

**A MEETING OF THE POLICY AND ORGANISATION BOARD WAS HELD
ON 1 FEBRUARY 2011**

The Mayor (Councillor Allen) (ex-officio) (P); Councillors Beavis (P), Burgess (P), Carter, C R (P), Chegwyn (P), Mrs Forder (P), Hook (Chairman) (P), Lane (P), Langdon (P), Philpott (P) and Wright (P).

69. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest at the start of the meeting.

**70. MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS OF THE BOARD HELD ON 10
NOVEMBER, 21 DECEMBER 2010 AND 4 JANUARY 2011**

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Board meetings held on 10 November, 21 December 2010 and 4 January 2011 be approved and signed by the Chairman as true and correct records.

71. DEPUTATIONS

No deputations were received.

72. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

There were no public questions.

PART I

73. COUNCIL BUDGET 2011/12

Consideration was given to a report of the Borough Treasurer (a copy of which is affixed in the Minute Book as Appendix A), which outlined the financial situation of the Council's General Fund in the current year and, after consideration of the main factors affecting the outlook for 2011/12 including Exchequer support and reserve levels, recommended a budget level for that year. The proposed budget is expected to result in no increase in the level of Council Tax for the Borough Council's requirements after taking account of reserve and tax collection fund balances.

The proposed budget consolidated the requirements of the Policy and Organisation Board plus the Community and Environment and Housing (General Fund) Boards as cross referenced. Under the agenda item on the Community and Environment Board Budget 2011/12 the Board were informed that on page 45 of the Draft Budget 2011-12 book (Capital Programme 2010/2011 to 2015/2016), £98,000 had been omitted from item 17 (Privett Enclosure/GBFC – Improved Facilities) under the Local Resources Revised 2010/2011 column. This would now be added to the Draft Budget book.

Following this disclosure Councillor Hook declared a personal interest in this matter and remained in the meeting room.

In conclusion the Borough Treasurer advised the Board that from yesterday's Grant Settlement the Council would receive £5.151M in 2011/12 (an extra £16,160 compared to the provisional settlement) but the figure provisionally announced for 2012/13 had now been reduced by a further £50,605. Therefore the total Budget figure for 2011/12 had been revised from £10,691,430 to £10,707,590.

RECOMMENDED: That, having considered the budget requirements of all of the Council's Boards, Council approve a revised 2010/11 Budget totalling £12,844,100 and a Budget for 2011/12 totalling £10,707,590.

74. TREASURY MANAGEMENT AND PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS 2011/12

Consideration was given to a report of the Financial Services Manager (a copy of which is affixed in the Minute Book as Appendix B), which outlined the Council's Prudential Indicators for 2011/12 to 2013/14 together with the expected treasury operations for this period. It fulfilled four key legislative requirements by reporting on:

- The main Prudential Indicators
- The Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Policy
- The Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Key Indicators
- The Investment Strategy

RECOMMENDED: That Council formally approve:

- The Prudential Indicators
- The Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Policy (Appendix A)
- The Treasury Management Strategy
- The Investment Strategy

75. MEMBER DEVELOPMENT

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Executive (a copy of which is affixed in the Minute Book as Appendix C), which requested the Board to consider the South East Charter for Elected Member Development. A presentation had been arranged for all Members on 24 January 2011 on the South East Charter for Elected Member Development. Councillor Barnard from Bracknell Forest Council had attended the presentation by South East Employers (SEE) and had explained the benefits of the Charter for his Council and fellow Councillors. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Standards and Governance Committee had also considered the Charter.

The Chairman proposed that this item should be referred to the Council meeting tomorrow night to commit the Council to the Charter. The proposed Member Development Working Group to consist of 7 members on a 4:1:1:1 split and the costs of the Charter to be self funding through the Members Allowances budget.

RECOMMENDED: That:

- a) the Council commits to the South East Charter for Elected Member

- Development and begins work towards achieving the Charter, including the setting up of a Member Development Working Group;
- b) the Member Development Working Group consist of 7 members on a 4:1:1:1 split; and
 - c) the costs of the Charter be refunded by councillors through the Members Allowances budget.

PART II

76. PROPOSED SALE OF LAND ADJACENT TO 18 GREGSON CLOSE, GOSPORT

Consideration was given to a cross reference from the Housing Board (31 January) which sought approval for the sale of the land adjacent to 18 Gregson Close, Gosport.

RESOLVED: That the sale of the land adjacent to 18 Gregson Close, Gosport be approved.

77. RESPONSE TO COUNTY COUNCIL CONSULTATION ON POST 16 EDUCATION IN THE GOSPORT AREA

Consideration was given to a cross reference from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (16 December 2010) which requested that the Board approve the draft response to be sent to Hampshire County Council on the above subject.

RESOLVED: That the draft response enclosed with the Overview and Scrutiny Committee's cross reference be approved and forwarded to Hampshire County Council.

78. HARDSHIP RELIEF - NNDR

Consideration was given to a report of the Financial Services Manager which requested the Board to consider an application for hardship relief from non-domestic rates under Section 49 of the Local Government Finance Act submitted by the Sea Cadets in reference to Berkeley Hall, Weevil Lane, Gosport.

RESOLVED: That the application by the Sea Cadets for hardship relief under Section 49 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 for Berkeley Hall, Weevil Lane, Gosport be supported.

79. GAS GOVERNOR RELOCATION AND EASEMENT – HOLBROOK RECREATION GROUND

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Executive which sought approval for the grant of a lease for the replacement of the Gas Governor at Holbrook Recreation Ground (Forest Way) and the grant of an easement for the existing 450 PE medium pressure gas main.

RESOLVED: That the Head of Property Services be authorised to agree the terms for the grant of the Lease for the replacement of the Gas Governor and the grant of the easement for the gas pipeline at the Holbrook Recreation Ground (Forest Way) and similarly the Borough Solicitor be authorised to enter into such legal documentation as is necessary to effect the transaction.

80. POLICY AND ORGANISATION BOARD BUDGET 2011/12

Consideration was given to a report of the Financial Services Manager, which considered the Board's revised 2010/11 and 2011/12 Budgets, including the Capital Programme, and recommended thereon to the Policy and Organisation Board for inclusion in the General Fund Budget proposals to Council.

RESOLVED: That approval be given to:

- a)
 - the Revenue Budget (revised 2010/11 and estimate 2011/12);
 - the Capital Programme 2010/11 to 2015/16; and
- b) the proposed revisions to the Discretionary Rate Relief Policy detailed in Appendix A of the Manager's report.

The meeting ended at 6.20pm.

CHAIRMAN