COUNCIL

MEETING HELD AT THE TOWN HALL, BOOTLE ON THURSDAY 28TH FEBRUARY, 2019

PRESENT: The Mayor (Councillor Robinson) in the Chair

The Deputy Chair (Councillor Brennan) Vice Chair

Councillors Atkinson, Blackburne, Bradshaw, Brodie - Browne, Brough, Burns, Byrom, Carr, Carragher, Cummins, Dodd, Dowd, Doyle, Dutton, Friel, Grace, Hardy, Jamieson, Keith, John Kelly, John Joseph Kelly, Killen, Lappin, Daniel Lewis, Maher, Marshall, McCann, McKinley, Moncur, Morris, Murphy, Brenda O'Brien, Michael O'Brien, O'Hanlon, Page, Pitt, Pugh, Pullin, Roche, Roscoe, John Sayers, Yvonne Sayers, Shaw, Spencer, Thomas, Anne Thompson, Lynne Thompson, Tweed, Veidman and Sir Ron Watson

77. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Ashton, Bliss, Booth, Cluskey, Dawson, Fairclough, Gannon, Hands, Jones, Dan T. Lewis, McGinnity, Webster, Bill Welsh and Marianne Welsh.

78. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of any disclosable pecuniary interests or personal interests were received.

79. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 24 January 2019 be approved as a correct record.

80. MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS

Death of Former Councillor David McIvor

The Mayor reported with much sadness, on the death of former Councillor David McIvor who died on 31 January 2019 aged 70 years. His funeral was held on 22 February 2019 at Southport Crematorium.

David McIvor had served the Manor Ward from 25 October 2007 to 4 May 2008 and the Ravenmeols Ward from 6 May 2010 to 26 May 2014. During his time on the Council, David McIvor served as a Member on the Audit

and Governance Committee, Pay and Grading Committee and the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Children's Services).

The Mayor concluded by indicating that the Family and Friends of David McIvor were in our thoughts at this sad time.

Councillor Jamieson paid tribute to David McIvor.

The Council stood in silence for one minute as a mark of respect for David McIvor.

Mayoral Charity Ball – 27 April 2019

The Mayor reported that the Mayoral Charity Ball would be held on Saturday 27 April 2019 at the Floral Hall, Southport Theatre and Convention Centre and the proceeds from the event would be distributed to Mayoral Charities.

Tickets and further details of the event could be obtained from the Mayor's Office in Bootle Town Hall before Friday 12 April 2019.

Mayor Elect 2019/20

The Mayor reported that Councillor June Burns had been nominated for the office of the Mayor of Sefton for 2019/20 and the appointment would take place at the Annual Council Meeting to be held on 14 May 2019 at Bootle Town Hall.

81. MATTERS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC

The Mayor reported that no matters had been raised by members of the public.

82. QUESTIONS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

The Council considered a schedule setting out the written questions submitted by:

- Question submitted by Councillor Sir Ron Watson to the Cabinet Member – Communities and Housing (Councillor Hardy);
- 2. Question submitted by Councillor Sir Ron Watson to the Cabinet Member Planning and Building Control (Councillor Veidman);
- 3. Question submitted by Councillor Sir Ron Watson to the Leader of the Council (Councillor Maher);
- 4. Question submitted by Councillor Shaw to the Leader of the Council (Councillor Maher);

together with the responses given. Supplementary questions to all of the questions were responded to by the Cabinet Members for Communities and Housing, and Planning and Building Control and by the Leader of the Council.

83. THE PRUDENTIAL CODE FOR CAPITAL FINANCE IN LOCAL AUTHORITIES - PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS 2019/20

Further to Minute No. 95 of the Cabinet Meeting held on 14 February 2019, the Council considered the report of the Head of Corporate Resources on proposals to establish the Prudential Indicators required under the Prudential Code of Capital Finance in Local Authorities. This would enable the Council to effectively manage its Capital Finance Activities and comply with the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) Prudential Code of Capital Finance in Local Authorities.

The report indicated that the Council was required to approve Prudential Indicators for the following items:

- (i) Capital Expenditure (Section 2);
- (ii) Financing Costs/Net Revenue Stream (Section 3);
- (iii) Capital Financing Requirement (Section 4);
- (iv) External Debt (Section 5-7); and
- (v) Treasury Management Indicators (Section 8).

It was moved by Councillor Maher, seconded by Councillor Cummins and

RESOLVED:

That:

- (1) the Prudential Indicators, as detailed in the report, be approved as the basis for compliance with The Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities:
- (2) it be noted that relevant Prudential Indicators would be revised as required and that any changes would be brought to the Cabinet and then to the Council for approval;
- (3) it be noted that the estimates of capital expenditure may change as grant allocations are received; and
- (4) the Head of Corporate Resources be granted delegated authority in conjunction with the Cabinet Member – Regulatory, Compliance and Corporate Services to manage the Authorised Limit and Operational Boundary for external debt as detailed in Section 5 of the report.

84. TREASURY MANAGEMENT POLICY AND STRATEGY 2019/20

Further to Minute No. 96 of the Cabinet Meeting held on 14 February 2019, the Council considered the report of the Head of Corporate Resources which set out the following proposed policy and strategy documents, namely, the Treasury Management Policy, the Treasury Management Strategy and the Minimum Revenue Provision Policy Statement.

The report indicated that the Council had adopted the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) revised 2017 Code of Practice on Treasury Management in the Public Services which recommended the production of annual Treasury Management Policy and Strategy Documents; and that in addition, the Council had also adopted, and incorporated into both documents:

- (a) the requirements of the 2017 Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities; and
- (b) an Investment Strategy produced in line with guidance from the then Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, concerning the investment of surplus funds. This set out the manner in which the Council would manage its investments, giving priority to the security and liquidity of those investments.

It was moved by Councillor Maher, seconded by Councillor Cummins and RESOLVED:

That approval be given to:

- (1) the Treasury Management Policy Document for 2019/2020;
- (2) the Treasury Management Strategy Document for 2019/2020; and
- (3) the Minimum Revenue Provision Policy Statement 2018/2019 and 2019/20.

85. CAPITAL STRATEGY 2019/20 TO 2023/24

Further to Minute No. 97 of the Cabinet Meeting held on 14 February 2019, the Council considered the report of the Head of Corporate Resources on the Capital Strategy 2019/20. The report indicated that the Capital Strategy set out the long-term context in which capital expenditure and investment decisions were made and considered the impact of these decisions on the priorities within the Council's Core Purpose and Framework for Change Programme and the promises made in the 2030 Vision for Sefton; and that at the heart of the Capital Strategy was the Council's core objective to continue to deliver financial sustainability. As such a flexible capital investment programme was more important than ever as a method to stimulate and enable economic growth and strategic

investment, ensuring best use of existing assets and of generating future income streams to pay for and deliver day to day services.

The Capital Strategy was a new statutory document which the Council was required to have in place and be reviewed on an annual basis.

It was moved by Councillor Maher, seconded by Councillor Cummins and

RESOLVED

That the Capital Strategy as set out in Appendix 1 of the report be approved.

86. ASSET MANAGEMENT STRATEGY AND ASSET DISPOSAL POLICY

Further to Minute No. 98 of the Cabinet Meeting held on 14 February 2019, the Council considered the report of the Head of Corporate Resources that provided details of the Asset Management Strategy and the Asset Disposal Policy which set out the vision and aspirations for the effective management of the Council's corporate asset portfolio and the role it played in supporting and shaping the Council's agenda for the 2030 vision; that aside from its staff, the Council's next biggest resource was its land and property therefore it was vital that this resource was managed and used effectively and efficiently to ensure that the Council derived maximum benefit from its assets in support of its strategic aims and priorities; and that the Asset Management Strategy would provide a framework for the planning, prioritisation, management and funding of the Councils asset base whilst the Asset Disposal Policy would provide a framework for the disposal of the Council's assets as they were declared surplus and when deemed appropriate.

It was moved by Councillor Maher, seconded by Councillor Cummins and

RESOLVED:

That the Asset Management Strategy and Asset Disposal Policy as set out in the report be approved.

87. ROBUSTNESS OF THE 2019/20 BUDGET ESTIMATES AND THE ADEQUACY OF RESERVES – LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2003 - SECTION 25

Further to Minute No. 99 of the Cabinet Meeting held on 14 February 2019, the Council considered the report of the Head of Corporate Resources which provided an assessment of the robustness of the estimates and the tax setting calculations, the adequacy of the proposed financial reserves and the production of longer term revenue and capital plans, based on the proposals set out in the report on the Revenue and Capital Budget Plan 2019/20 and Council Tax 2019/20 (Minute No. 88 refers).

It was moved by Councillor Maher, seconded by Councillor Cummins and

RESOLVED:

That the matters raised in the report be noted and taken into account during the determination of the Budget for 2019/20.

88. REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGET PLAN 2019/20 AND COUNCIL TAX 2019/20

Further to Minute No. 100 of the Cabinet Meeting held on 14 February 2019, the Council considered the joint report of the Chief Executive and Head of Corporate Resources which provided:

- An assessment of the Council's current financial position and approach to the 2019/20 Budget Plan and preparation for the new three-year budget period 2020/21 to 2022/23;
- Progress that had been made during the last year within the Council's Framework for Change programme;
- An update on the Government's announcement of resources that are available to the Council for 2019/20;
- The Council's current financial position and the assumptions built into the Medium Term Financial Plan;
- The proposed Budget for 2019/20; and,
- The proposed Capital Programme for 2019/20.

The report set out the financial strategy of the Council and the national and local financial context within which it is operating and indicated that the Council had a statutory requirement to remain financially sustainable and to balance its budget every year.

The Council's Framework for Change Programme is a comprehensive and ambitious programme that seeks to support the delivery of the Council's core purpose. As would be expected with a programme of this size and complexity that spans a number of financial years, the detailed proposals have been and will continue to be the subject of change as they are developed and ultimately implemented. Within this context, a detailed assessment of the previously approved plans for 2019/20 has been undertaken to confirm their deliverability. In addition, a limited number of additional savings proposals have been identified to balance the budget and ensure long-term financial sustainability.

The following appendices were attached to the report:

- A. Service Options 2019/20
- B. Individual School Budgets 2019/20
- C. Draft Council Budget Summary 2019/20

- D. Fees and Charges 2019/20
- E. Capital Programme 2019/20 2020/21

The Council also considered a copy of an update note prepared by the Head of Corporate Resources which provided details of the Police, Fire, Mayoral and Parish Precepts and the draft Council Tax resolution which had been circulated to Members of the Council and published in a supplementary agenda prior to the start of the meeting.

It was moved by Councillor Maher, seconded by Councillor Cummins:

That:

Budget 2019/20 and Medium Term Financial Plan from 2020/21 to 2022/23

- (1) the update of the Medium Term Financial Plan for the period 2019/20 to 2022/23 be noted;
- (2) approval be given to the Revenue Budget for 2019/20 and officers be authorised to undertake the necessary actions to implement the recommendations:
- (3) delegated authority for the use and allocation of the Budget Pressure Fund and any other reserves and balances currently within the 2019/20 budget be granted to the Chief Executive and the Head of Corporate Resources, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, in order to manage the overall financial outturn;
- (4) the Schools' Forum decisions on the Dedicated Schools Grant and Individual School Budgets be noted;
- (5) the allocation of specific grants as detailed in the report (Section 10) be approved;
- (6) the Fees and Charges as proposed in the draft Council budget (Appendix D) be approved;
- (7) subject to the recommendations above, the overall Council Tax resolution for 2019/20 including Police, Fire, Mayoral and Parish Precepts be approved; and,

Capital Programme 2019/20 to 2020/21

(8) approval be given for the inclusion within the Capital Programme, of the Capital schemes as detailed in Appendix E.

Councillors Maher, Pugh, Sir Ron Watson and McCann each gave a statement expressing the views of their political groups on the content of the report and the budget proposals.

Following debate and in accordance with Rule 96 of Chapter 4 in the Council Constitution, the voting on the Motion was recorded and the Members present at the time, voted as follows:

FOR THE MOTION:

Councillors Atkinson, Blackburne, Bradshaw, Brennan, Burns, Byrom, Carragher, Cummins, Dowd, Doyle, Friel, Grace, Hardy, John Kelly, John Joseph Kelly, Killen, Lappin, Maher, Marshall, McCann, McKinley, Moncur, Murphy, Brenda O'Brien, Michael O'Brien, O'Hanlon, Page, Roche, Roscoe, John Sayers, Yvonne Sayers, Spencer, Thomas, Anne Thompson, Tweed, Veidman and The Mayor.

AGAINST THE MOTION:

Councillors Brodie-Browne, Brough, Dodd, Dutton, Jamieson, Keith, Daniel Lewis, Morris, Pitt, Pugh, Pullin, Shaw, Lynne Thompson and Sir Ron Watson.

The Mayor declared that the Motion was carried by 37 votes to 14 and it was

RESOLVED:

That:

Budget 2019/20 and Medium Term Financial Plan from 2020/21 to 2022/23

- (1) the update of the Medium Term Financial Plan for the period 2019/20 to 2022/23 be noted;
- (2) approval be given to the Revenue Budget for 2019/20 and officers be authorised to undertake the necessary actions to implement the recommendations;
- (3) delegated authority for the use and allocation of the Budget
 Pressure Fund and any other reserves and balances currently
 within the 2019/20 budget be granted to the Chief Executive and
 the Head of Corporate Resources, in consultation with the Leader
 of the Council, in order to manage the overall financial outturn;
- (4) the Schools' Forum decisions on the Dedicated Schools Grant and Individual School Budgets be noted;
- (5) the allocation of specific grants as detailed in the report (Section 10) be approved;
- (6) the Fees and Charges as proposed in the draft Council budget (Appendix D) be approved;

- (7) it be noted that at its meeting on 24 January 2019, the Council calculated the following amounts for the year 2019/2020 in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (England) Regulations 1992 (as amended):
 - (a) 84,077.30 Band D equivalent properties, for the whole area [item T in the formula in Section 31B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended]; and
 - (b) for dwellings in those parts of its area to which a Parish precept relates as shown in the table below:

Parish	Council Tax Base (Band D Equivalent Properties)			
Aintree Village	2,066.90			
Formby	9,139.80			
Hightown	870.60			
Ince Blundell	167.20			
Little Altcar	333.90			
Lydiate	2,065.20			
Maghull	6,647.40			
Melling	1,008.70			
Sefton	239.70			
Thornton	770.30			

- (8) the Council calculate that the Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2019/2020 (excluding Parish Precepts) is £132,026,584.
- (9) the following amounts be calculated by the Council for the year 2019/2020 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992:

(a)	£590,073,926	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)	-£456,974,835	Being the aggregate amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act.
(c)	£133,099,091	Being the amount by which the aggregate at 3(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 3(b) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the Act as its Council Tax requirement for the year (item R in the formula in Section 31B of the Act).
(d)	£1,583.06	Being the amount at 3(c) above (item R), divided by the amount at 1(a) above (item T), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year (including Parish Precepts).
(e)	£1,072,507	Being the aggregate amount of all special items (Parish Precepts) referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act.
(f)	£1,570.30	Being the amount at 3(d) above, less the amount given by dividing the amount at 3(e) above by the amount at 1(a) above (item T), 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.

COUNCIL- THURSDAY 28TH FEBRUARY, 2019

(g) The amounts below, being the amounts given by adding to the amount at 3(f) above the amounts of the special items relating to dwellings in those parts of the Council's area mentioned above divided in each case by the amount at 1(b) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 34(3) of the Act as basic amounts of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which special items relate.

<u>Parish</u>	£
Aintree Village	1,625.50
Formby	1,580.26
Hightown	1,576.57
Ince Blundell	1,582.32
Little Altcar	1,580.26
Lydiate	1,646.13
Maghull	1,668.53
Melling	1,605.00
Sefton	1,599.50
Thornton	1,576.79

h) The amounts below being the amounts given by multiplying the amounts at 3(f) and 3(g) above by the number which, in the proportion set out in Section 5(1) of the Act, is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the number which in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in valuation Band D, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 36(1) of the Act, as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands.

Property Valuation Band Proportion В G Α С D Ε Н 9/9 11/9 of Band D 6/9 7/9 8/9 13/9 15/9 18/9 £ £ £ £ £ £ £ £ Parish Aintree 1.083.67 1,264.28 1,444.89 1,625.50 1,986.72 2,347.94 2.709.17 3,251.00 Village Formby 1,053.51 1,229.09 1,404.68 1,580.26 1,931.43 2,282.60 2,633.77 3,160.52 Hightown 1,051.05 1,226.22 1,401.40 1,576.57 1,926.92 2,277.27 2,627.62 3,153.14 Ince 1,054.88 1,230.69 1,406.51 1,582.32 1,933.95 2,637.20 3,164.64 2,285.57 Blundell Little 1,053.51 1.229.09 1.404.68 1.580.26 1,931.43 2.282.60 2.633.77 3,160.52 Altcar 1,097.42 1,280.32 2,011.94 2,377.74 2,743.55 3,292.26 Lydiate 1,463.23 1,646.13 1,112.35 1,297.75 1,483.14 1,668.53 2,039.31 2,410.10 2,780.88 3,337.06 Maghull 1,426.67 1,070.00 1,248.33 1,605.00 1,961.67 2,318.33 2,675.00 3,210.00 Melling Sefton 1,066.33 1,244.06 1,421.78 1,599.50 1,954.94 2,310.39 2,665.83 3,199.00 Thornton 1,051.19 1,226.39 1,401.59 1,576.79 1,927.19 2,277.59 2,627.98 3,153.58 All Other Parts 1,046.87 1,221.34 1,395.82 1,570.30 1,919.26 2,268.21 2,617.17 3,140.60 of the Council's Area

(10) it be noted that for the year 2019/2020, the major precepting authorities have stated the following amounts in precepts issued to the Council in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

	Property Valuation Band							
Proportion of	Α	В	С	D	E	F	G	Н
Band D	6/9	7/9	8/9	9/9	11/9	13/9	15/9	18/9
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Precepting Authority								
Merseyside Fire & Rescue Authority	52.56	61.32	70.08	78.84	96.36	113.88	131.40	157.68
Merseyside Police and Crime Commissioner	134.65	157.09	179.53	201.97	246.85	291.73	336.62	403.94
Liverpool City Region Combined Authority	12.67	14.78	16.89	19.00	23.22	27.44	31.67	38.00

(11) the Council, in accordance with Sections 30 and 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the aggregate amounts shown in the table below as the amounts of Council Tax for 2019/2020 for each part of its area and for each of the categories of dwellings.

	Property Valuation Band								
Proportion of	Α	В	С	D	Е	F	G	Н	
Band D	6/9	7/9	8/9	9/9	11/9	13/9	15/9	18/9	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
<u>Parish</u>									
Aintree Village	1,283.55	1,497.47	1,711.39	1,925.31	2,353.15	2,780.99	3,208.86	3,850.62	
Formby	1,253.39	1,462.28	1,671.18	1,880.07	2,297.86	2,715.65	3,133.46	3,760.14	
Hightown	1,250.93	1,459.41	1,667.90	1,876.38	2,293.35	2,710.32	3,127.31	3,752.76	
Ince Blundell	1,254.76	1,463.88	1,673.01	1,882.13	2,300.38	2,718.62	3,136.89	3,764.26	
Little Altcar	1,253.39	1,462.28	1,671.18	1,880.07	2,297.86	2,715.65	3,133.46	3,760.14	
Lydiate	1,297.30	1,513.51	1,729.73	1,945.94	2,378.37	2,810.79	3,243.24	3,891.88	
Maghull	1,312.23	1,530.94	1,749.64	1,968.34	2,405.74	2,843.15	3,280.57	3,936.68	
Melling	1,269.88	1,481.52	1,693.17	1,904.81	2,328.10	2,751.38	3,174.69	3,809.62	
Sefton	1,266.21	1,477.25	1,688.28	1,899.31	2,321.37	2,743.44	3,165.52	3,798.62	
Thornton	1,251.07	1,459.58	1,668.09	1,876.60	2,293.62	2,710.64	3,127.67	3,753.20	
All Other Parts of the Council's Area	1,246.75	1,454.53	1,662.32	1,870.11	2,285.69	2,701.26	3,116.86	3,740.22	

(12) the Council's basic amount of Council Tax for 2019/2020 is not deemed to be excessive in accordance with the principles approved under Section 52ZB of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.

Capital Programme 2019/20 to 2020/21

(13) approval be given for the inclusion within the Capital Programme, of the Capital schemes as detailed in Appendix E.

89. MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES 2018/19

No changes to the membership of Committees were made.