

TAUNTON DEANE BOROUGH COUNCIL

Taunton Deane Borough Council at a meeting of the Taunton Deane Borough Council held in the Principal Committee Room, The Deane House, Belvedere Road, Taunton on 21 February 2006 at 6.30 pm.

Present: The Mayor (Councillor Lees)

The Deputy Mayor (Councillor Hindley)

Councillors Mrs Allgrove, Beaven, Mrs Biscoe, Bishop, Bowrah, Mrs Bradley, N Cavill, Miss S Cavill, Clark, C Cluff, Coles, Croad, Davies, Denington, Durdan, Edwards, Floyd, Garner, Govier, Guerrier, Hayward, Henley, C Hill, Mrs Marie Hill, Mrs Marcia Hill, House, Leighton, Mrs Lewin-Harris, Lisgo, Meikle, Morrell, Mullins, Murphy, Paul, Phillips, Prior-Sankey, Ms Priscott, Slattery, Mrs Smith, Stuart-Thorn, Watson, Wedderkopp, Weston, Mrs Whitmarsh, Williams and Mrs Wilson

1. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 13 December 2005, copies having been sent to each Member were signed by the Mayor.

2. Apologies

Councillors Bone, Mrs Cluff, Hall and Vail.

3. Former Councillor Mrs Denise Jones

Reported that former Councillor Mrs Denise Jones had recently resigned as a Councillor for the Blackbrook and Holway Ward. It was noted that a by-election would take place in due course.

4. Public Question Time

(1) Mr Paul Partington referred to the construction of 57m of combined cycle route and footpath on Public Right of Way T4/18 and asked

- (i) what was the cost under the Section 106 Agreement for the construction of this combined cycle route and footpath in 2000;
- (ii) what was the cost to Taunton Deane Borough Council to have the combined cycle route and footpath removed;
- (iii) what was the cost to Taunton Deane Borough Council to have a new footpath constructed and
- (iv) what is the progress in securing a new cycle path?

Councillor Bishop replied that he had not received advance notice of this question and therefore did not have the detail available to answer it. He undertook to send Mr Partington a written reply.

(2) Alan Debenham asked

- (i) (a) who authorised the placing of an advertisement in the Public Notices columns of the County Gazette issued on 9 February declaring the proposed sale of the Council's two acres of leisure/amenity land at Upper Holway Road, Taunton adjacent to Bramble Park;
- (b) why was this authorised in contravention to the Local Planning framework published 2004 against Government planning guidelines in an area where this land is the sole remaining such green space and other alternative sites for development were available this side of town;
- (c) following on from this framework, why did the Notice propose that this land would be developed for low cost housing when no such planning proposal had ever been suggested or tabled and this pre-emptive declaration placed this Council in a corrupt and scandalous position of being its own advanced judge and jury in determining the fate of what local residents regard as a vitally crucial green space very much tied to the value and enjoyment of their dwellings;
- (d) bearing in mind the calamity and distress caused by this whole matter, will the Council now correct this error in its behaviour and publicly and immediately cancel all further proceedings regarding the sale of this land.

(Councillor Prior-Sankey declared a prejudicial interest in this matter as the owner of property within the vicinity of the site and left the meeting during its consideration.)

- (ii) (a) Mindful of this Council's positive support for and promotion of energy conservation and sustainability to combat climate change, global warming and resource depletion, unlike several other Councils, why is this Council not presenting today a carbon emissions budget for 2006/7 alongside its financial budget and to show within it all policies and actions being used to promote and develop changes to a sustainability lifestyle across the Deane;
- (b) what part will this Council be playing in the Energy Review Great Debate recently declared by the Government as vital to Britain's future energy supplies and generation policies and would all Councillors here

accept a warm invitation to such a local Great Debate to be held in Taunton's new library on 29 March at 7.30 pm.

Councillor Garner replied that in the terms of land disposal, Taunton Deane was a success story from an employer's point of view and wanted to attract investment. The Deputy Prime Minister had previously referred to starter homes costing £60,000 and certain developers had risen to this challenge. Taunton Deane needed to ensure it could accommodate affordable housing, keep Taunton a vibrant place and retain young people. The Council had a statutory obligation to publish the Public Notice in respect of the land at Holway Green even though no decision had yet been made. The proposal at the moment was purely to examine options for sites. This was not the only option and all appropriate sites would be looked at. This was merely the beginning of the democratic process.

With regard to Mr Debenham's other question he assured him that the Council continued to be mindful of energy conservation offering insulation, double glazing and other forms of energy conservation. Consideration might be given to producing a carbons emissions budget for next year. He thanked Mr Debenham for his invitation to the Great Debate.

- (iii) Mr Colin Rose of Amicus congratulated the Council on considering a motion relating to the proposed decision to make redundancies in the local branch of the Thales Group. This would entail the loss of 142 jobs in hi tech manufacturing with a specialised and talented workforce. He hoped the Council would support the retention of Thales in Taunton and that Members would support the motion which was being considered later in the meeting.

Councillor Williams replied that he was saddened to hear of the potential loss of so many high quality jobs of a great local industry. Thales and before it Avimo had a long heritage in Taunton and the loss of 142 jobs would also have a 'knock-on' effect on many others in the area. He had arranged a meeting with the Managing Director of Thales when he would be making the strongest possible representations. The local Member of Parliament had also impressed the need to retain jobs on the management of Thales.

5. Thales Group, Taunton

Moved by Councillor Lisgo, seconded by Councillor Weston that this Council is mindful of its commitment to developing the economic prosperity of Taunton

whilst recognising the challenge to companies of competing in a global market place.

Taunton Deane Borough Council will therefore call an urgent meeting with the representatives of the Thales Group where the company will be urged to rethink their recent announcement to make redundancies in its local workforce. The retention of highly skilled jobs is crucial to the continuing growth of our local economy.

The motion was put and was agreed unanimously.

(Councillor Lisgo declared a personal interest in this matter as a member of the Amicus Trade Union.)

6. Recommendations to Council from the Executive

- (a) Councillor Weston asked if Councillor Williams could tell Members of the Council what response he had made on its behalf to the consultation carried out by the ODPM on proposed dangers to the Local Government Pension Scheme. Did his response support protections for the staff equivalent to those apparently available under the Rule of 85 for existing scheme members, if so would he ensure that the LGA Leader, Sir Sandy Bruce Lockhart, was made aware of this response. If no response had yet been made, what arrangements were in hand to consult all Council members in order to ascertain its views on this matter before the closing date of the 28 February.

Councillor Williams replied that the Resources Review Panel had considered this issue when the phasing out of the 85 Year Rule was first proposed by the Government. The Panel's response was that the proposal was unlikely to have a major impact on Taunton Deane but the 85 Year Rule, as an employer discretion, had been valuable to Taunton Deane on the few occasions it had been used and the loss of the discretion would be disappointing. This had been communicated to the ODPM. In the light of this, the appropriate Executive Councillor and Chief Personnel Officer were considering whether the Authority's position needed to be resent to the ODPM. Councillor Williams went on to suggest that the Government should reduce the pensions package they voted themselves which was the best in the land. Until they did, changes in the Pensions Scheme could not be supported as the Government were shown to be inconsistent.

(The following Councillors declared personal interests in the above matter as members of the Local Government or other related Pension Schemes – Councillors Henley, Marcia Hill, Mrs Smith, Weston, Prior-Sankey, Mrs Bradley, Mrs Allgrove, Clark, Williams, Mrs Wilson and Mrs Whitmarsh.)

(b) General Fund Revenue Estimate 2006/07

The Executive had considered its 2006/07 budget proposals including:-

- (i) the General Fund Revenue Budget proposals for 2006/07, including the proposed Council Tax increase and the Prudential Indicators and
- (ii) draft figures on the predicted financial position of the Council for the following four years.

It was now a requirement for the Council to prepare not only budgets for the following financial year but to also provide indicative figures for the two years after that. The provision of an indicative future Government grant settlement for 2007/08 helped considerably towards providing Members with more reliable forecasts than had been possible in the past. Details of the main cost pressures faced by the Council in future years had been identified. The medium term financial plan provided an indication of the expected budget gap going forward into 2007/08. The proposed budget for Taunton Deane would result in a Band D Council Tax of £125.54, and increase of 3% on the previous year.

The estimated expenses chargeable to the non-parished area of Taunton for the forthcoming year, amounted to £27,320, an increase of 3% and this formed part of the total net expenditure of the Council.

The Council's Section 151 Officer had confirmed that the Council's reserves were adequate and that the budget estimates used in preparing the 2006/07 budget were sufficiently robust.

On the motion of Councillor Williams it was RESOLVED that the budget for General Fund services for 2006/07 be agreed and that

- (i) the transfer of any underspend in 2005/06 back to General Fund Reserves be agreed;
- (ii) the proposed 2006/07 budget being Authority expenditure of £12,699,820 and Special Expenses of £27,320 be agreed in accordance with the Local Government Act 1992;
- (iii) the predicted General Fund Reserve balance at 31 March 2007 of £1,407,088 be noted;
- (iv) the Prudential Indicators for 2006/07, as set out in the Report to the Executive, be agreed;
- (v) the revised forecast position for 2007/08 onwards, as outlined in the Report to the Executive, be noted.

(Councillor Prior-Sankey declared a personal interest as a member of Somerset County Council)

(c) Capital Programme 2006/07 to 2008/09

Consideration had been given to the proposed General Fund and Housing Revenue Account Capital Programmes for the period 2006/07 to 2008/09.

For the General Fund the estimated unallocated resources available for this period amounted to £739,000. The proposed Capital Programme

amounted to £407,500 leaving £331,500 of unallocated Capital Resources available for future schemes.

For all Housing Schemes, both General Fund and Housing Revenue Account, the estimated resources available for 2006/07 amounted to £5,966k. The proposed Capital Programme for 2006/07 used all available resource.

On the motion of Councillor Williams, it was RESOLVED that both the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account Capital Programmes be agreed.

(d) Council Tax Setting 2006/07

The Council were required to make an annual determination which set its gross expenditure (including the Housing Revenue Account and balances brought forward) and gross income (also including the Housing Revenue Account and balances brought forward) with the difference as its budget requirement.

The estimated expenses chargeable to the non-parished area of Taunton in 2006/07 amounted to £27,320 and this formed part of the total net expenditure of the Council.

The estimated balance on the Council Tax Collection Fund was a surplus of £34,086. Taunton Deane share of this amounted to £3,709 and this was reflected in the Revenue Estimates.

The Council's budget requirement, including Parish Precepts and non-parish Special Expenses was £13,059,714. This amount was then reduced by the amount notified in respect of the Borough Council's Revenue Support Grant of £1,254,774 and the Non Domestic Rate distribution from the pool which amounted to £6,500,220.

The net amount having taken the Collection Fund position into account of £5,301,010 was used to calculate the Council Tax at Band D reflecting the Parish Precepts by dividing it by the total of the Council Tax base as approved by the Executive in December 2005.

The Council Tax for the Borough (excluding Parish Precepts and Special Expenses for the non-parished area) was £125.54, an increase of £3.66 (3%) compared to the 2005/06 Council Tax. Since the meeting of the Executive, final notification of all Parish Precepts had been received. Also since the meeting draft figures in relation to the Police Authority Precept and the likely level of the Council Tax for Somerset County Council had been received.

On the motion of Councillor Williams it was RESOLVED

that it be noted that at its meeting on 7 December 2005 the Executive calculated the following amounts for the year 2006/07 in accordance with the regulations made under Section 33(5) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (as amended):-

(1) 39,358.90 being the amount calculated by the Council, in accordance with regulation 3 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 1992, as its Council Tax base for the year.

(2)

Ash Priors	71.85	Neroche	242.82
Ashbrittle	89.30	North Curry	707.64
Bathealton	82.42	Norton Fitzwarren	689.40
Bishops Hull	1,068.44	Nynehead	151.51
Bishops Lydeard/ Cothelstone	1,914.26	Oake	325.22
Bradford on Tone	276.07	Otterford	162.43
Burrowbridge	199.58	Pitminster	447.92
Cheddon Fitzpaine	635.09	Ruishton/Thornfalcon	614.37
Chipstable	117.71	Sampfurd Arundel	129.59
Churchstanton	307.09	Staplegrove	706.51
Combe Florey	120.30	Stawley	116.52
Comeytrove	2,073.08	Stoke St Gregory	381.55
Corfe	131.85	Stoke St Mary	201.61
Creech St Michael	935.78	Taunton	15,726.14
Durston	58.53	Trull	990.12
Fitzhead	123.83	Wellington	4,509.64
Halse	143.16	Wellington (without)	292.29
Hatch Beauchamp	251.30	West Bagborough	157.62
Kingston St Mary	451.55	West Buckland	405.49
Langford Budville	213.25	West Hatch	139.97
Lydeard St Lawrence/Tolland	196.08	West Monkton	1,095.98
Milverton	585.69	Wiveliscombe	1,118.34

being the amounts calculated by the Council, in accordance with regulation 6 of the Regulations, as the amounts of its Council Tax Base for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate.

(3) That the following amounts be now calculated by the Council for the year 2006/07 in accordance with Section 32 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992:-

(a) £64,421,198 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32(2)(a) of the Act.

(Gross Expenditure including amount required for working balance).

(b) £51,361,484 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32(3)(a) to (c) of the Act.

(Gross income including reserves to be used to meet Gross Expenditure).

(c) £13,059,714 being the amount by which the aggregate at (a) above exceeds the aggregate at (b) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 32(4) of the Act, as its budget requirement for the year.

(d) £7,758,704 being the aggregate of the sums which the Council estimates will be payable for the year into its general fund in respect of redistributed non-domestic rates, revenue support grant, additional grant or SSA reduction grant (increased by the amount of the sums which the Council estimates will be transferred in the year from its Collection Fund to its General Fund in accordance with Section 97(3) of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 (Council Tax Surplus) and increased by the amount of any sum which the Council estimates will be transferred from its Collection Fund to its

General Fund pursuant to the Collection Fund (Community Charge) direction under Section 98(4) of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 made on 7 February 1994 (Community Charge Surplus).

(e) £134.68

(c) – (d) = 13,059,714 – 7,758,704

(1) 39,358.90

being the amount calculated at (c) above less the amount at (s) above, all divided by the amount at (1) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 33(1) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year. (Average Council Tax at Band D for Borough including Parish Precepts and Special Expenses).

(f) £359,894

being the aggregate amount of all special items referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act. (Parish Precepts and Special Expenses).

(g) £125.54

(e) – (f) = 134.68 – 359,894

(1) 39,358.90

being the amount at (e) above less the result given by dividing the amount at (f) above by the amount at (1) 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 items relate. (Council Tax at Band D for Borough Excluding Parish Precepts and Special Expenses).

(h)

Ash Priors	125.54	Neroche	145.45
Ashbrittle	140.10	North Curry	143.91
Bathealton	132.82	Norton Fitzwarren	142.53
Bishops Hull	139.58	Nynehead	145.34

Bishops Lydeard/ Cothelstone	139.17	Oake	135.99
Bradford on Tone	140.03	Otterford	125.54
Burrowbridge	148.09	Pitminster	138.82
Cheddon Fitzpaine	131.84	Ruishton/Thornfalcon	141.82
Chipstable	134.89	Sampfard Arundel	159.80
Churchstanton	149.15	Staplegrove	137.22
Combe Florey	140.50	Stawley	135.84
Comeytrowe	136.63	Stoke St Gregory	141.27
Corfe	133.88	Stoke St Mary	139.25
Creech St Michael	140.73	Taunton	127.28
Durstun	126.22	Trull	135.64
Fitzhead	146.09	Wellington	142.04
Halse	137.76	Wellington (without)	140.25
Hatch Beauchamp	137.88	West Bagborough	138.23
Kingston St Mary	138.83	West Buckland	145.27
Langford Budville	133.98	West Hatch	139.83
Lydeard St Lawrence/Tolland	135.79	West Monkton	136.49
Milverton	136.64	Wiveliscombe	141.28

Being the amounts given by adding to the amount at (g) above, the amounts of the special item or items relating to dwellings in those parts of the Council's area mentioned above divided in each case by the amount at (2) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(3) of the Act, as the basic amounts of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate. (Council Taxes at Band D for Borough, Parish and Special Expenses).

- (i) See overleaf.

(a)	Valuation Band	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	Appendix A H
Ash Priors		83.69	97.64	111.59	125.54	153.44	181.34	209.23	251.08
Ashbrittle		93.40	108.96	124.53	140.10	171.24	202.37	233.50	280.20
Bathealton		88.54	103.30	118.06	132.82	162.34	191.86	221.36	265.64
Bishops Hull		93.05	108.56	124.07	139.58	170.60	201.62	232.63	279.16
Bishops Lydeard/Cothelstone		92.78	108.24	123.71	139.17	170.10	201.03	231.95	278.34
Bradford On Tone		93.35	108.91	124.47	140.03	171.15	202.27	233.38	280.06
Burrowbridge		98.72	115.18	131.63	148.09	181.00	213.91	246.81	296.18
Cheddon Fitzpaine		87.89	102.54	117.19	131.84	161.14	190.44	219.73	263.68
Chipstable		89.92	104.91	119.90	134.89	164.87	194.85	224.81	269.78
Churchstanton		99.43	116.00	132.58	149.15	182.30	215.44	248.58	298.30
Combe Florey		93.66	109.28	124.89	140.50	171.72	202.95	234.16	281.00
Comeytrove		91.08	106.27	121.45	136.63	166.99	197.36	227.71	273.26
Corfe		89.25	104.13	119.00	133.88	163.63	193.39	223.13	267.76
Creech St Michael		93.82	109.45	125.09	140.73	172.01	203.28	234.55	281.46
Durston		84.14	98.17	112.19	126.22	154.27	182.32	210.36	252.44
Fitzhead		97.39	113.62	129.86	146.09	178.56	211.02	243.48	292.18
Halse		91.84	107.14	122.45	137.76	168.38	198.99	229.60	275.52
Hatch Beauchamp		91.92	107.24	122.56	137.88	168.52	199.16	229.80	275.76
Kingston St Mary		92.55	107.98	123.40	138.83	169.68	200.54	231.38	277.66
Langford Budville		89.32	104.20	119.09	133.98	163.76	193.53	223.30	267.96
Lydeard St Lawrence/Tolland		90.52	105.61	120.70	135.79	165.97	196.15	226.31	271.58
Milverton		91.09	106.27	121.46	136.64	167.01	197.37	227.73	273.28
Neroche		96.96	113.13	129.29	145.45	177.77	210.10	242.41	290.90
North Curry		95.94	111.93	127.92	143.91	175.89	207.87	239.85	287.82
Norton Fitzwarren		95.02	110.85	126.69	142.53	174.21	205.88	237.55	285.06
Nynehead		96.89	113.04	129.19	145.34	177.64	209.94	242.23	290.68
Oake		90.66	105.77	120.88	135.99	166.21	196.43	226.65	271.98
Otterford		83.69	97.64	111.59	125.54	153.44	181.34	209.23	251.08
Pitminster		92.54	107.97	123.39	138.82	169.67	200.52	231.36	277.64
Ruishton/Thornfalcon		94.54	110.30	126.06	141.82	173.34	204.86	236.36	283.64
Sampford Arundel		106.53	124.29	142.04	159.80	195.31	230.83	266.33	319.60
Staplegrove		91.48	106.72	121.97	137.22	167.72	198.21	228.70	274.44
Stawley		90.56	105.65	120.75	135.84	166.03	196.22	226.40	271.68
Stoke St Gregory		94.18	109.87	125.57	141.27	172.67	204.06	235.45	282.54
Stoke St Mary		92.83	108.30	123.78	139.25	170.20	201.14	232.08	278.50
Taunton		84.85	98.99	113.14	127.28	155.57	183.85	212.13	254.56
Trull		90.42	105.50	120.57	135.64	165.78	195.93	226.06	271.28
Wellington		94.69	110.47	126.26	142.04	173.61	205.17	236.73	284.08
Wellington W/out		93.50	109.08	124.67	140.25	171.42	202.59	233.75	280.50
West Bagborough		92.15	107.51	122.87	138.23	168.95	199.67	230.38	276.46
West Buckland		96.84	112.99	129.13	145.27	177.55	209.84	242.11	290.54
West Hatch		93.22	108.75	124.29	139.83	170.91	201.98	233.05	279.66
West Monkton		90.99	106.16	121.32	136.49	166.82	197.16	227.48	272.98
Wiveliscombe		94.18	109.88	125.58	141.28	172.68	204.08	235.46	282.56

Being the amounts given by multiplying the amounts at (h) above by the number which, in 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 is 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 (Council Tax for Individual Parishes and the Borough)

(b)

That it be noted that for the year 2006/07 the Somerset County Council and the Avon and Somerset Police Authority 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 categories of dwellings shown below

Somerset County Council	657.33	766.89	876.44	986.00	1205.11	1424.22	1643.33	1972.00
Avon & Somerset Police Authority	91.89	107.21	122.52	137.84	168.47	199.10	229.73	275.68

That, having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at (a) and (b) above, the Council, in accordance with Section 30 (2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the following amounts of council tax for the year 2006/07 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:-

Valuation Band	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Ash Priors	832.91	971.74	1110.55	1249.38	1527.02	1804.66	2082.29	2498.76
Ashbrittle	842.62	983.06	1123.49	1263.94	1544.82	1825.69	2106.56	2527.88
Bathealton	837.76	977.40	1117.02	1256.66	1535.92	1815.18	2094.42	2513.32
Bishops Hull	842.27	982.66	1123.03	1263.42	1544.18	1824.94	2105.69	2526.84
Bishops Lydeard/Cothelstone	842.00	982.34	1122.67	1263.01	1543.68	1824.35	2105.01	2526.02
Bradford On Tone	842.57	983.01	1123.43	1263.87	1544.73	1825.59	2106.44	2527.74
Burrowbridge	847.94	989.28	1130.59	1271.93	1554.58	1837.23	2119.87	2543.86
Cheddon Fitzpaine	837.11	976.64	1116.15	1255.68	1534.72	1813.76	2092.79	2511.36
Chipstable	839.14	979.01	1118.86	1258.73	1538.45	1818.17	2097.87	2517.46
Churchstanton	848.65	990.10	1131.54	1272.99	1555.88	1838.76	2121.64	2545.98
Combe Florey	842.88	983.38	1123.85	1264.34	1545.30	1826.27	2107.22	2528.68
Comeytrove	840.30	980.37	1120.41	1260.47	1540.57	1820.68	2100.77	2520.94
Corfe	838.47	978.23	1117.96	1257.72	1537.21	1816.71	2096.19	2515.44
Creech St Michael	843.04	983.55	1124.05	1264.57	1545.59	1826.60	2107.61	2529.14
Durston	833.36	972.27	1111.15	1250.06	1527.85	1805.64	2083.42	2500.12
Fitzhead	846.61	987.72	1128.82	1269.93	1552.14	1834.34	2116.54	2539.86
Halse	841.06	981.24	1121.41	1261.60	1541.96	1822.31	2102.66	2523.20
Hatch Beauchamp	841.14	981.34	1121.52	1261.72	1542.10	1822.48	2102.86	2523.44
Kingston St Mary	841.77	982.08	1122.36	1262.67	1543.26	1823.86	2104.44	2525.34
Langford Budville	838.54	978.30	1118.05	1257.82	1537.34	1816.85	2096.36	2515.64
Lydeard St Lawrence/Tolland	839.74	979.71	1119.66	1259.63	1539.55	1819.47	2099.37	2519.26
Milverton	840.31	980.37	1120.42	1260.48	1540.59	1820.69	2100.79	2520.96
Neroche	846.18	987.23	1128.25	1269.29	1551.35	1833.42	2115.47	2538.58
North Curry	845.16	986.03	1126.88	1267.75	1549.47	1831.19	2112.91	2535.50
Norton Fitzwarren	844.24	984.95	1125.65	1266.37	1547.79	1829.20	2110.61	2532.74
Nynehead	846.11	987.14	1128.15	1269.18	1551.22	1833.26	2115.29	2538.36
Oake	839.88	979.87	1119.84	1259.83	1539.79	1819.75	2099.71	2519.66
Otterford	832.91	971.74	1110.55	1249.38	1527.02	1804.66	2082.29	2498.76
Pitminster	841.76	982.07	1122.35	1262.66	1543.25	1823.84	2104.42	2525.32
Ruishton/Thornfalcon	843.76	984.40	1125.02	1265.66	1546.92	1828.18	2109.42	2531.32
Sampford Arundel	855.75	998.39	1141.00	1283.64	1568.89	1854.15	2139.39	2567.28
Staplegrove	840.70	980.82	1120.93	1261.06	1541.30	1821.53	2101.76	2522.12
Stawley	839.78	979.75	1119.71	1259.68	1539.61	1819.54	2099.46	2519.36
Stoke St Gregory	843.40	983.97	1124.53	1265.11	1546.25	1827.38	2108.51	2530.22
Stoke St Mary	842.05	982.40	1122.74	1263.09	1543.78	1824.46	2105.14	2526.18
Taunton	834.07	973.09	1112.10	1251.12	1529.15	1807.17	2085.19	2502.24
Trull	839.64	979.60	1119.53	1259.48	1539.36	1819.25	2099.12	2518.96
Wellington	843.91	984.57	1125.22	1265.88	1547.19	1828.49	2109.79	2531.76
Wellington W/out	842.72	983.18	1123.63	1264.09	1545.00	1825.91	2106.81	2528.18
West Bagborough	841.37	981.61	1121.83	1262.07	1542.53	1822.99	2103.44	2524.14
West Buckland	846.06	987.09	1128.09	1269.11	1551.13	1833.16	2115.17	2538.22
West Hatch	842.44	982.85	1123.25	1263.67	1544.49	1825.30	2106.11	2527.34
West Monkton	840.21	980.26	1120.28	1260.33	1540.40	1820.48	2100.54	2520.66
Wiveliscombe	843.40	983.98	1124.54	1265.12	1546.26	1827.40	2108.52	2530.24

(Councillor Prior-Sankey declared a personal interest in the above matter as a Member of Somerset County Council.)

7. Housing Revenue Account, Revenue Estimates and Rent Levels

Consideration had been given to the proposed Housing Revenue Account for 2006/07. It also included details of the new rent level, service charges and other housing related charges such as garage rents. It also provided information on the Deane Helpline trading account and the Deane Building DLO trading account.

On the motion of Councillor Garner it was RESOLVED that the Housing and Revenue Account Budget for 2006/07 be agreed.

8. Corporate Strategy 2006 to 2009

Consideration had been given by the Executive to the draft Corporate Strategy 2006/09. This provided direction for the Council and set its objective and desired outcomes for the next three years.

The Corporate Strategy was the Council's principal Policy document which established the outcomes that it wanted to achieve in the community. It provided an important lead for budget setting and service planning activities.

Extensive public consultation had taken place when views were sought on future priorities and budget-setting choices.

The Corporate Strategy 2006/09 was outcome focussed and aligned closely to delivering the Council's stated priorities. It provided a framework for future decisions over budget and resource allocation and reflected national recommended best practice in its design.

On the motion of Councillor Mrs Lewin-Harris it was RESOLVED that the Corporate Strategy 2006/09 be agreed.

9. Questions and Reports of the Leader of the Council and Executive Councillors

The following reports were made to the Council on the main items of current and future business.

(i) Leader of the Council (Councillor Williams)

Councillor Williams's report covered the following topics:-

- Budget Setting
- Vision for Taunton
- Regional Spatial Strategy
- Local Government Review

(Councillor Paul declared a personal interest as a County Councillor in respect of the Vision for Taunton)

(ii) Planning Policy and Transportation (Councillor Bishop)

Councillor Bishop submitted his report which drew attention to the following:-

- Consultation on the Local Development Framework and the Review of the Community Strategy
- Planning Gain Supplement
- Super Flexible Homes
- Planning Applications
- RTPI Award for Spatial Strategies
- Taunton Vision
- Planning Training

(iii) Communications (Councillor Leighton)

Councillor Leighton submitted her report which covered the following areas:-

- Information and Research
- Local Future's Audit and On Line Database
- Public Relations and Media Relations
- Local Government Reputation Project
- Public Speaking Training

(iv) Leisure Arts and Culture (Councillor Mrs Bradley)

The report from Councillor Mrs Bradley dealt with activities taking place in the following areas:-

- Community Arts and Arts Development
- Parks and Public Spaces
- Sports Halls
- Village Halls
- Networking

(v) Economic Development, Asset Management and Tourism (Councillor N P Cavill)

The report from Councillor Cavill covered:-

- Tourism and TIC
- Rural Regeneration
- Community Arts
- Asset Management and
- Economic Development

(vi) Environmental Services (Councillor Edwards)

The report from Councillor Edwards drew attention to development in the following areas:-

- Licensing;
- Health and Safety
- Food Safety
- Environmental Protection
- Waste and Recycling Services
- Cemeteries and Crematorium

(vii) Housing Services (Councillor Garner)

Councillor Garner's report focused on three areas within the Housing Portfolio. The first provided the usual update on Housing Stock Options, the second updated Members on the Handyman Service and the third advised on the current status of the Cash Incentive Scheme.

(viii) Resources (Councillor Hall)

The report from Councillor Hall provided information on the following areas within his portfolio.

- Boundary Review
- Electoral Administration Bill
- ISIS
- Revenues
- Member Services
- Personnel
- New Revenue and Benefit System
- Financial Services
- Benefits
- Internal Audit System

(iv) Community Leadership (Councillor Mrs Lewin-Harris)

Councillor Mrs Lewin-Harris's report focussed on the following areas within her portfolio.

- Policy and Performance Unit
- Local Action Teams
- CCTV
- Visit from Home Office Alcohol Policy Team
- Community Planning
- Local Area Agreement
- Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership

(The meeting ended at 10.10 pm.)

