

COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 22 FEBRUARY 2011 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER - COUNTY HALL, TROWBRIDGE

Present:

Cllr Desna Allen, Cllr Richard Beattie, Cllr Chuck Berry, Cllr John Brady, Cllr Richard Britton, Cllr Rosemary Brown, Cllr Liz Bryant, Cllr Allison Bucknell, Cllr Jane Burton, Cllr Trevor Carbin, Cllr Nigel Carter, Cllr Chris Caswill, Cllr Ernie Clark, Cllr Richard Clewer, Cllr Christopher Cochrane, Cllr Peter Colmer, Cllr Linda Conley, Cllr Mark Connolly, Cllr Christine Crisp (Vice-Chair), Cllr Michael Cuthbert-Murray, Cllr Brian Dalton, Cllr Paul Darby, Cllr Andrew Davis, Cllr Peter Davis, Cllr Tony Deane, Cllr Bill Douglas, Cllr Peggy Dow, Cllr Peter Doyle, Cllr Rod Eaton, Cllr Nick Fogg, Cllr Peter Fuller, Cllr Richard Gamble, Cllr Jose Green, Cllr Mark Griffiths, Cllr Mollie Groom, Cllr Lionel Grundy OBE, Cllr Brigadier Robert Hall (Chairman), Cllr Mike Hewitt, Cllr Malcolm Hewson, Cllr Alan Hill, Cllr Charles Howard, Cllr Jon Hubbard, Cllr Chris Humphries, Cllr George Jeans, Cllr David Jenkins, Cllr Julian Johnson, Cllr Simon Killane, Cllr John Knight, Cllr Jerry Kunkler, Cllr Jacqui Lay, Cllr Alan Macrae, Cllr Howard Marshall, Cllr Laura Mayes, Cllr Ian McLennan, Cllr Jemima Milton, Cllr Francis Morland, Cllr Bill Moss, Cllr Christopher Newbury, Cllr John Noeken, Cllr Stephen Oldrieve, Cllr Helen Osborn, Cllr Jeff Osborn, Cllr Mark Packard, Cllr Sheila Parker, Cllr Graham Payne, Cllr Stephen Petty, Cllr Leo Randall, Cllr Fleur de Rhe-Philipe, Cllr Pip Ridout, Cllr Bill Roberts, Cllr Ricky Rogers, Cllr Judy Rooke, Cllr Paul Sample, Cllr Jane Scott OBE, Cllr Jonathon Seed, Cllr John Smale, Cllr Carole Soden, Cllr Toby Sturgis, Cllr Julie Swabey, Cllr John Thomson, Cllr Dick Tonge, Cllr Anthony Trotman, Cllr Bridget Wayman, Cllr Ian West, Cllr Fred Westmoreland, Cllr Stuart Wheeler, Cllr Roy While, Cllr Christopher Williams and Cllr Graham Wright

78. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Jeff Ody, Cllr Russell Hawker, Cllr Howard Greenman, Cllr Mary Douglas, Cllr Tom James, Cllr Peter Hutton, Cllr Keith Humphries and Cllr Nina Phillips.

79. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the Meeting held on 9 November 2010 were presented.

Resolved:

That the minutes of the last Council meeting held on 9 November 2010 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

80. **Declarations of Interest**

The Chairman reminded Councillors of the Monitoring Officer's advice previously circulated to them on declaring interests as necessary in respect of:

- proposals to set the budget and Council tax levels and agreeing garage rents as part of the item on the Wiltshire Council's Business Plan and 2011/12 Budget (minute no. 85 refers) and
- any landholdings affected by proposals contained in the item on the South Wiltshire Core Strategy – Review of Housing and Employment Requirements (minute no. 86 refers).

Declarations of interests made during the meeting are referred to at minute nos. 85, 87 and 89)

81. **Announcements by the Chairman**

a) Meeting Information

Particularly for the benefit of the members of the public present, the Chairman confirmed advice previously circulated to Councillors over arrangements for this meeting. Given that the item on the Budget (minute no.85 refers) was likely to take a long time, Council would not commence with its consideration of the item on the South Wiltshire Core Strategy (minute no.86 refers) until approximately 4pm. This would then be followed by the item on the Wiltshire Local Transport Plan (minute no. 87 refers). He invited the members of the public present for these items to stay to hear the Budget debate or alternatively to return at 4pm. It was noted that those who had previously contacted the Council on these two items had been advised of this arrangement.

b) New Year's honours

On behalf of Council, the Chairman congratulated the Wiltshire residents who received national recognition in the New Year's Honours list, details of which he read out.

Of particular note, it was reported that the High Sheriff for Wiltshire for the period 2003-04 David Newbigging from Fyfield had received a Knighthood for services to cancer research.

c) Total Respect Training

The Chairman reminded Councillors of their role as "corporate parents" of Wiltshire's Looked After Children and young people. He explained that the total respect training programme would be held on Wednesday 16 March at County Hall. The programme sought to develop knowledge and understanding of young people's views, rights and issues, and was aimed at improving individual practice and producing strategic recommendations to improve the quality of care for looked after children and young people. All Councillors were urged to attend.

82. Petitions

a) Petitions Received

The Chairman reported receipt of three petitions for presentation to this meeting on parking charges in respect of Devizes, Marlborough and Bradford on Avon. Given their relevance to the item on the Wiltshire Local Transport Plan to be considered later in the meeting, which incorporated the Car Parking Strategy, the Chairman advised that the petitions would be considered at that item (please refer to minute no. 87 for details of the petitions received.)

b) Petitions Update

A report by the Head of Democratic Services was presented which gave details of 11 petitions received for the period since the last Council meeting.

In response to a query, the Chairman reassured Council that as well as the statutory petition scheme, the Council also continued to operate a more accommodating discretionary petition scheme as evidenced by the petitions presented at this meeting as referred to in (a) above.

Resolved:

That Council note the report, the petitions received and the actions being taken, as set out in the Appendix to the report presented.

83. Public Participation

Question

The Chairman reported receipt of two questions from Mr Phil Matthews of the Wiltshire Involvement Network which questioned the decision to suspend the Network and its funding. He also sought an assurance that funding would be available to continue its work up until Healthwatch was set up. Details of the questions and responses from the Leader were presented and are reproduced at Appendix A to these minutes.

Statements

The Chairman reported receipt of written statements on the following areas as circulated:

- From Godshill Parish Council in respect of the item on the South Wiltshire Core Strategy (minute no.86 refers)
- From Mrs Margaret Taylor on behalf of Devizes Town Council in respect of car parking in Devizes as referred to in the Car Parking Strategy of the Wiltshire Local Transport Plan (minute no. 87 refers).

Please refer to individual minutes for details of verbal representations made at this meeting (minute nos. 85, 86 and 87 refer).

84. **By Election - Bromham, Rowde and Potterne**

Council noted the report of the Deputy Returning Officer on the results of the Bromham, Rowde and Potterne By-election held on 21 December 2010. The Chairman congratulated the successful candidate Cllr Liz Bryant and on behalf of all Councillors, welcomed her to this her first meeting of Council.

85. **Wiltshire Council's Business Plan and 2011/12 Budget**

Declarations of interest

Cllr Dalton declared a personal and prejudicial interest in this item in so far as it related to the setting of garage rents as referred to in the proposals concerning the Housing Revenue Account by virtue of the fact that he held a garage tenancy. Cllr Dalton left the meeting during consideration of that element of the budget.

The following Councillors declared personal interests by virtue of their membership of the undermentioned Housing Associations:

- Selwood Housing Association - Cllrs Rod Eaton, Graham Payne, Jon Hubbard and Ernie Clark.
- Sarsen Housing Association - Cllr Nigel Carter
- Westleigh Housing Association - Cllr Allison Bucknell
- Jephson Housing Association – Cllr Peter Fuller

Cllr Tony Trotman declared a personal interest in the leisure review proposals by virtue of his professional capacity.

Cllr Richard Beattie declared a personal interest by virtue of his membership of the Visit Wiltshire Partnership.

Cllrs Steve Oldrieve and Howard Marshall declared an interest by virtue of their respective wives being employed by the Council.

Cllr Julie Swabey, declared a personal interest by virtue of being related to an officer of the Council.

Public Participation

Mr Kevin Wells on behalf of the Board of Directors of the Calne Leisure Centre sought reassurance over continued funding of the Leisure Centre by the Council to ensure its continued success. Cllr Stuart Wheeler, Cabinet member for Leisure, Sport and Culture confirmed that subject to the budget being approved at this meeting as presented, funding for Calne Leisure Centre would be continued.

The Chairman invited Council to consider the Business Plan and Financial Plan for 2011-15 and to agree the Council's Budget and the Council Tax levels for 2011-12. He reminded Council that it had a legal obligation to set a budget.

The Chairman explained how he intended to manage the debate on the budget item as summarised by the previously circulated paper on the Budget Process.

The Chairman drew Councillors' attention to the various budget papers which had been previously circulated, including the Council's Business Plan and Financial Plan as revised. He also referred to the following budget reports as previously considered and recommended by Cabinet as circulated on the:

- Capital programme 2011-12 to 2014-2015
- Housing Revenue Account Budget and Rent Setting 2011-12
- Schools Budget Proposals 2011-12
- Fees and Charges 2011-2012
- Council Tax Resolution 2011-2012

All as recommended by Cabinet at its meeting on 15 February 2011.

- Treasury Management Strategy 2011-12

As recommended by Cabinet at its meeting on 25 January 2011.

The Chairman also drew attention to the report of the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Select Committee held on 10 February 2011.

The Chairman explained the order in which he would invite Councillors to speak on the budget and the time allowed for group leaders and other members of the Council.

The Chairman invited Cllr Scott, Leader of the Council to present her budget speech which was circulated at the meeting and attached as Appendix B to these minutes.

The Leader explained that in her opinion, the proposed budget for the year ahead was sound, and one which would maintain front line services in better

shape than other similar sized councils as well as provide significant investment in the future of Wiltshire.

The Leader further emphasised that far reaching changes to the concept of Local Government and its responsibilities were underway, at a time when unprecedented savings were required by the Government's 4 year plan for Local Government.

The intentions of the Council were to continue:

- to provide high quality, low cost, customer focused services
- to ensure local, open and honest decision-making and
- to work with our partners to support Wiltshire's communities.

The Leader moved the recommendations of Cabinet on adoption of the Business Plan, Financial Plan and budget proposals and this was duly seconded by Cllr Thomson, the Deputy Leader.

At the Chairman's invitation, Cllr Jeff Osborn presented the report of the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Select Committee held on 10 February 2011. He considered this was a unique budget and noted there was no proposal to increase Council tax due to Government funding to ensure zero tax increases. He welcomed the proposed capital investments in leisure and the campus projects.

Group leaders were then invited to respond to the Leader's motion or move an amendment to the Leader's motion.

Cllr Jon Hubbard, leader of the Liberal Democrat Group responded to the Leader's motion and questioned the merit of having a Business Plan and Financial Plan which covered a 4 year period set against a budget for one year. He considered there were so many legislative and other changes affecting Local Government not least of all, the Localism Bill that would need to be addressed which would make it difficult to predict how the Authority would work for the majority of the 4 year period.

Cllr Hubbard gave notice that he intended to propose a series of 9 amendments to the budget, details of which were circulated together with the comments of the Interim Chief Finance Officer in his capacity as the S.151 Officer. The Chief Finance Officer stated that the amendments had been reviewed by him in consultation with other statutory officers. His comments included the risk element of the proposed amendments but also pointed out that overall the proposed amendments when taken together as one amendment, still maintained the robustness of the budget.

The Leader acknowledged the right of a political group to propose amendments to the budget. However, she considered that in the interests of transparency, details of proposed amendments should have been made available earlier for

consultation and open to scrutiny as had the Cabinet's proposals. In the circumstances, she moved that the meeting be adjourned to allow each political group time to consider and form a view on the proposed amendments. On being seconded and put to the vote, it was

Resolved:

That the meeting be adjourned for a period of at least two hours after which a view to be taken by the Chairman, following consultation with a representative of each political group on whether a further period of adjournment was required.

MEETING ADJOURNED

Note: The meeting adjourned at 11.50am.

MEETING RECONVENED

Note: The meeting reconvened at 2.00pm.

AMENDMENTS

Cllr Jon Hubbard proposed 9 amendments which were taken individually as detailed below and seconded by Cllr Peter Colmer:

Amendment 1

The introduction of a charging scheme for car parking permits for council premises.

£0.175m to be raised annually through the introduction of a progressive charging scheme for council employees to park at council premises. This scheme, similar to the one successfully introduced at the RUH in Bath, would see employees paying a small charge, the amount of which is directly linked to their salary, for the privilege of parking their cars at council premises.

Many people see it as hypocritical of this council to be providing over 1400 free parking spaces to staff, highly paid senior officers and councillors whilst at the same time massively increasing the cost to the residents of Wiltshire to park in their towns and villages.

In year one of this scheme £0.100m of the revenue gained would be invested in promoting and providing alternative staff transport schemes, such as encouraging car sharing, investment in providing adequate facilities for cycle storage and the availability of subsidised cycle safety equipment.

This amendment would provide a net increase in revenue to the council of £0.075m'.

Cllr John Noeken as Cabinet member for Resources responded to the amendment and in so doing referred to proposals for an alternative staff transport scheme and that all of the four hubs provided facilities to encourage cycling. He also explained that the amendment proposed would require a change to the contracts of employment for staff and that priority was being given to dealing with pay harmonisation. Cllr Noeken added that whilst the amendment was a commendable thought, it was not possible to take it forward at this point in time.

The Chairman gave other Group Leaders the opportunity of responding to amendment No. 1 before opening the debate to other members of the Council.

On being put to the vote, Amendment No. 1 was LOST and a recorded vote having been requested by the requisite number of Councillors, the voting was recorded as follows:

For Amendment No. 1 (22)

Cllrs Desna Allen, Rosemary Brown, Trevor Carbin, Chris Caswill, Peter Colmer, Paul Darby, Bill Douglas, Peggy Dow, Malcolm Hewson, Jon Hubbard, David Jenkins, Simon Killane, John Knight, Howard Marshall, Steve Oldrieve, Helen Osborn, Jeff Osborn, Mark Packard, Stephen Petty, Judy Rooke, Ian West and Graham Wright.

Against Amendment No. 1 (58)

Cllrs Richard Beattie, Chuck Berry, John Brady, Richard Britton, Liz Bryant, Allison Bucknell, Richard Clewer, Chris Cochrane, Linda Conley, Mark Connolly, Christine Crisp, Andrew Davis, Peter Davis, Fleur de Rhe Philipe, Tony Deane, Peter Doyle, Rod Eaton, Nick Fogg, Peter Fuller, Richard Gamble, Jose Green, Mark Griffiths, Mollie Groom, Lionel Grundy, Robert Hall, Mike Hewitt, Alan Hill, Charles Howard, Chris Humphries, Julian Johnson, Jerry Kunkler, Jacqui Lay, Alan Macrae, Laura Mayes, Ian McLennan, Jemima Milton, Bill Moss, John Noeken, Sheila Parker, Graham Payne, Leo Randall, Pip Ridout, Bill Roberts, Ricky Rogers, Jane Scott, Jonathon Seed, John Smale, Carole Soden, Toby Sturgis, Julie Swabey, John Thomson, Dick Tonge, Tony Trotman, Bridget Wayman, Fred Westmoreland, Stuart Wheeler, Roy While and Chris Williams.

Abstentions Amendment No. 1 (5)

Cllrs Jane Burton, Nigel Carter, Ernie Clark, Michael Cuthbert-Murray and Francis Morland.

Cllr Jon Hubbard proposed the following amendment No. 2 which was seconded by Cllr Peter Colmer:

Amendment 2
Fixing Wiltshire's Broken Road Network

'An additional £0.500m investment in Highways revenue for 2011/12 allowing for vital County-wide repairs to road infrastructure. Pothole, kerb and pavement repair removes potential deterrents to walking and cycling, and improves motor vehicle efficiency.

To be funded through drawing on the list of savings identified at the head of (the report presented by the Liberal Democrat group).

Cllr Dick Tonge, Cabinet member for Highways and Transport responded to the amendment and on seeking clarification on exactly where this would be funded from was advised it was proposed to fund this from savings from the Policy and Communications budget.

The Chairman gave other Group Leaders the opportunity of responding to the amendment before opening the debate to other members of the Council.

On being put to the vote, Amendment No. 2 was LOST and a recorded vote having been requested by the requisite number of Councillors, the voting was recorded as follows:

For Amendment No. 2 (28)

Cllrs Desna Allen, Rosemary Brown, Trevor Carbin, Chris Caswill, Ernie Clark, Peter Colmer, Michael Cuthbert-Murray, Paul Darby, Bill Douglas, Peggy Dow, Nick Fogg, Malcolm Hewson, Jon Hubbard, David Jenkins, Simon Killane, John Knight, Howard Marshall, Ian McLennan, Francis Morland, Steve Oldrieve, Helen Osborn, Jeff Osborn, Mark Packard, Stephen Petty, Ricky Rogers, Judy Rooke, Ian West and Graham Wright.

Against Amendment No. 2 (57)

Cllrs Richard Beattie, Chuck Berry, John Brady, Richard Britton, Liz Bryant, Allison Bucknell, Jane Burton, Nigel Carter, Richard Clewer, Chris Cochrane, Linda Conley, Mark Connolly, Christine Crisp, Andrew Davis, Peter Davis, Fleur de Rhe Philipe, Tony Deane, Peter Doyle, Rod Eaton, Peter Fuller, Richard Gamble, Jose Green, Mark Griffiths, Mollie Groom, Lionel Grundy, Robert Hall, Mike Hewitt, Alan Hill, Charles Howard, Chris Humphries, Julian Johnson, Jerry Kunkler, Jacqui Lay, Alan Macrae, Laura Mayes, Jemima Milton, Bill Moss, John Noeken, Sheila Parker, Graham Payne, Leo Randall, Pip Ridout, Bill Roberts, Jane Scott, Jonathon Seed, John Smale, Carole Soden, Toby Sturgis, Julie Swabey, John Thomson, Dick Tonge, Tony Trotman, Bridget Wayman, Fred Westmoreland, Stuart Wheeler, Roy While and Chris Williams.

Cllr Jon Hubbard proposed the following amendment No. 3 which was seconded by Cllr Peter Colmer.

Amendment 3
Investing in Wiltshire Road Network Infrastructure

‘£0.500m investment in Highways capital; allowing £5.00m for major resurfacing and improvement works. Prevents vehicle damage and improves efficiency, reducing vehicular carbon emissions

To be funded through drawing on the list of savings identified at the head of’ (the report presented by the Liberal Democrat group identified at the meeting as being funded from the Policy and Communications budget).

The Leader of the Council questioned the targeting of the Policy and Communications budget as a means of funding the proposed amendments. She explained that the Policy and Communications budget was to provide for internal and external communications with its primary role to communicate with the public and allow for public engagement. She emphasised that it was not therefore a designated resource for the administration.

The Chairman gave other Group Leaders the opportunity of responding to the amendment before opening the debate to other members of the Council.

On being put to the vote, Amendment No. 3 was LOST and a recorded vote having been requested by the requisite number of Councillors, the voting was recorded as follows:

For Amendment No. 3 (25)

Cllrs Desna Allen, Rosemary Brown, Trevor Carbin, Chris Caswill, Ernie Clark, Peter Colmer, Paul Darby, Bill Douglas, Peggy Dow, Nick Fogg, Malcolm Hewson, Jon Hubbard, David Jenkins, Simon Killane, John Knight, Howard Marshall, Francis Morland, Steve Oldrieve, Helen Osborn, Jeff Osborn, Mark Packard, Stephen Petty, Judy Rooke, Ian West and Graham Wright.

Against Amendment No. 3 (60)

Cllrs Richard Beattie, Chuck Berry, John Brady, Richard Britton, Liz Bryant, Allison Bucknell, Jane Burton, Nigel Carter, Richard Clewer, Chris Cochrane, Linda Conley, Mark Connolly, Christine Crisp, Michael Cuthbert-Murray, Andrew Davis, Peter Davis, Fleur de Rhe Philipe, Tony Deane, Peter Doyle, Rod Eaton, Peter Fuller, Richard Gamble, Jose Green, Mark Griffiths, Mollie Groom, Lionel Grundy, Robert Hall, Mike Hewitt, Alan Hill, Charles Howard, Chris Humphries, Julian Johnson, Jerry Kunkler, Jacqui Lay, Alan Macrae, Laura Mayes, Ian McLennan, Jemima Milton, Bill Moss, John Noeken, Sheila Parker, Graham Payne, Leo Randall, Pip Ridout, Bill Roberts, Ricky Rogers, Jane Scott,

Jonathon Seed, John Smale, Carole Soden, Toby Sturgis, Julie Swabey, John Thomson, Dick Tonge, Tony Trotman, Bridget Wayman, Fred Westmoreland, Stuart Wheeler, Roy While and Chris Williams.

Cllr Jon Hubbard proposed the following amendment No. 4 which was seconded by Cllr Peter Colmer:

Amendment 4
Working towards a Healthier Wiltshire for All

‘£0.561m annually to re-introduce Free Swimming for under-16s and over-65s; As part of the Olympic preparations, and to meet Wiltshire Area Board commitments in the 2014 Leading by Example initiative. This investment emphasises the importance of health in a good quality of life in Wiltshire.

To be funded through drawing on the list of savings identified at the head of’ (the report presented by the Liberal Democrat group).

This was identified at the meeting as being funded from the ICT budget by withdrawing the use of smart phones across the Council with an exception for staff who were required to work late or mainly worked off site.

Cllr Stuart Wheeler, Cabinet member for Leisure, Sport and Culture explained that free swimming had been a Government funded scheme. Unfortunately, when considered against other Council priorities and the financial pressures on the Council, continuation of the scheme could not be funded by the Council following withdrawal of Government funding. Officers were however looking to develop healthier for all proposals which would include provision for access to leisure centres and swimming pools for the most vulnerable.

The Chairman gave other Group Leaders the opportunity of responding to the amendment before opening the debate to other members of the Council.

On being put to the vote, amendment No. 4 was LOST and a recorded vote having been requested by the requisite number of Councillors, the voting was recorded as follows:

For Amendment No. 4 (27)

Cllrs Desna Allen, Rosemary Brown, Trevor Carbin, Chris Caswill, Ernie Clark, Peter Colmer, Paul Darby, Bill Douglas, Peggy Dow, Malcolm Hewson, Jon Hubbard, David Jenkins, Simon Killane, John Knight, Howard Marshall, Ian McLennan, Francis Morland, Steve Oldrieve, Helen Osborn, Jeff Osborn, Mark Packard, Stephen Petty, Ricky Rogers, Judy Rooke, Paul Sample, Ian West and Graham Wright.

Against Amendment No. 4 (59)

Cllrs Richard Beattie, Chuck Berry, John Brady, Richard Britton, Liz Bryant, Allison Bucknell, Jane Burton, Nigel Carter, Richard Clewer, Chris Cochrane, Linda Conley, Mark Connolly, Christine Crisp, Michael Cuthbert-Murray, Andrew Davis, Peter Davis, Fleur de Rhe Philipe, Tony Deane, Peter Doyle, Rod Eaton, Nick Fogg, Peter Fuller, Richard Gamble, Jose Green, Mark Griffiths, Mollie Groom, Lionel Grundy, Robert Hall, Mike Hewitt, Alan Hill, Charles Howard, Chris Humphries, Julian Johnson, Jerry Kunkler, Jacqui Lay, Alan Macrae, Laura Mayes, Jemima Milton, Bill Moss, John Noeken, Sheila Parker, Graham Payne, Leo Randall, Pip Ridout, Bill Roberts, Jane Scott, Jonathon Seed, John Smale, Carole Soden, Toby Sturgis, Julie Swabey, John Thomson, Dick Tonge, Tony Trotman, Bridget Wayman, Fred Westmoreland, Stuart Wheeler, Roy While and Chris Williams.

Abstention Amendment No. 4 (1)

Cllr George Jeans

Cllr Jon Hubbard proposed the following amendment No. 5 which was seconded by Cllr Peter Colmer.

Amendment 5
Supporting Economic Growth and Helping Prevent Youth
Unemployment in Wiltshire

'£0.250m investment in 2011/12 to support employers to increase the number of Apprentices in Wiltshire. This is an investment in future growth and young people in Wiltshire. Enabling small and medium business to train apprentices without taking on the burden of additional training fees.

To be funded through drawing on the list of savings identified at the head of' (the report presented by the Liberal Democrat group).

This was identified at the meeting as being funded from the Policy and Communications budget.

Cllr John Brady as Cabinet member for Economic Development, Planning and Housing commented that he had explained this at the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Select Committee. The intention was to use the proposed budget to fund various skills programmes with partner agencies. Funding would be made available by the Government for apprenticeships.

The Chairman gave other Group Leaders the opportunity of responding to the amendment before opening the debate to other members of the Council. Cllr Jeff Osborn commented that 1 in 5 16-24 year olds were now out of work and should the amendment be lost, he hoped that work could be undertaken with Cllr Brady to provide assistance to this particular category.

On being put to the vote, amendment No. 5 was LOST and a recorded vote having been requested by the requisite number of Councillors, the voting was recorded as follows:

For Amendment No. 5 (26)

Cllrs Desna Allen, Rosemary Brown, Trevor Carbin, Chris Caswill, Ernie Clark, Peter Colmer, Paul Darby, Bill Douglas, Peggy Dow, Malcolm Hewson, Jon Hubbard, George Jeans, David Jenkins, Simon Killane, John Knight, Howard Marshall, Francis Morland, Steve Oldrieve, Helen Osborn, Jeff Osborn, Mark Packard, Stephen Petty, Judy Rooke, Paul Sample, Ian West and Graham Wright.

Against Amendment No. 5 (58)

Cllrs Richard Beattie, Chuck Berry, John Brady, Richard Britton, Liz Bryant, Allison Bucknell, Richard Clewer, Chris Cochrane, Linda Conley, Mark Connolly, Christine Crisp, Andrew Davis, Peter Davis, Fleur de Rhe Philipe, Tony Deane, Peter Doyle, Rod Eaton, Nick Fogg, Peter Fuller, Richard Gamble, Jose Green, Mark Griffiths, Mollie Groom, Lionel Grundy, Robert Hall, Mike Hewitt, Alan Hill, Charles Howard, Chris Humphries, Julian Johnson, Jerry Kunkler, Jacqui Lay, Alan Macrae, Laura Mayes, Ian McLennan, Jemima Milton, Bill Moss, John Noeken, Sheila Parker, Graham Payne, Leo Randall, Pip Ridout, Bill Roberts, Ricky Rogers, Jane Scott, Jonathon Seed, John Smale, Carole Soden, Toby Sturgis, Julie Swabey, John Thomson, Dick Tonge, Tony Trotman, Bridget Wayman, Fred Westmoreland, Stuart Wheeler, Roy While and Chris Williams.

Abstentions Amendment No. 5 (2)

Cllrs Jane Burton and Nigel Carter.

Cllr Jon Hubbard proposed the following amendment No. 6 which was seconded by Cllr Peter Colmer.

Amendment 6
Keeping Wiltshire Safe

‘£0.125 million investment in Special Constables for 2011/12; providing the investment necessary to support 100 new Special Constables, a value-for-money method of maintaining strong police presence in Wiltshire through offering 100% Council-tax relief inducement for Specials for one year.

To be funded through drawing on the list of savings identified at the head of’ (the report presented by the Liberal Democrat group).

The Leader reported that adoption of this amendment would result in financial implications for the Police in funding the cost of additional uniforms and other incidental costs. She would not be supporting the amendment given that there had been no prior consultation with the Police on such a proposal. Cllr Carole Soden, Vice-Chairman of the Police Authority agreed that this was not something the Council should impose on the Police.

The Chairman gave other Group Leaders the opportunity of responding to the amendment before opening the debate to other members of the Council.

On being put to the vote, amendment No. 6 was LOST and a recorded vote having been requested by the requisite number of Councillors, the voting was recorded as follows:

For Amendment No. 6 (22)

Cllrs Desna Allen, Rosemary Brown, Trevor Carbin, Chris Caswill, Peter Colmer, Peggy Dow, Malcolm Hewson, Jon Hubbard, George Jeans, David Jenkins, Simon Killane, John Knight, Howard Marshall, Steve Oldrieve, Helen Osborn, Jeff Osborn, Mark Packard, Stephen Petty, Judy Rooke, Paul Sample, Ian West and Graham Wright.

Against Amendment No. 6 (62)

Cllrs Richard Beattie, Chuck Berry, John Brady, Richard Britton, Liz Bryant, Allison Bucknell, Jane Burton, Nigel Carter, Ernie Clark, Richard Clewer, Chris Cochrane, Linda Conley, Mark Connolly, Christine Crisp, Michael Cuthbert-Murray, Andrew Davis, Peter Davis, Fleur de Rhe Philipe, Tony Deane, Peter Doyle, Nick Fogg, Peter Fuller, Richard Gamble, Jose Green, Mark Griffiths, Mollie Groom, Lionel Grundy, Robert Hall, Mike Hewitt, Alan Hill, Charles Howard, Chris Humphries, Geoge Jeans, Julian Johnson, Jerry Kunkler, Jacqui Lay, Alan Macrae, Laura Mayes, Ian McLennan, Jemima Milton, Bill Moss, John Noeken, Sheila Parker, Graham Payne, Leo Randall, Pip Ridout, Bill Roberts, Ricky Rogers, Jane Scott, Jonathon Seed, John Smale, Carole Soden, Toby Sturgis, Julie Swabey, John Thomson, Dick Tonge, Tony Trotman, Bridget Wayman, Fred Westmorland, Stuart Wheeler, Roy While and Chris Williams.

Abstention Amendment No. 6 (1)

Cllr Francis Morland

Cllr Jon Hubbard proposed the following amendment No. 7 which was seconded by Cllr Peter Colmer.

Amendment 7 Protecting our Youth Service

'Reverse the proposed new cuts of £0.225m across the Youth Service. The work undertaken by our Youth Service helps reduce the levels of perceived and actual anti-social behaviour by young people in our communities. The cost benefits of this are obvious and this improves the opportunities for our young people in these difficult times. This will particularly benefit vulnerable and disadvantaged young people across the county.

To be funded through drawing on the list of savings identified at the head of' (the report presented by the Liberal Democrat group)

Cllr Grundy, Cabinet member for Children's Services confirmed there were no proposals to cut frontline services in this area. At his request, Cllr Clewer, Portfolio Holder for Youth and Skills updated Council on initiatives concerning youth service provision.

The Chairman gave other Group Leaders the opportunity of responding to the amendment before opening the debate to other members of the Council.

On being put to the vote, amendment No. 7 was LOST and a recorded vote having been requested by the requisite number of Councillors, the voting was recorded as follows:

For Amendment No. 7 (23)

Cllrs Desna Allen, Rosemary Brown, Trevor Carbin, Chris Caswill, Peter Colmer, Peggy Dow, Malcolm Hewson, Jon Hubbard, David Jenkins, Simon Killane, John Knight, Howard Marshall, Ian McLennan, Francis Morland, Steve Oldrieve, Helen Osborn, Jeff Osborn, Mark Packard, Stephen Petty, Ricky Rogers, Judy Rooke, Paul Sample, and Ian West.

Against Amendment No. 7 (56)

Cllrs Richard Beattie, Chuck Berry, John Brady, Richard Britton, Liz Bryant, Allison Bucknell, Jane Burton, Nigel Carter, Richard Clewer, Chris Cochrane, Linda Conley, Mark Connolly, Christine Crisp, Michael Cuthbert-Murray, Andrew Davis, Peter Davis, Fleur de Rhe Philipe, Tony Deane, Peter Doyle, Peter Fuller, Richard Gamble, Jose Green, Mark Griffiths, Mollie Groom, Lionel Grundy, Robert Hall, Mike Hewitt, Alan Hill, Charles Howard, Chris Humphries, Julian Johnson, Jerry Kunkler, Jacqui Lay, Alan Macrae, Laura Mayes, Jemima Milton, Bill Moss, John Noeken, Sheila Parker, Leo Randall, Pip Ridout, Bill Roberts, Jane Scott, Jonathon Seed, John Smale, Carole Soden, Toby Sturgis, Julie Swabey, John Thomson, Dick Tonge, Tony Trotman, Bridget Wayman, Fred Westmoreland, Stuart Wheeler, Roy While and Chris Williams.

Abstentions Amendment No. 7 (3)

Cllrs Ernie Clark, Nick Fogg and George Jeans.

Cllr Jon Hubbard proposed the following amendment No. 8 which was seconded by Cllr Peter Colmer.

Amendment 8
Improving Learning and Teaching in our Schools

'Reduce the savage proposed cuts in spending on School Improvement through a reduction in the proposed spending on £0.191m. In line with national policy, including the Pupil premium, evidence shows focusing investment on the early years creates savings in the future. This funding allows for extra school advisers, further teacher training, facilitating enhanced learning experiences for young people in the context of total budget reductions.

To be funded through drawing on the list of savings identified at the head of' (the report presented by the Liberal Democrat group).

Cllr Grundy, Cabinet member for Children's Services confirmed that the proposed budget included provision for investing £4.3 million in 2011-12. Some of this money would be used to provide a core team of officers to support schools as necessary linking into children's attainment and early intervention programmes. At his request, Cllr Alan Macrae, Portfolio Holder for Schools explained these initiatives in more detail.

The Chairman gave other Group Leaders the opportunity of responding to the amendment before opening the debate to other members of the Council.

On being put to the vote, amendment No. 8 was LOST and a recorded vote having been requested by the requisite number of Councillors, the voting was recorded as follows:

For Amendment No. 8 (21)

Cllrs Desna Allen, Rosemary Brown, Trevor Carbin, Chris Caswill, Peter Colmer, Jon Hubbard, David Jenkins, Simon Killane, John Knight, Howard Marshall, Ian McLennan, Francis Morland, Steve Oldrieve, Helen Osborn, Jeff Osborn, Mark Packard, Stephen Petty, Ricky Rogers, Judy Rooke, Paul Sample, and Ian West.

Against Amendment No. 8 (57)

Cllrs Richard Beattie, Chuck Berry, John Brady, Richard Britton, Liz Bryant, Allison Bucknell, Jane Burton, Nigel Carter, Richard Clewer, Chris Cochrane, Linda Conley, Mark Connolly, Christine Crisp, Michael Cuthbert-Murray, Andrew Davis, Peter Davis, Fleur de Rhe Philipe, Tony Deane, Peter Doyle, Peter Fuller, Richard Gamble, Jose Green, Mark Griffiths, Mollie Groom, Lionel Grundy, Robert Hall, Mike Hewitt, Alan Hill, Charles Howard, Chris Humphries, George Jeans, Julian Johnson, Jerry Kunkler, Jacqui Lay, Alan Macrae, Laura Mayes, Jemima Milton, Bill Moss, John Noeken, Sheila Parker, Leo Randall, Pip Ridout, Bill Roberts, Jane Scott, Jonathon Seed, John Smale, Carole Soden, Toby Sturgis, Julie Swabey, John Thomson, Dick Tonge, Tony Trotman, Bridget Wayman, Fred Westmoreland, Stuart Wheeler, Roy While and Chris Williams.

Cllr Jon Hubbard proposed the following amendment No. 9 and in so doing, paid tribute to the hard work and dedication of officers who worked in this particular area. The amendment was seconded by Cllr Peter Colmer.

Amendment 9
Protecting our most Vulnerable Children

'Whilst there are opportunities for considerable savings on previous expenditure on Children's Social Care, we feel that the level of cuts proposed will result in a reduced service for the most vulnerable of our young people in care and therefore would reduce these cuts by £0.254m. Investing properly in their futures at an early stage can save considerable amounts in the future.

To be funded through drawing on the list of savings identified at the head of' (the report presented by the Liberal Democrat group).

Cllr Lionel Grundy, Cabinet member for Children's Services reported that social services provision was adequately funded and that the service had recently undergone transformation. The last Ofsted inspection had classified the service as 'good' although pointed out that the service required increased administrative support which was provided immediately. Cllr Grundy commented that he would not be supporting the amendment as the service was already operating well.

Cllr Sheila Parker, Portfolio Holder for Vulnerable children explained that the service was already making savings whilst supporting vulnerable families.

The Chairman gave other Group Leaders the opportunity of responding to the amendment before opening the debate to other members of the Council.

On being put to the vote, amendment No. 9 was LOST and a recorded vote having been requested by the requisite number of Councillors, the voting was recorded as follows:

For Amendment No. 9 (23)

Cllrs Desna Allen, Rosemary Brown, Trevor Carbin, Chris Caswill, Peter Colmer, Malcolm Hewson, Jon Hubbard, George Jeans, David Jenkins, Simon Killane, John Knight, Howard Marshall, Ian McLennan, Francis Morland, Steve Oldrieve, Helen Osborn, Jeff Osborn, Mark Packard, Stephen Petty, Ricky Rogers, Judy Rooke, Paul Sample, and Ian West.

Against Amendment No. 9 (56)

Cllrs Richard Beattie, Chuck Berry, John Brady, Richard Britton, Liz Bryant, Allison Bucknell, Jane Burton, Nigel Carter, Richard Clewer, Chris Cochrane, Linda Conley, Mark Connolly, Christine Crisp, Michael Cuthbert-Murray, Andrew Davis, Peter Davis, Fleur de Rhe Philipe, Tony Deane, Peter Doyle, Peter Fuller, Richard Gamble, Jose Green, Mark Griffiths, Mollie Groom, Lionel Grundy, Robert Hall, Mike Hewitt, Alan Hill, Charles Howard, Chris Humphries, Julian Johnson, Jerry Kunkler, Jacqui Lay, Alan Macrae, Laura Mayes, Jemima Milton, Bill Moss, John Noeken, Sheila Parker, Leo Randall, Pip Ridout, Bill Roberts, Jane Scott, Jonathon Seed, John Smale, Carole Soden, Toby Sturgis, Julie Swabey, John Thomson, Dick Tonge, Tony Trotman, Bridget Wayman, Fred Westmoreland, Stuart Wheeler, Roy While and Chris Williams.

The amendments by the Liberal Democrat group having been LOST, the Chairman invited other Group Leaders to comment on the Leader's motion or to propose amendments to it.

Cllr Nigel Carter commented on the budget proposals referring to the positive and constructive scrutiny of the budget led by Cllr Jeff Osborn. He added a note of caution that the Council should be as proactive as it could in the area of enterprise and economy to ensure the economic viability of the County. He was delighted with efforts being made in energy management but added this area needed sustained investment to ensure the right culture prevailed to maximise impact. He also referred to the self insurance fund in the context of the scale of programme for the hubs.

Cllr Ricky Rogers acknowledged it was a difficult year to set the budget. He was opposed to the proposal to join the Local Government Association preferring the £88k membership fee was used towards the reinstatement of free swimming.

With no further amendments proposed by the other Group Leaders, other members of the Council were given the opportunity to debate the Leader's motion and or propose any further amendments.

Following a lengthy debate, the Leader of the Council responded to the points raised during debate.

Following clarification by the Chairman on what was being proposed, the Leader's motion was put to the vote and CARRIED by a show of hands. It was therefore

Resolved:

Business Plan and Financial Plan

- (a) That the Business Plan and linked Financial Plan 2011-15 as presented be adopted and that the Chief Executive be given delegated authority to make any amendments of a minor nature to ensure the Plans are accurate and clearly presented following consultation with the Leader of the Council, the S.151 Officer and the Monitoring Officer.
- (b) To approve the investments and savings as set out in sections 5 and 6 respectively of the Financial Plan that provides for a net revenue budget in 2011/12 of £329.847 million.
- (c) To set a Wiltshire Council Band D council tax for 2011/12 of £1,222.43 as per section 9 of the Financial Plan which represents a zero percentage increase.
- (d) To agree to membership of the Local Government Association for the 2011/12 financial year and pay the fee of £87,982 to the Association from reserves set out in the Financial Plan for this period.

Capital Programme

To approve the Wiltshire Council Capital Programme for 2011/12 to 2014/15 as shown in Appendix A of the report presented.

Housing Revenue Account Budget

- (a) To approve the Housing Revenue Account Budget for 2010/11 (revised) and 2011/12 (original) as presented.
- (b) To approve the increase for dwelling rents in accordance with the rent restructuring.
- (c) To approve an increase of 4.6% for service charges.
- (d) To approve that there be no increase to garage rents to avoid an adverse effect on void rates.

Schools Budget

To approve the overall Schools Budget of £274.653 million.

Fees and Charges

To approve the fees and charges as included in the revenue budget proposals for 2011/12.

Treasury Management Strategy

- (a) To adopt the Prudential and Treasury Indicators (Appendix A of the report presented).
- (b) To adopt the Annual Investment Strategy (Appendix B of the report presented).
- (c) To delegate to the Chief Finance Officer the authority to vary the amount of borrowing and other long term liabilities within both the Treasury Indicators for the Authorised Limit and the Operational Boundary.
- (d) To Authorise the Chief Finance Officer to agree the restructuring of existing long term loans where savings are achievable or to enhance the long term portfolio.
- (e) To agree that short term cash surpluses and deficits continue to be managed through temporary loans and deposits.
- (f) To agree that any long term surplus cash balances not required to cover borrowing are placed in authorised money-market funds, particularly where this is more cost effective than short term deposits and delegate to the Chief Finance Officer the authority to select such funds.

Council Tax Resolution

- a) That it be noted that at its meeting on 14th December 2010 Cabinet calculated the following amounts for the year 2011-12 in accordance with The Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (Amendment) Regulations 2003 made under Section 33(5) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 ("the Act"):
 - i) £179,297.66 being the amount calculated by the Council, in accordance with The Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (Amendment) Regulations 2003, as its council tax base for the year;
 - ii) Part of the Council's Area (Council Tax Base for each parish)
- b) That it be noted the revenue and capital budget proposals for 2011-12 are as approved within these minutes.

- c) That the following amounts be now calculated by the Council for the year 2011-12 in accordance with sections 32 to 36 of the Local Government and Finance Act 1992:
- i) £880,892,037 (Gross Revenue Expenditure including parish precepts) being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32(2) (a) to (e) of the Act;
 - ii) £543,788,000 (Revenue Income) being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32(3) (a) to (c) of the Act;
 - iii) £337,104,037 (Net Revenue Expenditure including parish precepts) being the amount by which the aggregate at ci) above exceeds the aggregate at cii) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 32(4) of the Act, as its budget requirement for the year;
 - iv) £105,191,569 (Total of Revenue Support Grant, share of National Non Domestic Rating Pool and Estimated Balance on the Collection Fund to be refunded to council tax payers) being the aggregate of the sums which the Council estimates will be payable for the year into its general fund in respect of redistributed non-domestic rates and revenue support grant and increased by the amount of any sum which the Council estimates will be transferred from its collection fund to its general fund pursuant to the Collection Fund (Community Charges) (England) Directions 1994 under section 98(4) of the Local Government Finance Act 1988;
 - v) £1,293.45 (Wiltshire Council Band D tax plus average parish councils Band D Tax) being the amount at ciii) above less the amount at civ) above, all divided by the amount at ai) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with section 33(1) of the Act, as the basic amount of its council tax for the year as shown below:

Band A £	Band B £	Band C £	Band D £	Band E £	Band F £	Band G £	Band H £
862.30	1006.02	1149.73	1293.45	1580.88	1868.31	2155.75	2586.90

- vi) £12,733,037 (Aggregate of parish and town council precepts) being the aggregate amount of all special items referred to in section 34(1) of the Act;
- vii) £1,222.43 (Band D tax for Wiltshire Council purposes only)

being the amount at cv) above less the result given by dividing the amount at cvi) above by the amount at ai) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act, as the basic amount of its council tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no special item relates as shown below:

Band A £	Band B £	Band C £	Band D £	Band E £	Band F £	Band G £	Band H £
814.95	950.78	1086.60	1222.43	1494.08	1765.73	2037.38	2444.86

- viii) Part of the Council's Area (List of each Parish's Council Band D tax)

That the table at Appendix C shows the amounts relating to dwellings in those parts of the Council's area mentioned above divided in each case by the amount at aii) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(3) of the Act, as the basic amounts of its council tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate;

- d) That it be noted that for the year 2011-12 the **Wiltshire Police Authority** has stated the following amounts in precepts issued to the Authority, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

Band A £	Band B £	Band C £	Band D £	Band E £	Band F £	Band G £	Band H £
105.18	122.71	140.24	157.77	192.83	227.89	262.95	315.54

- e) That it be noted that for the year 2011-12 the **Wiltshire & Swindon Fire Authority** has stated the following amounts in precepts issued to the Authority, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 and Section 83 of the Local Government Act 2003, for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

Band A £	Band B £	Band C £	Band D £	Band E £	Band F £	Band G £	Band H £
41.59	48.52	55.45	62.38	76.24	90.10	103.97	124.76

- f) That, having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at cviii), d) and e) above, the Council, in accordance with section 30(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the amounts shown in the table at Appendix C as the amounts of council tax for the year 2011-12 for each of the categories of dwellings shown in the table:-

Part of the Council's Area (List of total tax figures for all bands of property

for all parishes within Wiltshire – including Parish, Wiltshire Council, Wiltshire Police Authority and Wiltshire and Swindon Fire Authority elements).

86. **South Wiltshire Core Strategy - Review of Housing and Employment Requirements**

Public Participation:

The following members of the public addressed Council on this item:

Mr Roger Yeates	– Downton Parish Council
Mr Phillip Coward	– Hillbrush Ltd
Mr Ron Champion	– Laverstock and Ford Parish Council
Ms Sarah Champion	– Bishop Down Farm Residents' Association
Mr Steve Hannath	– Resident of Laverstock and Ford Parish

A written statement was circulated from Godshill Parish Council

Cllr John Brady, Cabinet member for Economic Development, Planning and Housing responded to the points made during public participation.

Cllr Brady presented a report which drew Council's attention to the findings of a review of the housing and employment requirements included within the draft South Wiltshire Core Strategy (SWCS) as submitted to the Secretary of State. The report sought approval of a number of amendments to the draft SWCS arising from the review. Cllr Brady drew Council's attention to changes to the recommendations relating to the distribution of housing as circulated in a revisions paper.

Cllr Brady explained the background to the need to review the housing and employment requirements within the SWCS.

Following approval of the draft South Wiltshire Core Strategy (SWCS) by Council in November 2009, the SWCS proceeded straight to the Examination in Public (EIP) stage. In July 2010, around the time the Inspector was due to publish his report, he suspended the EIP to allow the Council to undertake a review of the housing and employment figures in light of the Government's stated intention to abolish Regional Spatial Strategies (RSS). This review has now been completed, in the context of the Wiltshire-wide review of housing requirements and as a result, 'focused changes' to the SWCS should be put forward to the Inspector for his consideration. As a consequence of the 'focused changes' other changes would need to be made elsewhere in the document. These 'consequential' changes would also be submitted to the Inspector.

Cllr Brady moved the proposals contained in the report presented which included the proposed changes to the draft SWCS and the further revisions as circulated and this was duly seconded.

The revised housing figures considered by Council are set out in the following table:

Settlement/Area	No. of Dwellings 2006 - 2026
Salisbury & Wilton (including allocations for Salisbury in Laverstock Parish, which is part of Southern Community Area)	6,060
Rest of Wilton Community Area	220
Salisbury/Wilton Community Area Sub-total	6,280
Amesbury	2,100
Rest of Amesbury Community Area	295
Amesbury Community Area Sub-total	2,395
Downton	190
Rest of Southern Community Area	365
Southern Community Area Sub-total	555
Mere	200
Rest of Mere Community Area	50
Mere Community Area Sub-total	250
Tisbury	200
Rest of Tisbury Community Area	220
Tisbury Community Area Sub-total	420
South Wiltshire Total	9,900

Cllr Brady explained the proposals made were to ensure that a sound planning framework was put in place as soon as possible for South Wiltshire to allow the authority to manage necessary growth. This was to ensure homes and jobs were provided in the most sustainable way that best conserved the natural environment and maximised benefits for local communities. The proposals would also ensure that progress continued to be made on preparing an up to date planning policy framework for Wiltshire.

The Chairman then opened the debate allowing Group Leaders to speak first, followed by Councillors representing the South Wiltshire area of the County before opening the debate to other Councillors. The Chairman referred Council to questions from Cllr Ian McLennan as circulated.

Cllr McLennan referred to his questions addressed to Cllr Brady who responded to the questions with details of the responses circulated at the meeting. A copy of the questions and responses are attached as Appendix D to these minutes.

During debate, Cllr McLennan proposed the following amendment which was duly seconded:

‘That given all of the information so far, that the 500 housing allocation for Hampton Park be removed from the draft SWCS and to retain the housing allocation for Long Hedge in Laverstock and Ford’.

Cllr Brady explained that he was unable to support the amendment and whilst he had sympathy with such a view, making such a change at this stage in the process had the potential to render the Strategy unsound.

Following further debate, the amendment was put to the vote and LOST.

Cllr McLennan proposed a further amendment as follows which was duly seconded.

'To reduce the housing provision by removing any development east of Green Lane that also protects Green Lane itself and that the strategic gap should be set at two thirds of the distance from Long Hedge in Laverstock and Ford'.

However, following further debate, Cllr McLennan replaced the above amendment with the following, in part based on comments made earlier in the debate by Cllr Sample and this was duly seconded:

'To incorporate the decision of the Strategic Planning Committee dated 16 February 2011 as part of the submission to the Inspector on the draft SWCS and that the Community Forum referred to in the Revisions paper to include local parish councillors from Laverstock and Ford Parish Council and the local Division members'.

Cllr Brady commented that he was happy to take on board these amendments within his proposition with the proviso that details of the Strategic Planning Committee's decision be included as an informative only and this was agreed by Cllr McLennan.

A lengthy debate ensued with Cllr Brady responding to the points made.

For the avoidance of doubt, Cllr Brady clarified the proposals before Council and on being put to the vote, it was

Resolved:

That Council:

(i) approves the proposed changes to the draft South Wiltshire Core Strategy, as set out in Appendix 2 of the report presented (both focused and consequential), arising from the review of housing and employment requirements set out in the draft South West Regional Spatial Strategy; and further

(ii) approves the additional amendments to the draft South Wiltshire Core Strategy as follows:

- i. Those amendments summarised in the revisions paper as circulated in Agenda supplement 2.**

- ii. **The Community Forum referred to in the revisions paper to include local parish councillors from Laverstock and Ford Parish Council and the local Division members.**

(iii) approves the inclusion of the minute recording the decision of the Strategic Planning Committee held on 16 February 2011 in respect of the following application as an informative item appended to the submission to the Inspector on the draft South Wiltshire Core Strategy Review of Housing and Employment Requirements:

S/2009/1943 - Land North, West & South of Bishopdown Farm, Salisbury, SP1 3WS - Erection of 500 Dwellings, 4 New Vehicular Accesses off Pearce Way, Associated Landscaping & Public Open Space and Creation of a Country Park with Associated Parking, Infrastructure & Facilities

(iv) delegates to the Director for Economy and Enterprise, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Economic Development, Planning and Housing:

- **authorisation to undertake minor amendments, in the interests of clarity and accuracy, to the review documents prior to submission to the Inspector; and**
- **submission of the review documents to the Inspector, appointed by the Secretary of State to examine the Core Strategy, for consideration and any associated steps as directed by the Inspector in order to comply with required procedures.**

87. Wiltshire Local Transport Plan 2011 - 2026

Declaration of Interest

Cllr Desna Allen declared a personal interest in this item by virtue of being Treasurer to the Chippenham and District Transport for the Disabled Society which was partially funded by the Council by way of grant aid.

Public Participation

Verbal representations were made by the following members of the public:

Mrs Margaret Taylor Devizes Town Council
and written statement as circulated

Mr Rob Perks Chippenham Chamber of Trade

Mrs Margaret Willmot COGS (Cycling Opportunities Group, Salisbury)

Written statement presented by Cllr Chris Cochrane

As referred to earlier in the meeting (minute No. 82 refers), the Chairman reported receipt of the following petitions received for presentation to this meeting:

Petition – Car Parking – Devizes

The Chairman reported receipt of a petition organised by the Devizes Guardians and the Devizes Chambers of Commerce. The petition presented by Cllr Nigel Carter with 4657 signatures called on the Council to retain the one hour limit for free parking in Devizes Market Place

Petition – Car Parking – Marlborough

The Chairman reported receipt of a petition submitted by Cllr Peggy Dow on behalf of the Marlborough Chamber of Commerce. The petition with 71 signatures called on the Council to lower the parking charges for Marlborough to the level defined in the New Strategy and for Hillier's Yard and Polly Garden car parks to be redesignated as short stay car parks with a maximum stay of three hours.

Petition – Car Parking - Bradford on Avon

The Chairman reported receipt of a petition organised by the Bradford-on-Avon Chambers of Commerce. The petition with approximately 1600 signatures objected to the removal of free car parking in St Margaret's car park and to levy only reasonable charges on other town parking.

The Chairman drew Council's attention to the following previously circulated documents:

- report of the Rapid Scrutiny Exercise meeting held on 25 January 2011 together with a schedule of recommendations. Cllr Peter Doyle, lead member on the Rapid Scrutiny Exercise confirmed that all of the recommendations had been accepted by Cllr Tonge.
- Question from Cllr Peggy Dow in respect of parking charges in Marlborough together with the response from Cllr Dick Tonge, Cabinet member for Highways and Transport.

At the start of this item, Councillor Dick Tonge drew Council's attention to the related Traffic Regulations Orders, the consultation on which had expired on 21 February 2011. Cllr Tonge referred to the consultation feedback and responded to the main comments and objections received.

Cllr Tonge presented the proposed Wiltshire Local Transport Plan 2011 – 2026 (LTP) for adoption by Council. The document was previously considered by Cabinet at its meeting on 15 February 2011 when it resolved to recommend adoption of the LTP by Council.

Cllr Tonge explained that the Local Transport Plan (LTP) was a statutory document, of which an updated version (LTP3) had to be published by 31 March 2011. The scale and scope of the LTP3 was reduced in light of ongoing planning and funding uncertainties. Once clarity was restored, the remaining elements of the LTP3 were planned to be developed during 2011/12.

The LTP3 was currently made up of the following elements:

- Strategy
- Implementation Plan
- Freight Strategy
- Public Transport Strategy
- Road Safety Strategy
- Car Parking Strategy (as approved by Cabinet at its meeting on 14 December 2010).

Cllr Tonge gave a brief synopsis of each of the above strategies and Cllr Richard Gamble provided further detail in respect of the Public Transport Strategy including the proposed transrail link.

The Chairman opened the debate starting with Group Leaders before opening the debate to other members.

Cllr Nigel Carter proposed the following amendment seconded by Cllr Jane Burton:

‘To maintain the one hour limit for free parking in Devizes Market Place and to delete reference to ticket machines and for there to be no street furniture in Market Square.’

On being put to the vote, the amendment was LOST.

Cllr Tonge responded to the points raised during debate.

Resolved:

That Council:

- (i) **adopts the Wiltshire Local Transport Plan (LTP3) 2011 – 2026 as presented;**
- (ii) **notes that further LTP3 theme strategies and area strategies, and an implementation plan for 2012/13 – 2014/15 are planned to be developed in 2011/12 and**

- (iii) **delegates authority to the Corporate Director for Neighbourhood and Planning in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport to finalise the document for publication by 31 March 2011.**

88. **Councillors' Questions**

The Chairman reported receipt of questions from Cllrs Ernie Clark, Howard Marshall, Jon Hubbard, Jeff Osborn, Chris Caswill and Russell Hawker. Details of the questions and responses given were previously circulated and are attached as Appendix E to these minutes.

Supplementary questions were made in some cases summarised as follows:

Cllr John Hubbard – consideration of community campus proposals at Melksham Area Board – was it appropriate to debate an issue at the Area Board after the decision had been made rather than consult on the proposals?

Cllr Stuart Wheeler explained that he had consulted the Chairman of Melksham Area Board who confirmed that a special meeting of the Area Board would be convened to discuss the proposals followed by consultation. The Leader of the Council also clarified that this process had been agreed unanimously by Melksham Area Board.

Cllr Jon Hubbard – Melksham community campus proposals and siting of library – questioned whether the resiting of Melksham library following refurbishment of the Town centre library represented best value.

Cllr John Noeken explained that the Council needed to take a longterm view and consider future cost as part of the Workplace Transformation Programme.

Cllr Chris Caswill – effect of frontloading reductions in Government grant – sought clarification of the effect of frontloading rather than spreading the cuts evenly. Cllr Caswill asked if the reduction by £11.477 m was as a result of front loading? Cllr Fleur de Rhe Philipe undertook to provide a written answer.

Cllr Jeff Osborn – Future Jobs Fund Scheme – asked whether the Council had lobbied the Government over retaining the Scheme.

The Leader of the Council confirmed that she had personally lobbied the Government on this issue.

89. **Notice of Motion 15 - Government Funding of the EU - from Councillors Mike Cuthbert-Murray and Russell Hawker**

The Chairman referred to the notice of motion presented by Cllr Trevor Carbin at the last meeting on 9 November 2010 on the Daylight Saving Bill which was

deferred to this meeting. The Chairman explained that Cllr Carbin had since withdrawn his motion.

Declaration of Interest

Cllrs Toby Sturgis, Chris Humphries and Jane Scott declared a personal interest in this item as their respective businesses were in receipt of EU funding.

The Chairman reported receipt of the following motion from Cllrs Mike Cuthbert-Murray and Russell Hawker:

“In the light of the current and ongoing deep Government funding cuts to this council and the significant adverse effects this is causing via reduced staffing and services, we believe that the Government should ensure that its funding to the EU does not increase - or better still, is cut - so that funding to this and other principal authorities can be restored to levels where we can provide a satisfactory level of service and support to Wiltshire people. We will inform our local MPs and ask them to act accordingly in Parliament and to explain their actions in this respect to us.”

Once moved by Cllr Mike Cuthbert-Murray and seconded by Cllr Nigel Carter, Cllr Cuthbert-Murray was invited to speak to the motion.

The Chairman moved that the motion be debated and this was duly seconded by the Vice-Chairman and on being put to the vote, it was

Resolved:

That notice of motion no.15 be debated

The Chairman invited Group Leaders to speak on the motion before opening the debate to other Councillors. The Leader of the Council commented that this was a matter which if supported, should be taken up by Councillors through their MPs and not as a Council matter.

Resolved:

That the motion be NOT adopted.

90. **Minutes of Cabinet and Committees**

The Chairman moved that Council receive and note the under mentioned minutes as listed in the separate Minutes Book and this was duly seconded by the Vice-Chairman.

Meeting	Date
Cabinet	16 November & 14 December 2010 25 January & 15 February 2011
Cabinet Capital Assets Committee	10 January & 7 February 2011
Children's Services Select Committee	25 November 2010, 27 January 2011
Environment Select Committee	2 November & 21 December 2010, 11 January 2011
Health and Adult Social Care Select Committee	11 November 2010, 13 January 2011
Organisation and Resources Select Committee	18 November 2010, 20 January 2011
Licensing Committee	30 November 2010, 17 January 2011
Northern Area Planning Committee	3 November, 24 November & 15 December 2010, 26 January 2011
Western Area Planning Committee	8 December 2010, 12 January & 9 February 2011
Southern Area Planning Committee	18 November & 9 December 2010, 13 January 2011
Eastern Area Planning Committee	16 December 2010, 6 January 2011
Standards Committee	24 November 2010, 12 January 2011
Officer Appointments Committee	14 December 2010
Staffing Policy Committee	24 November & 16 December 2010, 9 February 2011
Audit Committee	15 December 2010
Wiltshire Pension Fund Committee	2 December 2010

The Chairman then invited questions from Councillors on points of information or clarification on the above mentioned minutes and gave the Chairmen of those meetings the opportunity to make any important announcements on the work of their respective Committees. No questions were asked.

Resolved:

That the above mentioned minutes be received and noted.

91. **Review of Allocation of Seats on Committees to Political Groups**

The Chairman presented the report of the Service Director, Legal and Democratic Services. As referred to earlier in the meeting (minute no. 84 refers), Cllr Liz Bryant was elected to the Council following the by-election held on 21 December 2010. A review of the allocation of seats on committee to political groups was not required as the political balance on the Council remained unchanged.

Council was asked to confirm Cllr Bryant's appointment to Devizes Area board and to approve any requests from Group Leaders for changes to committee membership in accordance with their previously approved allocation of seats. No changes were requested.

Resolved:

- a) **To note the report presented.**
- b) **To confirm the appointment of Cllr Liz Bryant who was elected to the Bromham, Rowde and Potterne Electoral Division, to the Devizes Area Board.**

92. **Dates of next meetings**

Resolved:

To approve the dates of Council meetings for 2011/12 as follows:

17th May	2011 (Annual)
12th July	2011
8th November	2011
21st February	2012 (Council Tax setting).

93. **Wiltshire Police Authority**

The minutes of the Wiltshire Police Authority meeting held on 2 December 2010 and the report of the Police Authority were received and noted. No questions on these documents had been received from Councillors.

94. **Minutes of the Wiltshire and Swindon Fire Authority**

The minutes of the Wiltshire and Swindon Fire Authority meeting held on 16 December 2010 were received and noted. No questions had been raised by Councillors.

Duration of meeting 10.30am – 11.00pm
(including an adjournment from 11.50am – 2.00pm)

Appendices

- Appendix A - Questions from Mr Phil Matthews and response
- Appendix B - Budget speech by Leader of the Council
- Appendix C - Wiltshire Council Tax Levy 2011-12 by Parish
- Appendix D - Questions from Cllr Ian McLennan (South Wiltshire Core Strategy and responses
- Appendix E - Councillors' Questions and responses

The Officer who has produced these minutes is Yamina Rhouati, of Democratic & Members' Services, direct line 01225 718024, e-mail yaminarhouati@wiltshire.gov.uk

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