discuss the matter with the responsible Cabinet member and respond.

**BUSINESS REMAINING FROM LAST MEETING (15 JANUARY 2014)**

Further to Minutes CL80 to CL86, of the Council's meeting held on 15 January 2014, the Council noted that the following recommendations from the Constitution Commission had been moved by Councillor Miles and seconded by Councillor Tallack and had, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 21.2 stood adjourned since that meeting.

(a) Dates for Annual Meetings of the Council

1. That the following revised wording for the first paragraph Council Procedure Rule 1(a) be agreed:

'The Ceremonial Meeting will take place on the Wednesday 13 calendar days after the day of local elections, or in a year when there are no Local Elections on the Wednesday 13 calendar days after the first Thursday in May at 7.30 pm.'

2. That the following revised wording for the first paragraph Council Procedure Rule 1(b) be agreed:

'The Business Meeting will take place on the Wednesday 20 calendar days after the day of local elections, or in a year when there are no Local Elections on the Wednesday 20 calendar days after the first Thursday in May at 7.30 pm.'

(b) Substitution of Executive / Cabinet Members on Quasi-Judicial / Audit Committees

That the following revised wording for Council Procedure Rule 23 be adopted:

'23 Substitution on Committees, Sub-Committees and Overview and Scrutiny Committees/Panels

- 23.1 The Assistant Director (Democratic Services), or his/her authorised representative at a meeting of a body, is authorised to agree substitutions for Members of bodies submitted in writing by appropriate Group Leaders, Deputy Group Leaders, the Chair or Group Spokesperson of the body concerned before the scheduled start time of the meeting at which the substitution is to apply. Substitutions may only be made in accordance with the total number of seats allocated to each political group and the agreed balance of seats between the political groups on the body, and appointed substitutes must not be Members of the Cabinet, except, where a Cabinet member is appointed to a committee they may be substituted by another Cabinet Member.

No member of the Cabinet may be substituted to an overview and scrutiny committee / panel.

23.2 Substitute Members will have all of the powers and duties of an ordinary Member of the body, but will not be able to exercise any special powers or duties (chair, vice-chair or spokesperson) exercisable by the persons they are substituting, unless specifically appointed by the body.

23.3 Substitution to the Development Control and Licensing and Regulatory Committees will only be permitted where substitutes have received the appropriate training and this has been verified by the Assistant Director (Democratic Services).'

(c) Signing of Sub-Committee Minutes by Parent Committees

That the following revised additional wording for Council Procedure Rule 22 be adopted:

'22.3 Signing of Sub-Committee Minutes

In addition to Rule 17.1, where it is stated that the Minutes of the proceedings will be signed at the next suitable meeting, in the case of a Sub-Committee this will be the next meeting of the Sub-Committee, or of the appointing committee, as practicable.'

(d) Overview and Scrutiny - Terminology Used

"That the term 'Overview and Scrutiny Committee / Panel' be amended in the Constitution 'to Overview and Scrutiny Select Committee' as appropriate."

(e) Review of Procedure around Amendments to Motions

That the following revised wording for Council Procedure Rule 13.6 (c), regarding the acceptance of amendments to motions, be adopted:

'(c) The Mayor will move a procedural motion, which will be seconded by the Deputy Mayor (in the absence of the Deputy Mayor, the Mayor will seek a seconder from amongst the Members present), inviting the Council to determine whether any amendment, which has been moved and seconded, may be offered to the mover of the motion, or must be discussed by the Council. If an amendment is accepted, it will become part of the original motion.'

- (f) Assistant Director (Democratic Services) - Title  
'That the term 'Assistant Director (Democratic Services)' in the Council Procedure Rules be amended to 'Monitoring Officer'.

- (g) Combining Motions Submitted under Council Procedure Rule 11

That the following new Clause 11.3 be added to Council Procedure Rule 11 (Notice of Motion) and the existing Clause 11.3 renumber to '11.4':

'11.3 Motions of a Like Intent

Where two or more motions, submitted in accordance with this Procedure Rule are, in the opinion of the Monitoring Officer, of the same, or similar intent, he / she will either:

- (a) seek agreement to the withdrawal of one or more of the motions, to leave one remaining motion; or
- (b) combine the motions, with the agreement of the Members submitting the motions, with the combined motion being notified to Members of the Council not later than 12 noon four clear working days before the meeting at which the motion is to be considered.

The combined motion will take the place of the first of the motions submitted in the order on the agenda and will be in the joint names of the Members submitting the original motions. The Members submitting the combined motion will be expected to agree who will move and second the motion.

In the event that Members decline to withdraw their motions, or do not agree to the motions being composited, the Council will (subject to any ruling of the Mayor) deal with the motions in the order in which notice was received.'

On being put to the vote the recommendations from the Constitution Commission were declared carried unanimously.

RESOLVED –

1. Dates for Annual Meetings of the Council
1. That the following revised wording for the first paragraph Council Procedure Rule 1(a) be agreed:  
'The Ceremonial Meeting will take place on the Wednesday 13 calendar days after the day of local elections, or in a year when there are no Local Elections on the Wednesday 13 calendar days after the first Thursday in May at 7.30 pm.'

2. That the following revised wording for the first paragraph Council Procedure Rule 1(b) be agreed:

‘The Business Meeting will take place on the Wednesday 20 calendar days after the day of local elections, or in a year when there are no Local Elections on the Wednesday 20 calendar days after the first Thursday in May at 7.30 pm.’

2. Substitution of Executive / Cabinet Members on Quasi-Judicial / Audit Committees

That the following revised wording for Council Procedure Rule 23 be adopted:

‘23 Substitution on Committees, Sub-Committees and Overview and Scrutiny Committees/Panels

- 23.1 The Assistant Director (Democratic Services), or his/her authorised representative at a meeting of a body, is authorised to agree substitutions for Members of bodies submitted in writing by appropriate Group Leaders, Deputy Group Leaders, the Chair or Group Spokesperson of the body concerned before the scheduled start time of the meeting at which the substitution is to apply. Substitutions may only be made in accordance with the total number of seats allocated to each political group and the agreed balance of seats between the political groups on the body, and appointed substitutes must not be Members of the Cabinet, except, where a Cabinet member is appointed to a committee they may be substituted by another Cabinet Member.

No member of the Cabinet may be substituted to an overview and scrutiny committee / panel.

- 23.2 Substitute Members will have all of the powers and duties of an ordinary Member of the body, but will not be able to exercise any special powers or duties (chair, vice-chair or spokesperson) exercisable by the persons they are substituting, unless specifically appointed by the body.

- 23.3 Substitution to the Development Control and Licensing and Regulatory Committees will only be permitted where substitutes have received the appropriate training and this has been verified by the Assistant Director (Democratic Services).’

3. Signing of Sub-Committee Minutes by Parent Committees

That the following revised additional wording for Council Procedure Rule 22 be adopted:

### ‘22.3 Signing of Sub-Committee Minutes

In addition to Rule 17.1, where it is stated that the Minutes of the proceedings will be signed at the next suitable meeting, in the case of a Sub-Committee this will be the next meeting of the Sub-Committee, or of the appointing committee, as practicable.’

#### 4. Overview and Scrutiny - Terminology Used

“That the term ‘Overview and Scrutiny Committee / Panel’ be amended in the Constitution ‘to Overview and Scrutiny Select Committee’ as appropriate.”

#### 5. Review of Procedure around Amendments to Motions

That the following revised wording for Council Procedure Rule 13.6 (c), regarding the acceptance of amendments to motions, be adopted:

‘(c) The Mayor will move a procedural motion, which will be seconded by the Deputy Mayor (in the absence of the Deputy Mayor, the Mayor will seek a seconder from amongst the Members present), inviting the Council to determine whether any amendment, which has been moved and seconded, may be offered to the mover of the motion, or must be discussed by the Council. If an amendment is accepted, it will become part of the original motion.’”

#### 6. Assistant Director (Democratic Services) - Title

‘That the term ‘Assistant Director (Democratic Services)’ in the Council Procedure Rules be amended to ‘Monitoring Officer’.

#### 7. Combining Motions Submitted under Council Procedure Rule 11

That the following new Clause 11.3 be added to Council Procedure Rule 11 (Notice of Motion) and the existing Clause 11.3 renumber to ‘11.4’:

##### ‘11. 3 Motions of a Like Intent

Where two or more motions, submitted in accordance with this Procedure Rule are, in the opinion of the Monitoring Officer, of the same, or similar intent, he / she will either:

- (a) seek agreement to the withdrawal of one or more of the motions to leave one remaining motion; or

- (b) combine the motions, with the agreement of the Members submitting the motions, with the combined motion being notified to Members of the Council not later than 12 noon four clear working days before the meeting at which the motion is to be considered.

The combined motion will take the place of the first of the motions submitted in the order on the agenda and will be in the joint names of the Members submitting the original motions. The Members submitting the combined motion will be expected to agree who will move and second the motion.

In the event that Members decline to withdraw their motions, or do not agree to the motions being composited, the Council will (subject to any ruling of the Mayor) deal with the motions in the order in which notice was received.'

**CL106 COUNCIL TAX AND BUSINESS RATE BASELINE 2014/15**

Councillor Bald reported the total funding distribution available was £726,048 in 2014/15 as the £50,048 referred to in the recommendation was additional monies and did not take account of the original allocation of £676,000.

Councillor Bald moved the following recommendation arising from the meeting of the Cabinet held on 18 December 2013, which took account of the total funding available, and which was seconded by Councillor A Geary:

“That the total funding distribution of £726,048 in 2014/15 from Milton Keynes Council to parish and town councils be agreed.”

On being put to the vote the recommendation was declared carried unanimously.

RESOLVED -

That the total funding distribution of £726,048 in 2014/15 from Milton Keynes Council to parish and town councils be agreed.

**CL107 PROCEDURAL MOTION / ANNOUNCEMENT**

The Mayor moved the following Procedural Motion in respect of the forthcoming debate on the budget, which was seconded by the Deputy Mayor:

“That, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 21.1, Council Procedure Rule 13.6(e) [Ownership of motion to pass with a successful amendment] be suspended in respect of Item 4 [Budget Report 2013/14].”

On being put to the vote the Procedural Motion was declared carried unanimously.

RESOLVED -

That, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 21.1, Council Procedure Rule 13.6(e) [Ownership of motion to pass with a successful amendment] be suspended in respect of Item 4(3) [Budget Report 2013/14].

The Mayor announced, that in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 13.4, he would allow the speech from the Leader of the Council to exceed the limit of 4 minutes, and then allow each of the Leaders of the Opposition Groups to speak for up to a similar time.

**CL108**

**BUDGET REPORT 2014/15**

Councillor A Geary moved the following recommendation from the meeting of the Cabinet on 12 February 2014, which took account of any outstanding precepts, and which was seconded by Councillor Bald:

“That the Council be recommended to:

1. Agree the 2014/15 Net Revenue Budget of £197.064m.
2. Agree the Capital Programme including its financing.
3. Agree a Council Tax at Band D of £1,138.04, a nil percent increase on the previous year.
4. Note the view of the Corporate Director, Resources, in line with the requirements of the Local Government Act 2003, that:
  - based on the Period 10 2013/14 forecast, the General Fund balance is adequate to meet the Council’s financial needs in 2014/15. This view takes account of the reserves included in the Council’s latest audited Accounts as at 31st March 2013; the movement of these reserves since that date (as tracked through the Budget Monitoring Reports); and the new reserves required, as outlined in the MTFP report.
  - the financial position set out in this report is sufficiently robust to allow a budget to be set for 2014/15. This takes into account the adequacy of the level of balances and reserves outlined above and the assurance gained from the forecast position for 31st March 2014.
5. Note the estimated 2014/15 Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) is £211.166m.
6. Approve the fees and charges for 2014/15, including the exemptions to the Income Policy.
7. Note that a Targeted Youth Support Service is being developed to support vulnerable young people and those ‘at-risk’.
8. Note that, at its meeting on 18th December 2013, the Cabinet approved the number of 76,261.84 equivalent Band D

properties as the Council's Tax Base for the year 2014/15 in accordance with Section 31B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.

9. Note that the Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2014/15 (excluding Parish Precepts) is £86.789m.
10. Agree that, subject to confirmation once all precepts have been received, the following amounts for the year 2014/15 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 [the "Act"].

(a)	£647.814m	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)	£555.939m	Being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3).
(c)	£91.875m	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)	£1,204.74	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 18 <sup>th</sup> December 2013
(e)	£5,086,371	Being the aggregate amount of all special items (Parish Precepts) referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act.
(f)	£1,138.04	Being the amount at (d) less the result given by dividing the amount at (e) above by the Council Tax Base agreed on the 18 <sup>th</sup> December 2013, as the basic amount of Council Tax for the year for Milton Keynes Council, excluding Parish and Major Precepting Authorities.

11. Agree that the following amounts be calculated for Milton Keynes Council Tax:

<b>VALUATION BANDS</b>							
<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>H</b>
<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>758.69</b>	<b>885.14</b>	<b>1,011.59</b>	<b>1,138.04</b>	<b>1,390.94</b>	<b>1,643.84</b>	<b>1,896.73</b>	<b>2,276.08</b>

- 12 Agree 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.
- 13 Note that for the year 2014/15, Police & 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 £
107.01	124.84	142.68	160.51	196.18	231.85	267.52	321.02

- 14 Note that for the year 2014/15, 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 £
39.42	45.99	52.56	59.13	72.27	85.41	98.55	118.26

15. Agree that as a result of the above, the amounts of Council Tax (shown in **Annexes 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.
16. Agree the Treasury Management Strategy for 2014/15 to 2018/19 and the Treasury Policy Statement, including the Minimum Revenue Provision Policy.
17. Agree the prudential indicators for Capital Expenditure and the Capital Financing Requirement, the Authorised Limit and Operational Boundary for External Debt, the Affordability Prudential Indicators and the Treasury Management Prudential Indicators for the years 2014/15 to 2018/19.
18. Confirm the Authorised Limit for external debt of £587m for 2014/15 to be the statutory limit determined under section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2003.
19. Approve the resource allocation for the 2014/15 Tariff programme.

20. Consider the equalities impact assessment for the budget and use it to inform the Budget Resolution.”

Councillor Tallack moved the following amendment, which was seconded by Councillor S Burke:

“That the following additional Clause be added to the recommendation:

‘The expectation of £200k assumed efficiencies resulting from the Modernisation of Client, Community and Fleet transport arrangements review, be removed, with the changes being funded from one off resources available in the budget proposal to Council, until the cost pressure created by this change can be addressed as part of the development of the 2015/16 budget.’”

On being put to the vote the amendment was declared lost, with 15 Members voting in favour, 36 Members voting against and 0 Members abstaining from voting.

Councillor Marland moved the following amendment, which was seconded by Councillor Middleton, and accepted by the mover of the motion:

- “(a) That the following additional clauses (1 to 6) be added to the recommendations so far as revenue is concerned to be funded from one-off revenue resources available in the budget proposals to Council, until any on-going cost pressures created by these changes are considered as part of the development of the 2015/16 budget:

1. Long Term Transport Solution

‘The provision of a further £150k to fund work to deliver a financially sustainable passenger transport service based on shared taxis and buses. This innovative transport solution, in line with the wider MK Smart Initiative, is to be developed such, that it can meet the long term transport needs of all users in the borough going forward.’

2. Trade Union Facility Time

‘The provision of an extra £15k to fund Trade Union facility time. This would fund the equivalent of half a post, which reinstates a previous reduction in 2013/14 Budget.’

3. Safer Milton Keynes Team Administrative Support

‘The provision of an extra £15k to fund an Administrative Support post for the Safer Milton Keynes team.’

4. Funding for Parish and Town Councils

'The provision of an additional £25k of funding to parish and town councils. This increase in funding will offset a proportion of the financial losses incurred by parish and town councils as a result of the Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme. The funding will be allocated in the following way:

- £20k distributed to parish and town councils to reduce the financial impact of the scheme by allocating this further funding based on an equal percentage loss of income.
- £5k distributed to parish and town councils who incur the greatest Band D equivalent losses.

to ensure that parish and town councils receive Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme funding of £751k for 2014/15, with £15k of this funding specifically targeted at the parish and town councils with the greatest need'.

That as part of the development of 2015/16 Budget, that £50k of funding be provided to parish and town councils as an addition to grant funding received through the Government's Revenue Support Grant with this being included in future revisions to the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan and, subject to consultation with the Parish Forum, being included in budget proposals to be recommended to Council in February 2015.

5. Funding for Community Mobilisers

'The provision of £25k of funding to reduce the £50k Community Mobiliser saving proposal (S139) to £25k.'

6. Funding for Estate Roads and Pavement Repairs

'The provision of £75k of resources as a revenue contribution to capital to fund improvements in estate roads and pavement repairs.'

7. That the following additional clauses be added to the recommendations so far as the Capital Programme is concerned:

8. Estate Road and Pavement Repairs

- (a) 'The removal of the £150k charge to the Housing Revenue Account for road and pavement repairs, with the costs in 2014/15 being funded from the unallocated Single Capital Pot Grant, with works for 2015/16 onwards being addressed as part of the

development of the future years' Capital Programme.'

- (b) 'The provision of £75k of one-off revenue resources, being allocated as a revenue contribution to capital to fund road and pavement repairs on estates to increase the number of roads that can be brought up to an adoptable standard in 2014/15, thereby reducing the future call on General Fund capital resources.'

Councillor Jury moved the following amendment, which was seconded by Councillor Wharton, and accepted by the mover of the motion:

"That the following additional Clause be added to the recommendation as far as revenue is concerned:

'To allocate an additional total of £140k of available one off resources to the following projects:

- £75k for the provision of toilets in Station Square.
- £35k for the provision of a review of Conservation Areas within the Borough.
- £30k for the provision of one off additional resource to assist in urgent repairs to highways and footways following the recent spells of excessive wet weather which has caused excessive erosion and wear in a number of areas.'

Councillor Jury moved the following amendment, which was seconded by Councillor Wharton, and accepted by the mover of the motion:

"That the following additional Clause be added to the recommendation as far as revenue is concerned, funded from one off resources:

'That, subject to the out-turn of the 2013/14 revenue budget, an additional sum of £200k be made available to provide transitional protection, if required, for those who currently use the Community Transport service until such time as any changes arising from the current review are fully implemented.'

The Council heard from 8 members of the public during consideration of this item.

A recorded vote on the substantive motion was requested and the voting was as follows:

FOR: Councillors Bald, Barney, Bint, Bramall, Brock, Brunning, Dransfield, A Geary, P Geary, Hawthorn, Hopkins, Hoyle, Jury, Kennedy, Klein, McDonald, McLean, Morris, Small and Wharton(20)

AGAINST (0)

ABSTENTIONS Councillors Alexander, Brackenbury, Bradburn, M Burke, S Burke, Eastman, Edwards, Exon, Ferrans, Khan, Legg, Long, Maric, Marland, D McCall, I McCall, McKenzie, Middleton, Miles, O'Neill, Richards, Shafiq, Tallack, Wales, Wallis, Webb, White, C Williams, P Williams and Zealley (30)

The substantive motion was declared carried.

RESOLVED -

1. That the 2014/15 Net Revenue Budget of £197.064m be agreed, subject to:
  - (a) the provision of a further £150k to fund work to deliver a financially sustainable passenger transport service based on shared taxis and buses, with this innovative transport solution, in line with the wider MK Smart Initiative, being developed such, that it can meet the long term transport needs of all users in the borough going forward, with the service being funded from one-off revenue resources available in the budget, until any on-going cost pressures created by this change is considered as part of the development of the 2015/16 budget;
  - (b) the provision of an extra £15k to fund Trade Union facility time, equivalent of half a post, which reinstates a previous reduction in 2013/14 Budget, to be funded from one-off revenue resources available in the budget, until any on-going cost pressure created by this change is considered as part of the development of the 2015/16 budget;
  - (c) the provision of an extra £15k to fund an Administrative Support post for the Safer Milton Keynes team, to be funded from one-off revenue resources available in the budget, until any on-going cost pressure created by this change is considered as part of the development of the 2015/16 budget;

(d) the provision of an additional £25k of funding to parish and town councils to offset a proportion of the financial losses incurred by parish and town councils as a result of the Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme, to be funded from one-off revenue resources available in the budget, until any on-going cost pressure created by this change is considered as part of the development of the 2015/16 budget; with the additional funding being allocated in the following way:

- (i) £20k distributed to parish and town councils to reduce the financial impact of the scheme by allocating this further funding based on an equal percentage loss of income;
- (ii) £5k distributed to parish and town councils who incur the greatest Band D equivalent losses;

to ensure that parish and town councils receive Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme funding of £751k for 2014/15, with £15k of this funding specifically targeted at the parish and town councils with the greatest need;

(e) the provision of £25k of funding to reduce the £50k Community Mobiliser saving proposal (S139) to £25k, to be funded from one-off revenue resources available in the budget, until any on-going cost pressure created by this change is considered as part of the development of the 2015/16 budget;

(f) the provision of £75k of resources as a revenue contribution to capital to fund improvements in estate roads and pavement repairs to fund road and pavement repairs on estates to increase the number of roads that can be brought up to an adoptable standard in 2014/15, thereby reducing the future call on General Fund capital resources, to be funded from one-off revenue resources available in the budget until any on-going cost pressure created by this change is considered as part of the development of the 2015/16 budget;

(g) an additional £140k of available one off resources being to the following projects:

- (i) £75k for the provision of toilets in Station Square;
- (ii) £35k for the provision of a review of Conservation Areas within the Borough; and
- (iii) £30k for the provision of one off additional resource to assist in urgent repairs to highways and footways following the recent spells of

excessive wet weather which has caused excessive erosion and wear in a number of areas; and

- (h) the an additional sum of £200k, funded from one off resources and subject to the out-turn of the 2013/14 revenue budget, be made available to provide transitional protection, if required, for those who currently use the Community Transport service until such time as any changes arising from the current review are fully implemented.
2. That as part of the development of 2015/16 Budget, that £50k of funding be provided to parish and town councils as an addition to grant funding received through the Government's Revenue Support Grant with this being included in future revisions to the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan and, subject to consultation with the Parish Forum, being included in budget proposals to be recommended to Council in February 2015.
  3. That, as a consequence of the additional £25k of funding for parish and town councils (Amendment [e]), the Parish and Town Council Tax Base and Provisional Funding Allocations be amended to a total funding distribution of £751k in 2014/15 from Milton Keynes Council to parish and town councils.
  4. That the Capital Programme including its financing be agreed, subject to the removal of the £150k charge to the Housing Revenue Account for road and pavement repairs, with the costs in 2014/15 being funded from the unallocated Single Capital Pot Grant, with works for 2015/16 onwards being addressed as part of the development of the future years' Capital Programme.
  5. That a Council Tax at Band D of £1,138.04, a nil percent increase on the previous year, be agreed.
  6. That in line with the requirements of the Local Government Act 2003, it be noted that the Corporate Director, Resources is of the view that:
    - (a) based on the Period 10 2013/14 forecast, the General Fund balance is adequate to meet the Council's financial needs in 2014/15. This view takes account of the reserves included in the Council's latest audited Accounts as at 31 March 2013; the movement of these reserves since that date (as tracked through the Budget Monitoring Reports); and the new reserves required, as outlined in the MTFP report; and
    - (b) the financial position set out in this report is sufficiently robust to allow a budget to be set for 2014/15. This takes into account the adequacy of the level of

balances and reserves outlined above and the assurance gained from the forecast position for 31 March 2014.

7. That the estimated 2014/15 Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) of £211.166m be noted.
8. That the fees and charges for 2014/15, including the exemptions to the Income Policy, be approved.
9. That it be noted that a Targeted Youth Support Service is being developed to support vulnerable young people and those 'at-risk'.
10. That it be noted that, at its meeting on 18 December 2013, the Cabinet approved the number of 76,261.84 equivalent Band D properties as the Council's Tax Base for the year 2014/15 in accordance with Section 31B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.
11. That the Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2014/15 (excluding Parish Precepts) of £86.789m, be noted.
12. That the following amounts be used for the year 2014/15 for calculations in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 [the "Act"]:
  - (a) £647.814m 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) £555.939m being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3);
  - (c) £91.875m 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) £1,204.74 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 18<sup>th</sup> December 2013;
  - (e) £5,086,371 being the aggregate amount of all special items (Parish Precepts) referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act; and
  - (f) £1,138.04 being the amount at (d) less the result given by dividing the amount at (e) above by the Council Tax Base agreed on the 18<sup>th</sup> December 2013, as the basic amount of Council Tax for the year for Milton Keynes Council, excluding Parish and Major Precepting

Authorities.

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

VALUATION BANDS							
A £	B £	C £	D £	E £	F £	G £	H £
758.69	885.14	1,011.59	1,138.04	1,390.94	1,643.84	1,896.73	2,276.08

14. 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, be agreed.
15. That it be noted that for the year 2014/15, the 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 £
107.01	124.84	142.68	160.51	196.18	231.85	267.52	321.02

16. That it be noted that for the year 2014/15, 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 £
39.42	45.99	52.56	59.13	72.27	85.41	98.55	118.26

17. That as a result of the above, the amounts of Council Tax (shown in **Annexes 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.
18. That the Treasury Management Strategy for 2014/15 to 2018/19 and the Treasury Policy Statement, including the Minimum Revenue Provision Policy, be agreed.
19. That the prudential indicators for Capital Expenditure and the Capital Financing Requirement, the Authorised Limit and Operational Boundary for External Debt, the Affordability Prudential Indicators and the Treasury Management Prudential Indicators for the years 2014/15 to 2018/19, be agreed.

20. That the Authorised Limit for external debt of £587m for 2014/15 to be the statutory limit determined under section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2003 be confirmed.
21. That the resource allocation for the 2014/15 Tariff programme be approved.
22. That the equalities impact assessment for the budget, used to inform the Budget Resolution of the Council, be noted

**CL108 MEMBERSHIP OF ECONOMY, GROWTH AND REGENERATION SELECT COMMITTEE**

The Council considered confirming the appointment of Councillor Brunning to the Conservative Group vacancy on the Economy Growth and Regeneration Select Committee.

RESOLVED -

That the appointment of Councillor Brunning to the Conservative Group vacancy on the Economy Growth and Regeneration Select Committee be confirmed.

**CL109 REPORT ON SPECIAL URGENCY DECISION**

The Council noted that, in accordance with Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rule 16(i), the Cabinet, when making the decision on 29 January 2014, on the Award of the Contract for Executive Search and Selection Services, had decided, with the consent of the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee, to waive the call-in process as failure to make the decision would have seriously prejudiced the Council's interests by delaying the recruitment process and subsequent appointment of a new Chief Executive and Head of Paid Service.

THE MAYOR CLOSED THE MEETING AT 10:40 PM