

# ***Minutes***



## Sunderland City Council

At a meeting of SUNDERLAND CITY COUNCIL held REMOTELY on WEDNESDAY  
3 MARCH 2021 at 4.00pm

**Present:** The Mayor (Councillor David Snowdon) in the Chair  
The Deputy Mayor (Councillor H Trueman).

Councillors	Armstrong	Gibson, E	Mann	Smith, G
	Atkinson	Gibson, P	Marshall	Smith, P
	Blackburn	Greener	McClennan	Snowdon, D E
	Blackett	Haswell	McDonough	Speding
	Butler	Heron	McKeith	Stewart
	Chequer	Hodson	Miller, F	Taylor
	Crosby	Howe	Miller, G	Thornton
	Davison	Jackson	Mordey	Trueman, D
	Dixon, D	Jenkins	Mullen	Tye
	Dixon, M	Johnston	Noble	Walker, P
	Doyle	Kelly	O'Brien	Williams
	Fagan	Lauchlan	Oliver	Wilson, D
	Farthing	Lawson	Potts	Wood, A
	Fletcher	Leadbitter	Rowntree	Wood, P
	Foster	MackKnight, D	Samuels	
	Francis	MackKnight, N	Scanlan	

The notice convening the meeting was read.

### Minutes

Councillor Doyle referred to the two sets of votes detailed on Pages 13 and 14 of the minutes which showed that he had voted to abstain on both occasions. Councillor Doyle advised that he had voted against in each case. The Mayor advised that this would be checked following the meeting.

49. RESOLVED that the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 29 January 2021 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

**Note:** The electronic votes were subsequently checked, and the system indicated that Councillor Doyle had abstained on each occasion.

### Declarations of Interest

The following Councillors declared interests as indicated below: -

#### Cllr Atkinson

- as a Governor of Richard Avenue Primary School.
- as a Member of G.M.B.

**Cllr Blackburn**

- as a Member of G.M.B.

**Cllr Chequer**

- as a Member of Unite.

**Cllr Davison**

- as a Governor of Willow Fields Primary School.
- as a Member of G.M.B.

**Cllr Doyle**

- as a Governor at Fulwell Junior School.

**Cllr Farthing**

- Capital Programme
- CP0536 HISCA (Housing Innovation construction & Skills Academy) and Appendix 7 Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2021/22 as a Governor of EPNE (Sunderland College).
- as a Governor of Rickleton Primary School.
- as a Member of Unison.

**Cllr Fletcher**

- Capital programme as a Board Member of Sunderland Care and Support (SCAS).

**Cllr Haswell**

- - Capital Programme
- CP0536 HISCA (Housing Innovation construction & Skills Academy) and Appendix 7 Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2021/22 as an attendee at EPNE (Sunderland College).

**Cllr Heron**

- as a Council appointed representative to the Tyne and Wear Pension Fund.

**Cllr Jackson**

- as Member of the N.A.S.U.W.T.

**Cllr Johnston**

- as a governor of Houghton Community Nursery.
- as a Member of Unite.

**Cllr Kelly**

- as a Member of G.M.B.

**Cllr Lauchlan**

- as a Member of Unite.

**Cllr Lawson**

- as a Member of Unison.

**Cllr McClellan**

- as a Member of Unite.
- as a recipient of a pension from the Tyne and Wear Pension Fund.

**Cllr D. McKnight**

- as a Governor of Hylton Castle Primary School.

**Cllr N. McKnight**

- as a Director of Aim High Academy Trust.
- as a Member of Unison.

**Cllr G. Miller**

- Regarding the proposed amendment grant of £30,000 to Oak Learning Trust schools as a Governor/Trustee.
- as Member of G.M.B.

**Cllr F. Miller**

- as a Governor for Oak Learning Trust.
- as a Member of Unite.

**Cllr Mordey**

- as a Member of G.M.B.

**Cllr Rowntree**

- as a Member of Unison.

**Cllr Samuels**

- as a Member Unite.
- as a Member of the Community Union.

### **Cllr D.E. Snowdon**

- as a Governor of JFK Primary School (ref P.92 CP0506).
- as a Member of Unison.

### **Cllr Speding**

- as a Member of the Football Association, Chair of the Durham County Football Association and a Trustee of the Sunderland Football Trust Board.
- as a Member of G.M.B.

### **Cllr Stewart**

- Capital programme –
- replacement for Willow Fields Primary school P 46/90 - as Chair of Governors of Willow Fields Primary School.
- works to Bishopwearmouth Nursery P105 – as Chair of Bishopwearmouth Co-operative that occupy the site of the Nursery.
- as Member of Unison.

### **Cllr Thornton**

- Capital programme P 105
- CP0432 Daycentre Transformation and Improvement.
- CP0484 Bishopwearmouth Horticultural Nursery Carpark and Lighting Improvements.
- CP0080 Disabled Facilities grant.  
(all as a Director of SCAS).
- as a Governor of Eppleton Primary School
- as a Member of Unison.

### **Cllr H. Trueman**

- as a Governor of Columbia Grange School.

### **Cllr Walker**

- Capital programme CP0326 Chester road highway as a Gentoo employee.
- Revenue Budget 4.11 housing benefit overpayment as a Gentoo employee.
- a general declaration having been a unison union member.

### **Cllr Williams**

- Capital programme P 105
- CP0432 Daycentre Transformation and Improvement.
- CP0484 Bishopwearmouth Horticultural Nursery Carpark and Lighting Improvements.
- CP0080 Disabled Facilities grant.  
(all as a Director of SCAS).
- P92, CP0452 Oxclose Community Academy Internal Refurbishment, as a Governor of Oxclose Community Academy.
- as Chair of Governors of Lambton Primary School.
- as a Trustee of the Sunderland Football Trust Board.

## **Announcements**

### **Councillor Geoffrey Walker**

It was with sadness that the Mayor referred Council to the recent and sudden death of Councillor Dr. Geoffrey Walker.

Councillor Walker was first elected in May 2015 for the Shiney Row Ward and was re-elected in May 2019. He was appointed Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Health and Social Care in May 2018 which became the Healthy City Portfolio in 2020. As the Council's Cabinet Member for Healthy City and lead on public health and adult social care, as well as a Member of the City's Outbreak Control Board, Councillor Walker was at the forefront of the City's fight against Covid-19.

The Mayor invited Council to join him in a moment's silence as a mark of respect for their former colleague.

## **Apologies**

Apologies for absence were submitted to the meeting on behalf of Councillors Bewick, Hunt, Turner, Waller, Watson and A. Wilson and on behalf of Aldermen Arnott, Greenfield and Tate.

## **Report of the Cabinet**

The Cabinet reported and recommended as follows: -

That they had referred the initial proposals on the Revenue Budget to the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee:

- On 5 November 2020, Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee considered the Budget Planning Framework and Medium Term Financial Plan 2021/2022 – 2024/2025 report which was referred from the October Cabinet meeting:

The Scrutiny Coordinating Committee was satisfied with the budget planning framework and the medium-term financial strategy as set out in the report. The Committee recognised the various spending pressures and Central Government funding uncertainties that existed for the Council and the impact of Covid-19 on all Council services and funding.

The Committee was pleased to note that it would again be consulted on the results of the budget consultation and looked forward to receiving this at a future meeting.

The Committee placed on record its appreciation for the hard work and diligence of officers and members in the budget planning process, particularly in the difficult times that they all found themselves in at present.

- On 14 January 2021, Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee considered the Revenue Budget 2021/2022 to 2024/2025 – Update and Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement 2021/2022 report which was referred from the January Cabinet meeting.

The Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee acknowledged that the Council continued to operate in very challenging circumstances and the current pandemic had put additional pressures on all council services. Therefore, the Committee was satisfied with the contents of the report and acknowledged that a number of funding uncertainties remained and that the continued response to the pandemic only added to these uncertainties.

The Committee also acknowledged the revised version of the City Plan in light of the Covid-19 pandemic and requested that updates on progress were provided to the Scrutiny Coordinating Committee as and when appropriate.

The Committee placed on record its appreciation to all Members and Officers who continued to work extremely hard on budget planning and development of the Council's financial plans; and that an update be provided on Derwent Hill to the Scrutiny Committee.

On 11 February 2021, Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee considered the Revenue Budget and Proposed Council Tax for 2021/2022 and Medium Term Financial Plan 2021/2022 to 2024/2025 report which was referred from the February Cabinet meeting. The Committee received a verbal update from the Executive Director of Corporate Services to advise that at its meeting on 9 February, Cabinet agreed an amendment to the proposals to be recommended to Council, namely the removal of proposal DL4 for additional parking permit income of £40,000, with a corresponding adjustment to the proposed use of reserves.

The Scrutiny Coordinating Committee noted the financial information contained in the various reports presented. The Committee also continued to recognise the financial pressures the Council faced including from the impacts of the pandemic and noted the recommended Council Tax increase for 2020/21, which must be approved by Council. The Committee also acknowledged the budget consultation that was undertaken and recognised the importance of the various support funds including the local council tax support grant to assist our most vulnerable residents.

Finally, the Committee thanked all the officers and members for their diligence and professionalism in preparing the detailed reports and had no further comment to make.

That they had also referred the proposals for Capital Programme Planning 2021/2022 – 2024/2025 to the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee

- On 14 January 2021, Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee considered the Capital Programme Planning 2021/2022 – 2024/2025 and Capital Strategy report which was referred from the December Cabinet meeting:

The Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee noted the capital programme including the additional projects that provided an ambitious programme over the next four years and also recognised the importance of the updated capital strategy to oversee and manage the risks associated with the capital expenditure projects and acknowledged the importance of clear governance mechanisms, outlined in the strategy, to provide accountability of the capital programme.

- On 11 February 2021, Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee considered the Capital Programme 2021/2022 to 2024/2025 and Treasury Management Policy and Strategy 2021/2022, including Prudential Indicators for 2021/2022 to 2024/2025 report which was referred from the February Cabinet meeting.

The Committee again acknowledged the ambitious capital programme including the additional projects as well as the detailed information on treasury management, prudential indicators and borrowing which ensured the Council complied with statutory and regulatory requirements.

That they had also submitted the Treasury Management Policy and Strategy and prudential indicators within the attached report numbered 1 to the meeting of the Audit and Governance Committee.

- On 5 February 2021, the Audit and Governance Committee was consulted specifically on the Treasury Management Policy and Strategy for 2021/2022.

The Committee noted the Treasury Management Policy and Strategy for 2021/2022 and the Prudential Treasury Management Indicators for 2021/2022 to 2024/2025.

The Committee noted the Borrowing and Investment Strategies contained within the report and that the Council continued to follow and adhere to fundamental principles in relation to the prudent investment of treasury balances.

The Committee noted their responsibility for ensuring effective scrutiny of the treasury management strategy and policies and that they would continue to receive quarterly performance reports.

Subsequently

The precept figures had been confirmed as those set out in the report to Cabinet on 9 February 2021:

- The precept figures of the Police and Crime Commissioner Northumbria (PCCN) would mean an increase of 4.99% in the precept level for 2021/2022;
- The precept figures of the Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Authority (TWFR) would mean an increase of 1.99% in the precept level for 2021/2022; and
- The precept figures of the Parish of Hetton Town Council would mean an increase of 0% in the precept level for 2021/2022.

The position set out at Item 3 of the report as Determination of Council Tax 2021/2022 reflected the above notified 2021/2022 precept levels in respect of all of the Precepting Authorities and the figures as reported remained unchanged.

**1. Capital Programme 2021/2022 to 2024/2025 and Treasury Management Policy and Strategy 2021/2022, including Prudential Indicators for 2021/2022 to 2024/2025**

That they had considered the attached report of the Executive Director of Corporate Services on:

- the proposed Capital Programme for 2021/2022;
- the Treasury Management Policy and Strategy for 2021/2022 (including specifically the Annual Borrowing and Investment Strategies);
- the Prudential Indicators for 2021/2022 to 2024/2025; and
- the Minimum Revenue Provision Statement for 2021/2022.

Accordingly, the Cabinet recommended the Council to approve: -

- (i) the proposed Capital Programme for 2021/2022;
- (ii) the Treasury Management Policy and Strategy for 2021/2022 (including specifically the Annual Borrowing and Investment Strategies);
- (iii) the Prudential Indicators for 2021/2022 to 2024/2025; and
- (iv) the Minimum Revenue Provision Statement for 2021/2022.

**2. Revenue Budget and Proposed Council Tax for 2021/2022 and Medium Term Financial Plan 2021/2022 to 2024/2025**

That they had considered the report of the Executive Director of Corporate Services on:

- (a) the overall revenue budget position for 2021/2022;
- (b) the projected reserves position as at 31 March 2021 and 31 March 2022 and advise on their sufficiency;
- (c) a risk analysis of the Revenue Budget 2021/2022;
- (d) a summary of the emerging medium term financial position facing the Council from 2021/2022 to 2024/2025, and associated Council Efficiency strategy; and
- (e) any views received from the local Business Sector, Trade Unions and Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee.

Cabinet determined to make an amendment to the proposed Revenue Budget as set out in the report, in respect of the removal of proposal DL4 for additional parking permit income, with a corresponding adjustment to the proposed use of reserves. The attached report of the Executive Director of Corporate Services to Council set out the proposed Revenue Budget and Council Tax for 2021/2022 and Medium Term Financial Plan 2021/2022 to 2024/2025 as recommended by Cabinet. Accordingly, the Cabinet recommended the Council to approve: -

- (i) the proposals set out in the attached report including the proposed Revenue Budget for 2020/2021 set out at Appendix J; and
- (ii) the Medium Term Financial Plan 2021/2022 to 2024/2025 including Efficiency Strategy as set out in Appendix G and the potential use of Capital Receipts Flexibility set out at section 9 of the report.

### **3. Determination of Council Tax 2021/2022**

That they had considered a report of the Executive Director of Corporate Services making, subject to the approval of the Revenue Budget 2021/2022 (as set out at item 2 above), recommendations with respect to Council Tax levels for 2021/2022, and advised that the Council Tax was calculated using the tax bases for the areas of the City Council and Hetton Town Council as approved by Council on 27 January 2021, and set out a number of resolutions required to be made to determine the Council Tax, including the confirmed precepts from the Major Precepting Authorities and Hetton Town Council.

They therefore recommended Council: -

- i) to confirm the Council Tax Requirement for its own purposes is £108,110,255 (excluding Parish precepts), representing a 4.99% increase in Council Tax for 2021/2022, including the ringfenced social care precept of 3% which the Government allows councils to raise in addition to the basic council tax increase.
- ii) it be noted that at its meeting on 27 January 2021 the Council approved the following amounts for the year 2021/2022 in accordance with the amended regulations made under Section 31B(3) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (the 'Act'):
  - a) 70,045 being the amount calculated by the Council, in accordance with the above regulation of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 1992, as amended by Local Authorities (Calculation of Tax Base) (England) Regulations 2012, as its Council Tax Base for the year (Item T).

- b) 3,803 being the amount calculated by the Council, in accordance with the Regulations, as the amount of its Council Tax Base for the year for dwellings in the area of Hetton Town Council.
- iii) That the following amounts be calculated by the Council for the year 2021/2022 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 as amended:
- a) £705,681,482 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) £597,516,236 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A (3) of the Act.
  - c) £108,165,246 being the amount by which the aggregate at (iii) (a) above exceeds the aggregate at (iii) (b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31A (4) of the Act, as its Council Tax Requirement for the year including Parish precepts (Item R in the formula in Section 31A(4) of the Act).
  - d) £1,544.2251 being the amount at (iii) (c) above (Item R) all divided by Item T ((ii) (a) above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B (1) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year (including Parish precepts).
  - e) £54,991 being the precept notified by Hetton Town Council as a special item under Section 34 (1) of the Act.
  - f) £1,543.4400 being the amount at (iii) (d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at (iii) (e) above by the Item T ((ii) (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 Parish precept relates.

- g) £1,557.8999 being the amount given by adding to the amount at (iii) (f) above, the amount at (iii) (e) divided by the amount at (ii) (b) 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 the area of the Parish of Hetton Town Council.

- h) Charges relating to the Council

<b>Valuation Band</b>	<b>Hetton Town Council £</b>	<b>All other parts of the Council's area £</b>
A	1,038.60	1,028.96
B	1,211.70	1,200.45
C	1,384.80	1,371.94
D	1,557.90	1,543.44
E	1,904.10	1,886.43
F	2,250.30	2,229.41
G	2,596.50	2,572.40
H	3,115.80	3,086.88

being the amounts given by multiplying the amounts at (iii) (f) and (iii) (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.

- (iv) it be noted that for the year 2021/2022, Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Authority and the Police and Crime Commissioner for Northumbria have confirmed 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 as follows:

<b>Valuation Band</b>	<b>Police and Crime Commissioner for Northumbria £</b>	<b>Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Authority £</b>
A	95.89	57.09
B	111.88	66.61
C	127.86	76.12
D	143.84	85.64
E	175.80	104.67
F	207.77	123.70
G	239.73	142.73
H	287.68	171.28

- (v) having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at (iii) (h) and (iv) above and having received confirmation of the precept in paragraph (iv), the Council, in accordance with Section 30 (2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the following amounts as the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2021/2022 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below.

<b>Valuation Band</b>	<b>Hetton Town Council £</b>	<b>All other parts of the Council's area £</b>
A	1,191.58	1,181.94
B	1,390.19	1,378.94
C	1,588.78	1,575.92
D	1,787.38	1,772.92
E	2,184.57	2,166.90
F	2,581.77	2,560.88
G	2,978.96	2,954.86
H	3,574.76	3,545.84

- (vi) To determine that under Section 52ZB of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, the Authority's relevant basic amount of Council Tax for 2021/2022 is not excessive in accordance with the principles determined under Section 52ZC(1) of the Act.

(i.e. the proposed council tax increase for 2021/2022 means that the Council does not need to hold a referendum on its proposed council tax. The provisions set out in Section 52ZC of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 require all billing authorities (councils and precept authorities (i.e. Fire and Police authorities)) to hold a referendum on their proposed level of basic council tax each year if they exceed government guidelines set out annually.)

It was then moved by Councillor G Miller and seconded by Councillor Stewart that the report of the Cabinet be approved and adopted. Councillor Stewart moved that the time limit for the Leader's speech to the motion be extended and upon being put to the meeting the procedural motion was agreed. The Leader, Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holders having spoken on the report, the Mayor advised that there were amendments proposed by the Conservative Group in Opposition and the Liberal Democrats Group in Opposition.

The Mayor informed the meeting that Members had already been notified by the Chief Executive that in respect of the Conservative Group amendments, the proposal for each of the following schools should be moved, seconded, debated and voted on as a separate amendment. The schools were Richard Avenue Primary School, Willow Fields Community Primary School, Houghton Community Nursery, Oak Learning Trust/George Washington Primary School, Rickleton Primary School and Lambton Primary School.

As explained in the Chief Executive's notification to Members, this was necessary because if the Conservative Group's proposals were considered as a single amendment, this would be likely to prevent all but one Member of the Cabinet from taking part in the debate and vote on the amendment, due to their membership of the Governing bodies of the schools affected by the proposals. It was important that, so far as possible, Cabinet Members were able to undertake their statutory role and participate in the debate and vote on the Cabinet's budget proposals to Council along with any amendments proposed.

Councillor Atkinson having previously declared her interest in the following amendment, left the meeting during its consideration, taking no part in any discussion or decision thereon.

The following proposed Amendment to the Capital Budget from the Conservative Group in Opposition was moved by Councillor Mullen and seconded by Councillor Doyle.

Capital Budget  
Spending Proposal

- i) CCTV network funding for Richard Avenue Primary School £30,000.00  
To be funded from a corresponding reduction in the F-pit capital scheme

In accordance with the requirement of the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) (Regulations) 2014, Amendment i) on the Capital Budget proposals was put to the vote with 19 Members voting in favour: -

Councillors	Blackett	Francis	McDonough	Potts
	Crosby	Greener	McKeith	Smith, G
	Dixon, M	Haswell	Mullen	Wood, A
	Doyle	Hodson	O'Brien	Wood, P
	Fagan	Leadbitter	Oliver	

39 Members voting against: -

Councillors	Blackburn	Heron	McClennan	Stewart
	Butler	Jackson	Miller, F	Taylor
	Chequer	Johnston	Miller, G	Thornton
	Davison	Kelly	Morley	Trueman, D
	Dixon, D	Lauchlan	Rowntree	Trueman, H
	Farthing	Lawson	Samuels	Tye
	Fletcher	MackKnight, D	Scanlan	Walker
	Foster	MackKnight, N	Smith, P	Williams
	Gibson, E	Mann	Snowdon, D E	Wilson, D
	Gibson, P	Marshall	Speding	

And 2 Members abstaining, Councillors Armstrong and Jenkins.

The Amendment was defeated.

Councillor Atkinson was re admitted to the meeting.

Councillors Stewart and Davison having previously declared their interests in the following amendment, left the meeting during its consideration, taking no part in any discussion or decision thereon.

The following proposed Amendment to the Capital Budget from the Conservative Group in Opposition was moved by Councillor Mullen and seconded by Councillor Doyle.

Capital Budget

Spending Proposal

- ii) Funding for outdoor physical education apparatus to support mental wellbeing for Willow Fields Community Primary School £30,000.00  
To be funded from a corresponding reduction in the F-pit capital scheme

Amendment ii) on the Capital Budget proposals was put to the vote with 20 Members voting in favour: -

Councillors	Blackett	Francis	Leadbitter	Oliver
	Crosby	Greener	McDonough	Potts
	Dixon, M	Haswell	McKeith	Smith, G
	Doyle	Hodson	Mullen	Wood, A
	Fagan	Howe	O'Brien	Wood, P

38 Members voting against: -

Councillors	Atkinson	Heron	McClennan	Taylor
	Blackburn	Jackson	Miller, F	Thornton
	Butler	Johnston	Miller, G	Trueman, D
	Chequer	Kelly	Mordey	Trueman, H
	Dixon, D	Lauchlan	Rowntree	Tye
	Farthing	Lawson	Samuels	Walker
	Fletcher	MackKnight, D	Scanlan	Williams
	Foster	MackKnight, N	Smith, P	Wilson, D
	Gibson, E	Mann	Snowdon, D E	
	Gibson, P	Marshall	Speding	

And 2 Members abstaining, Councillors Armstrong and Jenkins.

The Amendment was defeated.

Councillors Stewart and Davison were re admitted to the meeting.

Councillor Johnston having previously declared his interest in the following amendment, left the meeting during its consideration, taking no part in any discussion or decision thereon.

The following proposed Amendment to the Capital Budget from the Conservative Group in Opposition was moved by Councillor Mullen and seconded by Councillor Doyle.

Capital Budget

Spending Proposal

- iii) Repairs and maintenance fund for Houghton Community Nursery  
£30,000.00  
To be funded from a corresponding reduction in the F-pit capital scheme

Amendment iii) on the Capital Budget proposals was put to the vote with 20 Members voting in favour: -

Councillors	Blackett	Francis	Leadbitter	Oliver
	Crosby	Greener	McDonough	Potts
	Dixon, M	Haswell	McKeith	Smith, G
	Doyle	Hodson	Mullen	Wood, A
	Fagan	Howe	O'Brien	Wood, P

40 Members voting against : -

Councillors	Armstrong	Gibson, E	Marshall	Speding
	Atkinson	Gibson, P	McClennan	Stewart
	Blackburn	Heron	Miller, F	Taylor
	Butler	Jackson	Miller, G	Thornton
	Chequer	Jenkins	Mordey	Trueman, D
	Davison	Kelly	Rowntree	Trueman, H
	Dixon, D	Lauchlan	Samuels	Tye
	Farthing	Lawson	Scanlan	Walker
	Fletcher	MacKnight, D	Smith, P	Williams
	Foster	Mann	Snowdon, D E	Wilson, D

And 1 Member abstaining, Councillor MacKnight, N.

The Amendment was defeated.

Councillor Johnson was re admitted to the meeting.

Councillors G. Miller and F. Miller having previously declared their interests in the following amendment, left the meeting during its consideration, taking no part in any discussion or decision thereon.

The following proposed Amendment to the Capital Budget from the Conservative Group in Opposition was moved by Councillor Mullen and seconded by Councillor Doyle.

Capital Budget

Spending Proposal

- iv) Repairs and maintenance fund for Oak Learning Trust / George Washington Primary School £30,000.00  
To be funded from a corresponding reduction in the F-pit capital scheme

Amendment iv) on the Capital Budget proposals was put to the vote with 20 Members voting in favour: -

Councillors	Blackett	Francis	Leadbitter	Oliver
	Crosby	Greener	McDonough	Potts
	Dixon, M	Haswell	McKeith	Smith, G
	Doyle	Hodson	Mullen	Wood, A
	Fagan	Howe	O'Brien	Wood, P

39 Members voting against : -

Councillors	Armstrong	Gibson, E	MacKnight, N	Speding
	Atkinson	Gibson, P	Mann	Stewart
	Blackburn	Heron	Marshall	Taylor
	Butler	Jackson	McClennan	Thornton
	Chequer	Jenkins	Mordey	Trueman, D
	Davison	Johnston	Rowntree	Trueman, H
	Dixon, D	Kelly	Samuels	Tye
	Farthing	Lauchlan	Scanlan	Walker
	Fletcher	Lawson	Smith, P	Williams
	Foster	MacKnight, D	Snowdon, D E	

And 0 Members abstaining.

The Amendment was defeated.

Councillors G. Miller and F. Miller were re admitted to the meeting.

Councillor Farthing having previously declared her interest in the following amendment, left the meeting during its consideration, taking no part in any discussion or decision thereon.

The following proposed Amendment to the Capital Budget from the Conservative Group in Opposition was moved by Councillor Mullen and seconded by Councillor Doyle.

Capital Budget

Spending Proposal

- v) Repairs and maintenance fund for Rickleton Primary School £30,000.00  
To be funded from a corresponding reduction in the F-pit capital scheme

Amendment v) on the Capital Budget proposals was put to the vote with 20 Members voting in favour: -

Councillors	Blackett	Francis	Leadbitter	Oliver
	Crosby	Greener	McDonough	Potts
	Dixon, M	Haswell	McKeith	Smith, G
	Doyle	Hodson	Mullen	Wood, A
	Fagan	Howe	O'Brien	Wood, P

39 Members voting against: -

Councillors	Atkinson	Heron	McClennan	Stewart
	Blackburn	Jackson	Miller, F	Taylor
	Butler	Johnston	Miller, G	Thornton
	Chequer	Kelly	Morley	Trueman, D
	Davison	Lauchlan	Rowntree	Trueman, H
	Dixon, D	Lawson	Samuels	Tye
	Fletcher	MackKnight, D	Scanlan	Walker
	Foster	MackKnight, N	Smith, P	Williams
	Gibson, E	Mann	Snowdon, D E	Wilson, D
	Gibson, P	Marshall	Speding	

And 2 Members abstaining, Councillors Armstrong and Jenkins.

The Amendment was defeated.

Councillor Farthing was re admitted to the meeting.

Councillor Williams having previously declared her interest in the following amendment, left the meeting during its consideration, taking no part in any discussion or decision thereon.

The following proposed Amendment to the Capital Budget from the Conservative Group in Opposition was moved by Councillor Mullen and seconded by Councillor Doyle.

Capital Budget

Spending Proposal

- vi) Repairs and maintenance fund for Lambton Primary School £30,000.00  
To be funded from a corresponding reduction in the F-pit capital scheme

Amendment vi) on the Capital Budget proposals was put to the vote with 20 Members voting in favour: -

Councillors	Blackett	Francis	Leadbitter	Oliver
	Crosby	Greener	McDonough	Potts
	Dixon, M	Haswell	McKeith	Smith, G
	Doyle	Hodson	Mullen	Wood, A
	Fagan	Howe	O'Brien	Wood, P

38 Members voting against : -

Councillors	Atkinson	Gibson, P	Marshall	Speding
	Blackburn	Heron	McClennan	Stewart
	Butler	Jackson	Miller, F	Taylor
	Chequer	Johnston	Miller, G	Thornton
	Davison	Kelly	Mordey	Trueman, D
	Dixon, D	Lauchlan	Rowntree	Trueman, H
	Farthing	Lawson	Samuels	Tye
	Fletcher	MacKnight, D	Scanlan	Walker
	Foster	MacKnight, N	Smith, P	
	Gibson, E	Mann	Snowdon, D E	

And 2 Members abstaining, Councillors Armstrong and Jenkins.

The Amendment was defeated.

Councillor Williams was re admitted to the meeting.

Councillor Mullen, seconded by Councillor Doyle then moved the Conservative Group's proposed amendments the Revenue Budget and remaining amendments to the Capital budget as follows:-

<b>Revenue Budget</b>	<b>Savings</b>
Reduction in Corporate Affairs and Communications (to include a reduction in the £100,000 spent on outsourced PR work)	£281,844.00
Reduction in councillors' allowances (as set out below)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Permanently merge Deputy Leader and Cabinet Secretary roles and re-establish the Environment and Transport Portfolio</li> <li>• Reduce the Leader's SRA by £2,667 (leading to an automatic Reduction in Major Opposition Leader SRA)</li> <li>• Delete the Minority Opposition Leader's SRA</li> <li>• Delete the Deputy Cabinet Member posts</li> <li>• Reduce the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Chair SRA by £9,556</li> <li>• Reduce the Thematic Scrutiny Chair SRAs – totalling £6,537</li> <li>• Reduce the five Area Committee Chair SRAs – totalling £36,750</li> <li>• Reduce the Licensing Committee Chair SRA by £5,369</li> <li>• Reduce the Planning and Highways Chair SRAs – totalling £6,554</li> <li>• Delete the SRAs for Vice Chairs of Scrutiny Co-ordinating, Licencing, and Area Committee - £41,846</li> <li>• Reduce the Mayoral allowance by £7,500 and the Deputy Mayoral allowance by £6,000</li> <li>• Delete the Adoptions Panel (£8,368) and Fostering Panel (£8,368) SRAs</li> </ul>	£197,574.00
Abolish all councillors' expenses	£35,000.00
Reduction in Business Investment Team budget achieved by cutting the Japan/America funding and reducing the travel budget	£80,045.00

Revised port deficit reduction	£100,000.00
End Council advertising in Vibe Magazine	£20,000.00
Cancel International Air Show and the Festival of Light this year for COVID security reasons and move to for-profit/sponsorship model in future years	£781,154.00
Reduction in the Neighbourhood Fund (to reinvest, as set out below)	£500,000.00
Reduction in trade union facility time	£150,000.00
Reduction in Carbon Reduction budget (to reinvest, as set out below)	£92,000.00

**Total £2,237,617.00**

### Spending

Insert five Park and Cemetery Wardens	£157,660.00
Free means-tested pest control in residential areas	£80,500.00
Insert 30 rat baiting bins across the city's parks and green spaces (not including those locations that already have them)	£19,500.00
Free larger green household waste bin replacements for families of four or more, upon request. An initial trial of 1,000 bins over the year to measure demand	£42,000.00
Move to a more pro-active environmental enforcement policy	No cost
Tree-lined streets and wildflower planting programme (to be funded via the Carbon Reduction budget)	£92,000.00
School mental health counselling pilot scheme	£15,000.00
Reduction in Labour's proposed Council Tax increase	£1,830,957.00

**Total £2,237,617.00**

### Capital Budget

### Savings

Delete the F Pit proposal	£4,650,000.00
Sale of the Roker Pods Market for sale	

**Total £4,650,000 +**

### Spending

Washington children's activity centre development fund	£2,000,000.00
Thornhill Park School car park development (based on quotes obtained by North East Autism Society)	£200,000.00
Derwent Hill glamping pod development (subject to planning permission)	£114,000.00
Together for Children residential home development fund	£2,000,000.00
Increased capital spend on Barnes Junior School	£140,000.00

**Total £4,454,000.00**

It was moved by Councillor Stewart and duly seconded that the time limit for the Leader's speech in reply to the amendments be extended. Councillor O'Brien seconded by Councillor Hodson requested that the motion was put to a formal vote.

Upon being put to the vote the motion was carried with 40 Members voting in favour:-

Councillors	Atkinson	Gibson, P	Marshall	Speding
	Blackburn	Heron	McClennan	Stewart
	Butler	Jackson	Miller, F	Taylor
	Chequer	Jenkins	Miller, G	Thornton
	Davison	Johnston	Mordey	Trueman, D
	Dixon, D	Kelly	Rowntree	Trueman, H
	Farthing	Lauchlan	Samuels	Tye
	Fletcher	Lawson	Scanlan	Walker
	Foster	MacKnight, D	Smith, P	Williams
	Gibson, E	MacKnight, N	Snowdon, D E	Wilson, D

20 Members voting against:-

Councillors	Blackett	Greener	Mann	Oliver
	Crosby	Haswell	McDonough	Potts
	Dixon, M	Hodson	McKeith	Smith, G
	Fagan	Howe	Mullen	Wood, A
	Francis	Leadbitter	O'Brien	Wood, P

And 2 Members abstaining, Councillors Armstrong and Doyle.

The Conservative Group's proposed amendments to the Revenue Budget and remaining amendments to the Capital budget were then put to the vote with 21 Members voting in favour:-

Councillors	Blackett	Greener	McDonough	Smith, G
	Crosby	Haswell	McKeith	Wood, A
	Dixon, M	Hodson	Mullen	Wood, P
	Doyle	Howe	O'Brien	
	Fagan	Leadbitter	Oliver	
	Francis	Mann	Potts	

39 Members voting against:-

Councillors	Armstrong	Gibson, E	Marshall	Speding
	Atkinson	Gibson, P	McClennan	Stewart
	Blackburn	Heron	Miller, F	Taylor
	Butler	Jackson	Miller, G	Trueman, D
	Chequer	Johnston	Mordey	Trueman, H
	Davison	Kelly	Rowntree	Tye
	Dixon, D	Lauchlan	Samuels	Walker
	Farthing	Lawson	Scanlan	Williams
	Fletcher	MacKnight, D	Smith, P	Wilson, D
	Foster	MacKnight, N	Snowdon, D E	

And 1 Member abstaining, Councillor Jenkins.

The Amendment was defeated.

The proposed Amendment to the Revenue and Capital Budgets from the Liberal Democrats Group in Opposition was moved by Councillor Hodson and seconded by Councillor O'Brien.

The Amendment to the proposals was as follows: -

### Revenue Budget

<b>Additional Savings Proposals</b>	<b>£ Savings</b>
Reduction of support costs for Area Committees linked to the reduction in the number of Area Committees from 5 to 3, as outlined in proposal number 2.	-100,000
Reducing number of Area Committees to three committees, coterminous with parliamentary constituencies (giving a saving of 2 Chairs and 2 Vice Chairs). Will also mean a reduction in the number of new Neighbourhood Boards as only 3 Vice Chairs to Chair them)	-33,254
Review and reduction of basic and special responsibility allowances (SRAs) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Remove Deputy Cabinet Members</li> <li>Remove Vice Chair Scrutiny Coordinating Committee</li> <li>Reduction in SRAs of all other roles 15%</li> <li>Reduce Basic Allowance by 5%</li> </ul>	-137,584
Roles of Mayor and Deputy Mayor to be replaced by unpaid elected Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson and allowances removed	-22,940
Reduce Councillors' expenses, food and drink provision, subsistence allowance and broadband and home phone allowances	-35,000
Reduce Corporate Communications budget by 25%	-271,844
Remove budget for carbon reduction	-1,000,000
<b>TOTAL ADDITIONAL SAVINGS</b>	<b>-1,600,622</b>

<b>Priority investments</b>	<b>£</b>
Reduce Council Tax rise to 3.99%	1,024,000
Increased funding for disabled education support (Travel or IT)	100,000
Introduce a single free bulky item collection service for those in receipt of council tax support	95,000
Introduce a discretionary fund to allow for the increasing of lighting levels or installation of additional lighting for partially sighted residents as part of Health & Social Care budget	8,000

Funding to reinstate the number 18 Sunderland Royal Hospital bus service with 3 services per day commencing September 2021 (note this is a part year impact)	75,000
Introduce single free annual visitor parking permit in permit parking zones for carless households	50,000
Reverse the 2018/19 and 2019/20 Brown Bin charge increase	146,000
Introduce scheme to allow autorenewal of Brown Bin service and Parking Permits	0
Reinstate voluntary community sector contracts support for agencies supporting disabled and young people	65,000
Within Environmental Services Staffing Review, allocate £157,660 for 5 additional officers (dog wardens) from existing budget.	0
Museum and Winter Gardens - increase budget for community arts participation	37,622
<b>TOTAL PRIORITY INVESTMENTS</b>	<b>1,600,622</b>

<b>Capital Budget</b>	<b>£</b>
CP0495 - Strategic Acquisitions and Developments reallocation from this budget	10,000,000
Priority Investments: Improving Sunderland's public leisure offer in light of Covid-19	
Establish a working group to put together a 5-year Leisure Investment Strategy for Sunderland, with a budget to make improvements to public leisure space including:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establishing an annual fund for maintenance and improvement of smaller suburban parks</li> </ul>	(200,000 per year for 5 years)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enhancing the existing Cycle Way investment scheme – including breaking ground on a keynote route linking the Riverside development with a Hylton Road cycleway to Pennywell Industrial Estate (estimated £7m)</li> </ul>	Est. 7,000,000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establishing a programme of creating dog parks at sites in North Sunderland, South Sunderland, Houghton and Washington</li> </ul>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Acquiring and/or developing a city centre skatepark (meanwhile use) and investigating providing further skatepark facilities at sites around the City Council area</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Feasibility study for the acquisition and/or development of a motocross track</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Budget for strategic working group</li> </ul>	30,000
<b>Total reallocated from CP0495 - Strategic Acquisitions and Developments Budget.</b>	<b>10,000,000</b>

The proposed Amendment to the Revenue and Capital Budgets from the Liberal Democrats Group in Opposition was put to the vote with 19 Members voting in favour:-

Councillors	Blackett Crosby Dixon, M Doyle Fagan	Francis Greener Haswell Hodson Leadbitter	McDonough McKeith Mullen O'Brien Oliver	Potts Smith, G Wood, A Wood, P
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40 Members voting against:-

Councillors	Armstrong Atkinson Blackburn Butler Chequer Davison Dixon, D Farthing Fletcher Foster	Gibson, E Gibson, P Jackson Johnston Kelly Lauchlan Lawson MacKnight, D MacKnight, N Mann	Marshall McClennan Miller, F Miller, G Mordey Rowntree Samuels Scanlan Smith, P Snowdon, D E	Speding Stewart Taylor Thornton Trueman, D Trueman, H Tye Walker Williams Wilson, D
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And 1 Member abstaining, Councillor Jenkins.

The Amendment was defeated.

The original motion that the report of the Cabinet be approved and adopted was then put to the vote with 41 Members voting in favour:-

Councillors	Armstrong	Gibson, P	McClennan	Taylor
	Atkinson	Jackson	Miller, F	Thornton
	Blackburn	Jenkins	Miller, G	Trueman, D
	Butler	Johnston	Mordey	Trueman, H
	Chequer	Kelly	Rowntree	Tye
	Davison	Lauchlan	Samuels	Walker
	Dixon, D	Lawson	Scanlan	Williams
	Farthing	MackKnight, D	Smith, P	Wilson, D
	Fletcher	MackKnight, N	Snowdon, D E	
	Foster	Mann	Speding	
	Gibson, E	Marshall	Stewart	

19 Members voting against: -

Councillors	Blackett	Francis	McDonough	Potts
	Crosby	Greener	McKeith	Smith, G
	Dixon, M	Haswell	Mullen	Wood, A
	Doyle	Hodson	O'Brien	Wood, P
	Fagan	Leadbitter	Oliver	

And 0 Members abstaining.

Accordingly it was: -

50. RESOLVED that the report of the Cabinet be approved and adopted.

(Signed) D. SNOWDON  
Mayor

