



FULL COUNCIL

BURNLEY TOWN HALL

Tuesday, 27th February, 2024 at 6.30 pm

PRESENT

MEMBERS

Councillors A Khan (Chair), A Anwar, L Ashworth, H Baker, G Barton, G Birtwistle, H Bridges, C Briggs, M Brindle, J Broughton, S Chaudhary, S Cunliffe, S Graham, Hall, J Harbour, B Horrocks, A Hosker, M Hurt, J Inckle, M Ishtiaq, N Kazmi, A Kelly, J Launer, A Lewis, G Lishman, M Lishman, S Lone, J McGowan, N Mottershead, M Payne, A Raja, P Reynolds, C Sollis, M Townsend and D Whitaker

OFFICERS

Lukman Patel	Chief Executive
Rob Dobson	Chief Operating Officer
Howard Hamilton-Smith	Director of Resources
Amy Johnson	Finance Manager
Alison McEwan	Democracy Officer
Carol Eddleston	Democracy Officer
CJ Walmsley	Democracy Officer
David Bristow	Mayor's Officer
MJ Hindman	Graphic Designer

75. Minutes of the Last Meeting

RESOLVED, THAT: The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 24th January 2024 be confirmed and signed by the Chair.

76. Declaration of Interest

Councillor M Lishman declared a other, non-prejudicial interest in agenda item 5h Revenue Budget 2024/25 as Chair of the Council for Voluntary Services for Burnley, Pendle and Rossendale and as a relative of Parish Councillors. She was permitted to remain in the meeting throughout and participate fully in the debate and vote.

Councillor Reynolds declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item 5p Appointment of Mayor and Deputy Mayor. Although the item was for noting only, he indicated that he would leave the meeting for the duration of the item.

77. Mayor's Communications

The Mayor informed the meeting that the Mayoress' Committee was operating a pop-up shop in Charter Walk shopping centre on Thursday, Friday and Saturday of this week. The shop was operating on a cash only basis and was stocked with a wide range of products.

78. Public Question Time

No questions, statements or petitions had been received from members of the public.

79. Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel - 2023/24 Members Allowance Scheme

Consideration was given to the findings of the Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP) in respect of a proposed percentage increase to the current Members' Allowance Scheme (MAS) for the financial year 2023/24.

RESOLVED, THAT: an increase of 4.6% to the members' basic allowance for the financial year 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024 and the resulting increases to Special Responsibility Allowances as set out in Appendix 1 be approved.

80. Strategic Plan 2024/25

With reference to minute 73 of the Executive (15th February 2024), consideration was given to the Strategic Plan 2024.

RESOLVED, THAT: the Strategic Plan be approved.

81. Revenue Monitoring Report 2023/24 - Quarter 3 (to 31 December 2023)

With reference to minute 74 of the Executive (15th February 2024), consideration was given to the forecast outturn position for the year ending 31 March 2024 based upon actual spending and income to 31 December 2023.

RESOLVED, THAT:

- (1) The latest revised net budget of £16.267m as shown in Table 1 be approved;
- (2) The net transfers from earmarked reserves of £6.014m as shown in Appendix 2 be approved, and
- (3) The requested carry forwards of £69k as shown in Appendix 3 be approved.

82. Capital Monitoring Report 2023/24 - Quarter 3 (to 31 December 2023)

With reference to minute 75 of the Executive (15th February 2024), consideration was given to an update on capital expenditure and the resources position, with any variances highlighted.

RESOLVED, THAT:

- (1) Net budget changes totalling a net increase of £69,936 giving a revised capital budget for 2023/24 totalling £41,727,259 as detailed in Appendix 1 be approved, and
- (2) The proposed financing of the revised capital budget totalling £41,727,259 as shown in Appendix 2 be approved.

83. 2023/24 Treasury Management Quarter 3 (April - December)

With reference to minute 76 of the Executive (15th February 2024), consideration was given to an update on treasury management activity for the period 1 April 2023 to 31 December 2023.

RESOLVED, THAT: the quarterly update on the Treasury Management Strategy 2023/24 in compliance with the requirements of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's (CIPFA) Code of Practice on Treasury Management be endorsed.

84. Revenue and Capital Budget 2024/25, including Medium Term Financial Strategy 2025/26 to 2028/29, 2024/25 Treasury Management Strategy, Revenue Budget Statutory Report, Council Tax Resolution, Council Taxi Support Scheme and Empty Homes Premium Policy

Consideration was given to the Medium Term Financial Strategy 2025/26 to 2028/29 incorporating the Reserves Strategy, the 2024/25 Treasury Management Strategy and 2024/25 to 2026/27 Prudential and Treasury Indicators, the Revenue Budget 2024/25, the Revenue Budget 2024/25 Statutory Report of the Chief Financial Officer, the Council Tax Resolution 2024/25, the Capital Budget 2024/25 and Capital Investment Programme 2024/29, and the Council Tax Support Scheme and Empty Homes Premium Policy. Consideration was also given to the relevant minutes 77, 78, 79, 80 and 81 of the Executive (15th February 2024).

It was moved by Councillor M Lishman and seconded by Councillor Anwar that the recommendations outlined in agenda items 5f to l and as set out in minutes 77 to 81 of the Executive (15th February 2024) be approved.

An amendment was submitted by the Labour Group and moved by Councillor Townsend and seconded by Councillor Graham.

'Resources for vital services, a welcoming town centre and additional support for those in need.'

- a. £50000 for Greenspaces with a priority being improving the maintenance of grassed areas and verges in residential areas across the Borough.

- b. £50000 for Streetscene with the priority being improving the cleanliness of the Boroughs' streets with a focus on littering and dog fouling (clean up and prevention).
- c. A one off £25000 for the town centre Business Improvement District (BID) towards their key theme of implementing projects and services that support a safer, more attractive visitor experience.
- d. A one off £20000 for Streetscene to provide targeted waste management services for households in financial need and requiring crisis support. Qualifying households to be referred by Streetscene/Housing/Burnley Together/Calico as per similar schemes provided in 23/24 under the Household Support Fund.
- e. £1000 for Treasury Management to cover for loss of interest income arising from financing these proposals.

TOTAL £146000 (of which £45000 is for one off proposals)

To be paid for by :

1. £24000 increase in salary savings from vacant posts (reflects the increase in the salary budget from 23/24 to 24/25)
2. £30000 from a 2% reduction in utility usage (efficiency target to reduce consumption of electricity/gas)
3. £47000 contribution to revenue from the £1.4m annual contribution to the Business Rates Volatility reserve
4. £37500 contribution to revenue from the no longer required Primary Engineer Reserve.
5. £7500 contribution to revenue from the Cost of Living reserve.

TOTAL £146000'

Adjournment of the meeting

With the consent of the meeting the Mayor adjourned the meeting at 19:00.

The meeting reconvened at 19:10.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 16.7 a recorded vote was taken on the amendment.

Labour Group Amendment (Amendment)	
Councillor Arif Khan	Against
Councillor Afrasiab Anwar	Against
Councillor Lee Ashworth	Against
Councillor Howard Baker	Against
Councillor Gail Barton	For
Councillor Gordon Birtwistle	Against
Councillor Helen Bridges	Against
Councillor Charlie Briggs	For
Councillor Margaret Brindle	For
Councillor Joanne Broughton	Against

Councillor Saeed Chaudhary	Against
Councillor Scott Cunliffe	Against
Councillor Sue Graham	For
Councillor Alex Hall	Against
Councillor John Harbour	For
Councillor Bill Horrocks	For
Councillor Alan Hosker	Against
Councillor Martyn Hurt	Against
Councillor Jacqueline Inckle	Against
Councillor Mohammed Ishtiaq	Against
Councillor Nussrat Kazmi	Against
Councillor Anne Kelly	Against
Councillor Jack Launer	Against
Councillor Alun Lewis	For
Councillor Gordon Lishman	Against
Councillor Margaret Lishman	Against
Councillor Sehrish Lone	Against
Councillor Jamie McGowan	Against
Councillor Neil Mottershead	Against
Councillor Mark Payne	Abstain
Councillor Asif Raja	Against
Councillor Paul Reynolds	Against
Councillor Christine Sollis	Abstain
Councillor Mark Townsend	For
Councillor Don Whitaker	Against
Rejected	

The amendment was declared to be LOST.

An amendment was submitted by the Conservative Group and moved by Councillor McGowan and seconded by Councillor Hosker.

'Insert the following additional decisions relating to one-off spending in 2024/25

- 1.1. Agree savings summarised in Table A from the Revenue Budget, generating a saving of £120,000 for 2024/2025

Table A: Revenue savings

Item	Saving (£)
Keep the Council Tax Support Scheme at a rate of 85% as per the consultation response.	(80,000)
Reduce the budget for Calico's Burnley Together from £140,000 this year to £100,000.	(40,000)
Total savings	(120,000)

Insert the following decisions relating to one-off spending in 2024/25:

1.2 Agree to mitigate the Council Tax rise of 2.99% through a smaller Council Tax increase for residents. And a one-off rebate on all residential properties within the borough equivalent to 1.99%. Total cost £156,000.

1.21 A Council Tax increase of 2.99% will generate additional income of £233,000.

1.22 A Council Tax increase of 1% will generate an additional income of £77,000.

1.23 Note that the decisions at 1.1 have the combined effect of maintaining a balanced ongoing budget position whilst requiring the Council to find another £36,000 to mitigate the proposed Council Tax rebate of 1.99% for 2024/25.

Table B: New additional one-off spending capacity created in 2024/25

Item	Capacity (£)
Budget Efficiency in 2024/25 arising from savings in expenditure summarised in Table A	(120,000)
Use of the Cost of Living Reserve	(36,000)
Total additional one-off spending capacity in 2024/25	(156,000)

1.3 Agree to use the Cost of Living Reserve as outlined in Table B, to fund the spending for 2024/25 outlined in 1.2

Adjournment of the meeting

With the consent of the meeting the Mayor adjourned the meeting at 19:36.

The meeting reconvened at 19:42.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 16.7 a recorded vote was taken on the amendment.

Conservative Group Amendment (Amendment)	
Councillor Arif Khan	Against
Councillor Afrasiab Anwar	Against
Councillor Lee Ashworth	For
Councillor Howard Baker	Against
Councillor Gail Barton	Against
Councillor Gordon Birtwistle	Against
Councillor Helen Bridges	Against
Councillor Charlie Briggs	Against
Councillor Margaret Brindle	Against
Councillor Joanne Broughton	For
Councillor Saeed Chaudhary	Against
Councillor Scott Cunliffe	Against
Councillor Sue Graham	Against
Councillor Alex Hall	Against
Councillor John Harbour	Against

Councillor Bill Horrocks	Against
Councillor Alan Hosker	For
Councillor Martyn Hurt	Against
Councillor Jacqueline Inckle	Against
Councillor Mohammed Ishtiaq	Against
Councillor Nussrat Kazmi	Against
Councillor Anne Kelly	Against
Councillor Jack Launer	Against
Councillor Alun Lewis	Against
Councillor Gordon Lishman	Against
Councillor Margaret Lishman	Against
Councillor Sehrish Lone	Against
Councillor Jamie McGowan	For
Councillor Neil Mottershead	For
Councillor Mark Payne	Abstain
Councillor Asif Raja	Against
Councillor Paul Reynolds	Against
Councillor Christine Sollis	Against
Councillor Mark Townsend	Against
Councillor Don Whitaker	For
Rejected	

The amendment was declared to be LOST.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 16.7 a recorded vote was taken on the original motion and it was declared to be CARRIED.

Original Motion (Resolution)	
Councillor Arif Khan	For
Councillor Afrasiab Anwar	For
Councillor Lee Ashworth	Against
Councillor Howard Baker	For
Councillor Gail Barton	Abstain
Councillor Gordon Birtwistle	For
Councillor Helen Bridges	For
Councillor Charlie Briggs	Abstain
Councillor Margaret Brindle	Abstain
Councillor Joanne Broughton	Against
Councillor Saeed Chaudhary	For
Councillor Scott Cunliffe	For
Councillor Sue Graham	Abstain
Councillor Alex Hall	For
Councillor John Harbour	Abstain
Councillor Bill Horrocks	Abstain
Councillor Alan Hosker	Against
Councillor Martyn Hurt	For
Councillor Jacqueline Inckle	For
Councillor Mohammed Ishtiaq	For

Councillor Nussrat Kazmi	For
Councillor Anne Kelly	For
Councillor Jack Launer	For
Councillor Alun Lewis	Abstain
Councillor Gordon Lishman	For
Councillor Margaret Lishman	For
Councillor Sehrish Lone	For
Councillor Jamie McGowan	Against
Councillor Neil Mottershead	Against
Councillor Mark Payne	Abstain
Councillor Asif Raja	For
Councillor Paul Reynolds	Abstain
Councillor Christine Sollis	For
Councillor Mark Townsend	Abstain
Councillor Don Whitaker	Against
Carried	

RESOLVED, THAT:

Medium Term Financial Strategy

- 1) The latest Medium Term Financial Strategy be approved;
- 2) The Reserves Strategy, as appended to the Medium Term Financial Strategy, be approved;

Treasury Management Strategy

- 3) The Treasury Management Strategy Statement for 2024/25 as set out in Appendix 1 be approved;
- 4) The prudential and treasury indicators for 2024/25 to 2026/27 as per Appendix 2 including the authorised limit for external debt of £100.199m in 2024/25 be approved;
- 5) The list of Counterparties for Deposits outlined within Appendix 3 be approved;
- 6) The Council's MRP Statement for 2024/25 as set out in Appendix 4 be approved;

Revenue Budget 2024/25

- 7) The approach that has been adopted in developing budget proposals that reflect the Council's Strategic Objectives for 2024/25 be endorsed;
- 8) The proposals contained in the Revenue Budget 2024/25 report be approved;
- 9) The setting of a Council Tax requirement of £8,054,980 for the financial year 2024/25 be approved;
- 10) The setting of a Net Budget Requirement of £18,986,918 for 2024/25 be approved;
- 11) The statutory report issued by the Director of Resources under the Local Government Act 2003 be received and considered;
- 12) The Chief Operating Officer/Directors/Heads of Service be authorised to progress action plans to deliver the 2024/25 budget;
- 13) A Council Tax (Band D) figure of £337.82 for this Council for the year commencing 1st April 2024 be approved and the statutory resolution to set the full Council Tax for the year be adopted. This is equivalent to a 2.99% Council Tax increase;

Revenue Budget 2024/25 Statutory Report of the Chief Financial Officer

- 14) The report be noted and Members have regard to its contents when setting the Revenue Budget for 2024/25.

Council Tax Resolution

- 15) It be noted that on 19th January 2024 the Council calculated the Council Tax base 2024/25
- a) for the whole Council area as 23,844 band D equivalent properties (Item T in the formula in Section 31B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 [the “Act”] as amended by the Localism Act 2011)
 - b) for dwellings in those parts of its area to which a Parish precept relates as in the attached Appendix B.
- 16) The Council Tax requirement calculated for the Council’s own purposes for 2024/25 (excluding parish precepts) be £8,054,980.
- 17) The following amounts be calculated by the Council for the financial year 2024/25 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Act
- (a) £55,394,091 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A (2) (a) of the Act taking into account all precepts issued to it by Parish Councils;
 - (b) £47,151,111 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A (3) of the Act;
 - (c) £8,242,980 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) £345.70 being the amount at (3)(c) above (Item R), all divided by Item T (1(a) above), 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) £188,000 being the aggregate of all special items (Parish precepts) referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act (as per the attached Appendix B);
 - (f) £337.82 being the amount at (3)(d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at (3)(e) above by Item T (the amount at 1(a) 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 (Parish precept) relates.
- 18) It be noted that the County Council, the Police and Crime Commissioner for Lancashire and the Fire Authority have issued precepts to the Council in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 for each category of dwellings in the Council’s area as indicated in the table below
- 19) The Council, in accordance with Sections 30 and 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby set the aggregate amounts shown in the tables

below and in Appendix A as the amounts of Council Tax for 2024/25 for each part of its area and for each of the categories of dwellings.

VALUATION BANDS

Burnley Borough Council

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
£225.21	£262.75	£300.28	£337.82	£412.89	£487.96	£563.03	£675.64

Lancashire County Council

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
£1,102.19	£1,285.89	£1,469.59	£1,653.29	£2,020.69	£2,388.09	£2,755.48	£3,306.58

Police and Crime Commissioner for Lancashire

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
£175.60	£204.87	£234.13	£263.40	£321.93	£380.47	£439.00	£526.80

Lancashire Combined Fire Authority

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
£56.49	£65.90	£75.32	£84.73	£103.56	£122.39	£141.22	£169.46

Aggregate of Council Tax Requirements

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
£1,559.49	£1,819.41	£2,079.32	£2,339.24	£2,859.07	£3,378.91	£3,898.73	£4,678.48

- 20) It be determined that the Council's basic amount of Council Tax for 2024/25 is not excessive in accordance with principles approved under Section 52ZB Local Government Finance Act 1992;

Capital Budget for 2024/25 and Capital Investment Programme 2024-29

- 21) The 2024/25 Capital Budget, totalling £16,290,933 as set out in Appendix 1 be approved;
- 22) The 2024-29 Capital Investment Programme as set out in Appendix 1 be noted;
- 23) The estimated position on capital resources as set out in Appendix 2 be noted;

Council Tax Support Scheme 2024/25 and 2025/26 and Empty Homes Premium Policy

- 24) Changes to the Council Tax Support Scheme for 2024/25 to increase the maximum level of subsidy for working age claimants from 85% to 95% for a one-year period be approved;
- 25) Changes to the Council Tax Support Scheme for 2025/26 to increase the maximum level of subsidy for working age claimants from 85% to 90% for a one-year period be approved;
- 26) The Council's Empty Homes Premium Policy be approved;
- 27) The Director of Resources, in consultation with the Executive Member for Resources and Performance, be authorised to amend the Empty Homes Premium Policy to ensure that it complies with forthcoming legislation.

85. Pay Policy Statement 2024/25

With reference to minute 84 of the Executive (15th February 2024) consideration was given to the Council's Pay Policy Statement 2024/25 which was required to be published by the end of March each year.

RESOLVED, THAT:

- 1) The report and the attached Pay Policy Statement for 2024/25 be approved, and
- 2) The Council's Gender Pay Gap report at Appendix H of the Pay Policy Statement be noted.

86. Constitutional Reporting and Amendment of Outside Bodies

Consideration was given to a report in respect of changes to committee members, including the nomination of substitutes, and nominations, appointment term and addition to the Council's list of Outside Bodies.

RESOLVED, THAT:

Committee representatives and roles:

- 1) Councillor Sollis be removed from Development Control and Scrutiny Committees;
- 2) Councillor Raja be appointed to the Development Control Committee;
- 3) Councillor Chaudhary be appointed to the Scrutiny Committee;
- 4) Councillor Hurt be appointed Vice-Chair of Development Committee;
- 5) Substitutes to committees be appointed as follows:
Audit and Standards: Councillors Cunliffe and Hurt;
Development Control: Councillors Bridges and Broughton;

Licensing: Councillors Bridges, Cunliffe and Hosker;
Scrutiny: Councillors Hosker and Hurt.

Outside Bodies:

- 6) Councillor Hurt be appointed as a Trustee to the Board of Burnley Leisure & Culture;
- 7) The appointment at 6) above continue until July 2026 provided that the elected member continues to fulfil all the relevant requirements relating to the position;
- 8) The change to the appointments process for Burnley Leisure and Culture Trustees as set out at paragraph 23 be approved;
- 9) The addition of the Town Board to the Council's list of Outside Bodies be approved, with the representation on that Board being agreed as the Leader of the Council and Executive Member for Sustainable Development and Growth (to be appointed by the Executive) and an Opposition Member who will be appointed by Council, and
- 10) Following approval of 9) above, Councillor McGowan be appointed as the Council's Opposition Member representative on the Town Board.

87. Calendar of Meetings 2024-25

Consideration was given to a calendar of meetings for the 2024/25 Municipal Year.

RESOLVED, THAT: The calendar of meetings for the 2024/25 Municipal Year be approved.

88. Appointment of Mayor and Deputy Mayor 2024-25

Councillor Reynolds left the meeting for the duration of this item.

Consideration was given to a report on the position relating to the appointment of the Mayor and Chair of the Council and Deputy Mayor and Vice-Chair of the Council for the Municipal Year 2024/25.

RESOLVED, THAT:

- 1) It be noted that Councillor Hussain has accepted the invitation to become Mayor in 2024/25, and
- 2) It be noted that Councillor Reynolds has accepted the invitation to become Deputy Mayor in 2024/25.

89. Questions

Councillor Reynolds returned to the meeting.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 10.2, Councillor Townsend asked the Leader a question relating to any response from the Department of Business, Enterprise, Innovation and Skills (BEIS) to a letter sent by the Chief Executive on 19th October in relation to the Towns Fund.

The Leader responded accordingly.

