



Council Meeting

Minutes of a Meeting of the Council held in the Council Chamber, County Hall, St. Anne's Crescent, Lewes on Monday, 20 February 2012 at 2.30pm

Present:

Councillor E E J Russell (Chair)

Councillors S Adeniji, R E Allen, G R Amy, R Blackman, C A Bowers, C J Butler, J L Carr, M P Chartier, M A Cutress, S B Davy, A Dean, D R Edmunds, I Eiloart, P L Franklin, P Gander; P F Gardiner, S J Gauntlett, D M Gray, B W Groves, J V Harris, J M Harrison-Hicks, P A Howson, A T Jones, J N MacCleary, R Main, R K Maskell, E C Merry, I A Nicholson, C R O'Keeffe, S J Osborne, J V S Page, R Robertson, S Saunders, H J F Sheppard, A X Smith, J Stockdale, C Sugarman, B M Warren and I J White.

	Minutes	Action
132	Minutes The Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 6 December 2011 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.	
133	To Receive any Announcements From the Chair of the Council, Leader of the Council, Members of the Cabinet or the Chief Executive (i) <u>Urgent Items</u> The Chair advised that she had agreed, in accordance with Section 100B(4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972, that: (i) The Recommendations from the meeting of the Cabinet held on	

8 February 2012; and

(ii) Report No 36/12 of the Director of Finance entitled "Setting the Council Tax";

which had been circulated to all members of the Council on 15 February 2012, be considered as matters of urgency under Agenda Item 10, in order that the Council could take its decisions based on the most recent information which was available.

(ii) Membership of the Scrutiny Committee

The Chair reported that Councillor Stockdale had replaced Councillor Gauntlett on the Scrutiny Committee.

Resolved:

- 133.1** That it be noted that Councillor Stockdale had replaced Councillor Gauntlett on the Scrutiny Committee.

CHLDS
(R Allan)

(iii) Chair of the Council's Engagements

The Council received the list of the Chair of the Council's engagements carried out since the Meeting of the Council held on 6 December 2011.

(iv) Chair of the Council's Visit to Parish and Town Councils

The Chair reported that, following receipt of invitations, she had recently attended meetings of Plumpton, Ringmer and South Highton Parish Councils and had been to visit the Clerks of Newhaven and Seaford Town Councils.

The Chair thanked those Councils for their kind invitations and reported that the visits had been interesting, beneficial and informative.

134 Ward Issues

Councillor/Ward
Councillor Adeniji
– Seaford South
Ward

Ward Issue Concerning
Councillor Adeniji thanked the Council's Officers for the work which they had organised in respect of the recent repairs that had been undertaken to a groyne at Splash Point, Seaford.

<u>Councillor/Ward</u>	<u>Ward Issue Concerning</u>	
Councillor Adeniji – Seaford South Ward	<p><u>Suggested action to be taken by the Council:</u> That the Council's Officers be thanked for the work which they had organised in respect of the recent repairs to the groyne.</p> <p>Councillor Adeniji thanked the Head of District Services and his team who responded quickly and efficiently to clear away shingle which had been washed up from the beach during a storm that had occurred in Seaford in January 2012. Councillor Adeniji further thanked the Cabinet Member for Waste and Recycling, Councillor Sheppard, who had given his support to the Seaford community following that storm.</p> <p><u>Suggested action to be taken by the Council:</u> That the Head of District Services and his team be thanked for their quick and efficient response to clearing away shingle which had been washed up from the beach during the storm and that the Cabinet Member for Waste and Recycling be thanked for the support he had given to the Seaford community.</p>	DPES
Councillor Gardiner – Ouse Valley and Ringmer Ward	<p>The operator of the energy from waste plant at Newhaven had been granted a concession to undertake a maximum of ten heavy goods vehicle movements per day to and from the plant on Bank Holidays so as to provide local residents with a period of relative quiet at such times. However, the operator had applied to increase that number to 35 movements per day upon which East Sussex County Council was currently undertaking a consultation exercise.</p> <p><u>Suggested action to be taken by the Council:</u> That the Council write to East Sussex County Council in order to object to an increase in the number of daily heavy goods vehicle movements to and from the plant on Bank Holidays.</p>	DPES
Councillor MacCleary– Lewes Bridge Ward	<p>Local residents and Councillors had called upon East Sussex County Council and Sussex Police to tackle problems associated with traffic speeding on the A26 road, Malling Hill, Lewes, in particular, they had requested the provision</p>	

<u>Councillor/Ward</u>	<u>Ward Issue Concerning</u>	CE/ DPES
	<p>of a Speed Indicator Device and increased Police speed checks. There were also several traffic issues at Earwig Corner which impacted on the problems on Malling Hill.</p> <p><u>Suggested action to be taken by the Council:</u> That the Chief Executive and the Cabinet Member for Planning write to East Sussex County Council and the Traffic Department of Sussex Police at Haywards Heath, to support the calls from local residents and Councillors to tackle problems associated with traffic speeding on the A26 road, Malling Hill, Lewes, and the traffic issues at Earwig Corner.</p>	
Councillor Eiloart – Lewes Priory Ward	<p>A consultation had been undertaken in respect of the joint parking scheme that was operated in Lewes by the Council and East Sussex County Council. Following that exercise, East Sussex County Council proposed to alter the times for which it charged for parking at its car parks to apply only between 9am and 5pm. It also proposed to cease such charging on Public Holidays if a similar regime was introduced by the Council in respect of its car parks.</p> <p><u>Suggested action to be taken by the Council:</u> That, in response to the outcome of the consultation relating to the scheme, the Council reduce the times that it levied charges at its car parks so that they applied only between 9am and 5pm in order to conform with a similar proposal by East Sussex County Council in respect of its car parks so that two separate charging times were not operated in the town. Furthermore, that the Council cease levying charges at its car parks on Public Holidays so as to conform to a similar practice to that which was proposed by East Sussex County Council in respect of its car parks, and that East Sussex County Council be advised accordingly.</p>	DF
Councillor Gray – Lewes Castle Ward	<p>There was a line of tall trees measuring some 15.25 to 18.3 metres high, on a steep bank on the east side of St. John's Hill, Lewes. The trees were the responsibility of the Council and the bank was supported by a flint wall which</p>	

Councillor/WardWard Issue Concerning

showed signs of recent repair. The residents of St. John's Hill were apprehensive about the trees looming over the street and were fearful of what might happen if they were left to grow to maturity.

Suggested action to be taken by the Council:
That the Council reduce, considerably, the height and spread of the trees and, thereafter, include them in a periodic maintenance schedule.

DPES

135 Urgent Decisions taken by the Cabinet or Cabinet MembersUrgent Decision taken by the Cabinet

In accordance with Scrutiny Procedure Rule 17, the Corporate Head of Legal and Democratic Services reported details of an urgent decision that had been taken by Cabinet at its meeting on 8 February 2012, which was not subject to the call-in procedure, together with the reason for such urgency, as follows:

Resolution 128.7 relating to funding from the Department of Health, via East Sussex County Council, in the sum of up to £48,000, being added to the 2011/2012 revenue budget and being used to fund the Warm Homes Healthy People project that was being lead by East Sussex County Council, was urgent as the project needed to be completed, and the money spent, by 31 March 2012.

136 Recommendations from Cabinet

- (i) **Budget Recommendations from Cabinet Held on 9 February 2011**
- (a) **Annual Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Investment Strategy 2012/2013 to 2014/2015 (Minute 125);**
- (b) **Housing Revenue Account Estimates 2012/2013 (Minute 126);**
- (c) **The Capital Programme (Minute 127); and**
- (d) **General Fund Revenue Budget 2012/2013 (Minute 128)**

Reserved Items

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Nicholson moved, and Councillor

Page seconded, the motion that:

Minute 125 of the Cabinet entitled "Annual Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Investment Strategy 2012/2013 to 2014/2015";

Minute 126 entitled "Housing Revenue Account Estimates 2012/2013";

Minute 127 entitled "The Capital Programme"; and

Minute 128 entitled "General Fund Revenue Budget 2012/2013",

be received and adopted.

Councillor Nicholson then delivered the Budget Speech as follows:

"Today's budget is the first for the new Conservative Administration.

It is a budget for the future.

A budget for service improvement.

And a budget for the times.

It complements many of the government's priorities and it sets a firm direction of travel.

The electorate voted us in to take control of the Council's services and finances.

We listened.

We heard how rising costs are making it harder to balance family budgets.

We have acted.

Next year's budget proposal is to freeze the Lewes District Council Tax.

We made this promise in Spring last year, before the Secretary of State offered extra funding for doing so.

Other Council's have since decided likewise.

We live in interesting times. Look at Greece. The very cradle of democracy is at risk due to financial mismanagement.

I am proud that the coalition despite all the pressures has held together on this issue and my view is the fact that it is a coalition ensures that there is greater public acceptance of the issue.

We are still left with the evil of our times--high unemployment and a growing disconnect between our young people and the rest of us while

some are rewarded with extraordinary incomes.

The central ethos of this administration is that its policies must be slanted to enhance employment possibilities locally. This is exemplified by the initiative undertaken by Councillor Blackman in revitalising the Lewes District Business Board which is due to meet in March.

We face the same pressures as those affecting household finances.

Our approach is to tackle these pressures head-on and deliver a sustainable budget.

Examples of the challenges we are dealing with include:

Price inflation.

We have to pay business rates – they have gone up by 7.3%

External service contracts with indexation clauses – we have seen rises around 3.5%

Lower investment returns mean a drop of £102,000 in our income next year.

Lower demand in the economy has affected our income generating services.

Our Government grant has reduced by £488,000.

There has been good news as well:

An extra £130,000 income from sale of recycled materials has balanced out some of the cost rises. Here I welcome the input of Councillor Franklin into this ongoing issue.

Our successful Business Centre on Denton Island generated an additional £32,000 income

In setting next year's budget we also need to consider what is happening – or likely to happen in the future years.

To do this we also look to see what the Coalition Government has set as priorities.

It is quite clear – and they are:

- 1 reduce the national financial deficit
- 2 deliver economic growth, locally and nationally
- 3 reform public services

We will take each in turn:

Reducing the financial deficit reaches into every part of the public sector.

The targets increased in aggregate and duration in the Chancellors Autumn statement.

Our target is driven by reductions in Government grant support.

In 2014/15 we estimate our grant will be £3.7m.

The comparable grant in 2010/11 was £4.7m.

The impact of council tax gearing more than doubles this £1m or 21% grant cut into a savings target of £2.2m from 2011/12 through to 2014/15.

We expect our total savings may need to increase at the next National Spending Review which takes effect from the 2015/16 financial year.

Reforming Public Services will be a keystone of our deficit reduction plan.

Our aim is to protect and improve important public services by working smarter.

Programme Nexus is our mechanism to ensure the best use of Council resources and focus on delivery and I have no doubt that this is central to our policy for the remainder of our term.

An early success was securing a 10 year Higher Level Stewardship scheme grant worth around £150,000.

We have publicly committed to applying for government funds to retain weekly bin collections and expand into food and cardboard recycling collections. Eric Pickles has agreed to visit Lewes to discuss our policy

Our Agile Working project will deliver customer focussed service improvements and significantly reduce office overhead costs.

We already provide the National Park with one of the best value delegated planning services – we will make further improvements while seeking to ensure that this council properly recovers its costs.

The Lead Councillor for Finance and Resources has worked closely with the local Citizens Advice Bureau over the last year.

A new sustainable funding formula was suggested.

The CAB presented to each Town Council and confirmations have been received to the sustainable funding solution.

We have matched the aggregate of the additional Town contributions.

This is an excellent example of local service provision.

The cash gained by the CAB for local people in the first 9 months of this year is £600,000. It will grow to £800,000 by the end of March.

This is money that will find its way back into the local economy.

There will be new opportunities through the proposals for business rates retention and localising council tax support.

These are due to commence from April 2013.

We are being given incentives and rewards to secure local economic growth and to encourage local employment.

These initiatives will give us more tools to help deliver our vision.

Delivering economic growth locally provides us with a tremendous stimulus and challenge.

We intend to make a significant difference over the medium term.

We participate in two local economic partnerships; Coast to Capital and South East.

We are concentrating our efforts in Newhaven as reflected in my cabinet. It is already seeing an upturn in general business interest. This was exemplified by the cross party meeting before Christmas with our counterparts in France and all levels of local government from this side of the Channel were represented. I believe a bi-partisan approach to this subject is much more likely to bear fruit than an adversarial one.

We provided a boost through our free parking initiative in Newhaven Town centre over the Christmas period.

We are reviewing the totality of the Councils asset holdings.

We intend to sweat the assets, identify business opportunities and reinvest proceeds to drive the local economies.

Demand for affordable housing provision continues unabated.

The Council Housing funding reforms from April 2012 present an opportunity for us to provide some new homes.

Over the year we will explore how this opportunity can be developed. Indeed such is the social strains that currently exist I believe it to be a duty.

The Open Public Services White Paper issued last July outlined opportunities for more local service provision.

We have grasped the vision and completed a round of meetings with Town Councils to identify opportunities for protecting and improving services.

The future direction will be more local service improvements, more local delivery and more local accountability.

Major Structural Reforms are on the horizon.

Next year is the last for the formula grant regime and for the national council tax benefit scheme.

In will come the business rates retention scheme and a local council tax rebate scheme; both hot on the heels of the New Homes Bonus scheme.

More national austerity measures are likely to filter down.

All of these measures are a package for change.

The financial reality is that none of these measures can be taken in isolation.

In the coming years:

We will carefully manage the Council's finances:

We have maintained an adequate Working Balance of around £1m, through to 2016/17.

We will provide resilience through the Service Priority and Change Management Reserve.

Our unique approach through the Programme Nexus initiative will support prioritisation of resources and build our reputation as a centre of excellence.

Moving on to next years council tax

We have consulted with business representatives about our budget and council tax proposals for next year and they are supportive of a tax freeze. They also wish to develop an ongoing dialogue with the Council.

Before I formally move next year's council tax we should pause and look ahead over the next four years because our decision today is influenced by a host of medium term factors such as:

Will our key income streams ever return to the peaks of 2007/08?

When will the benefits caseload reach a plateau and start to fall?

What impact will changing demographics have on the Council's services?

Will the structural funding reforms provide more resources in the medium term?

These questions certainly demonstrate the changing shape of public services and the challenges that lie ahead.

Looking beyond the current year is problematic given the significant structural reforms taking place even though we have used best information to form an opinion.

Each year from now on will become more challenging.

We will help ease this challenge for families by freezing next year's council tax, setting a savings target of £735,260 for the coming year and using £467,953 from the Working Balance.

We can achieve this whilst doing more for local business, more for local communities and more for the environment.

I commend the Council Tax freeze to you."

Councillor Saunders moved, and Councillor Gardiner seconded, an amendment as follows:

"That, with regard to Minute 128, the budget in respect of Special Responsibility Allowances for Non-Portfolio Members of Cabinet be removed in light of the on-going review by the Independent Remuneration Panel and its initial Draft Report, and that the subsequent saving of around £10,000 from the General Fund (Council Tax Budget) be added to the General Fund 'Discretionary Housing Payments' to help ease the transition for households affected by the benefits changes which began to be phased in from last month."

The amendment was put to the meeting and Declared not Carried.

The motion was put to the meeting, Declared Carried, and it was

Resolved:

136.1 Accordingly.

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Nicholson, moved, and Councillor Page seconded, the motion that the Council, having considered the financial Reports with the Agenda, and the information contained in the draft Council Tax Resolution, approves the Lewes District Council General Fund Council Tax Requirement [Page 113 of 225](#) for 2012/2013 and the resultant

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band D tax of £192.48 as set out in Appendices A and E to Report No 36/12 and now adopts the formal Resolution for the Council Tax for the year ending 31 March 2013, in the terms set out in Appendix F to that Report which was circulated to all members of the Council on 15 February 2012 and is as set out below.

The motion was put to the meeting, Declared Carried, and it was

Resolved:

136.2 Accordingly (please see the following):

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Section A

1. That any expenses incurred by the Council in performing in part of its area a function performed elsewhere in its area by a parish or community council or the chairman of a parish meeting shall not be treated as special expenses for the purposes of Section 35(2)(d) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.

Section B

1. That:-
 - (a) the revenue estimates for 2012/2013;
 - (b) the revised 2011/2012 Capital Programme;
 - (c) the Capital Programme 2012/2013 to 2014/2015
 - (d) the Prudential Indicators in respect of the capital programme;as reported elsewhere on this Council Agenda, be approved.
2. That it be noted that at its meeting on 5 January 2012 the Cabinet calculated the following amounts for the year 2012/2013 in accordance with regulations made under Sections 31(B)(4) and 34(4) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 as amended:-
 - (a) 38,671.31 being the amount calculated by the Council, in accordance with regulation 3 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 1992 as amended, as its Council Tax base for the year (Item T in the formula in Section 31B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992)

(b) <u>Part of the Council's area</u>	<u>Tax Base</u>
<u>Parishes of:-</u>	
Barcombe	639.42
Chailey	1,327.21
Ditchling	1,106.62
East Chiltington	199.10
Falmer	78.72
Firle	134.83
Beddingham/Glynde	190.04
Hamsey	254.63
Iford	95.92
Kingston	427.36
<u>Towns of:-</u>	
Lewes	6,545.07
Newhaven	4,113.47
Parish of Newick	1,119.35
Town of Peacehaven	5,133.25
<u>Parishes of:-</u>	
Piddinghoe	133.37
Plumpton	668.53
Ringmer	1,960.51
Rodmell	218.54
St. Ann Without	41.51
St. John Without	32.93
Town of Seaford	10,027.51
<u>Parishes of:-</u>	
Southeast	22.64
South Highton	345.03
Streat	79.20
Tarring Neville	10.08
Town of Telscombe	2,722.04
<u>Parishes of:-</u>	
Westmeston	166.56
Wivelsfield	877.87

being the amounts calculated by the Council, in accordance with regulation 6 of the Regulations as amended, 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 2012/2013 in accordance with Sections 31A to 37 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended:-
- (a) £81,557,488 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) of the Act
 - (b) £71,259,165 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act
 - (c) £10,298,323 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) £266.30 being the amount at 3(c) above (Item R) all divided by the amount at 2(a) above (Item T), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31(B) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year (including local precepts)
 - (e) £2,855,048 being the aggregate amount of all special items referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act
 - (f) £192.48 being the amount at 3(d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 3(e) above by the amount at 2(a) above (Item T), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no special item relates

(g) Parts of the Council's area

	£		£
Barcombe	235.18	Piddinghoe	229.97
Chailey	228.65	Plumpton	242.69
Ditchling	252.83	Ringmer	241.13
East Chiltington	216.60	Rodmell	233.90
Falmer	198.83	St. Ann Without	192.48
Firle	249.44	St. John Without	192.48
Glynde/Beddingham	234.58	Seaford	243.30
Hamsey	258.22	Southeast	192.48
Iford	192.48	South Heighton	230.99
Kingston	286.08	Streat	225.69
Lewes	311.96	Tarring Neville	192.48
Newhaven	286.54	Telscombe	285.65
Newick	241.08	Westmeston	222.50
Peacehaven	277.76	Wivelsfield	246.02

being the amounts given by adding to the amount at 3(f) 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(b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(3) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate.

(h) Parts of the Council's area

	Bands £ Ratio	40,000	52,000	68,000	88,000	120,000	160,000	320,000	>320,000
		6/9	7/9	8/9	9/9	11/9	13/9	15/9	18/9
		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Barcombe		156.79	182.92	209.05	235.18	287.44	339.70	391.97	470.36
Chailey		152.43	177.84	203.24	228.65	279.46	330.27	381.08	457.30
Ditchling		168.55	196.65	224.74	252.83	309.01	365.20	421.38	505.66
East Chiltington		144.40	168.47	192.53	216.60	264.73	312.87	361.00	433.20
Falmer		132.55	154.65	176.74	198.83	243.01	287.20	331.38	397.66
Firle		166.29	194.01	221.72	249.44	304.87	360.30	415.73	498.88
Glynde/Beddingham		156.39	182.45	208.52	234.58	286.71	338.84	390.97	469.16
Hamsey		172.15	200.84	229.53	258.22	315.60	372.98	430.37	516.44
Iford		128.32	149.71	171.09	192.48	235.25	278.03	320.80	384.96
Kingston		190.72	222.51	254.29	286.08	349.65	413.23	476.80	572.16
Lewes		207.97	242.64	277.30	311.96	381.28	450.61	519.93	623.92
Newhaven		191.03	222.86	254.70	286.54	350.22	413.89	477.57	573.08
Newick		160.72	187.51	214.29	241.08	294.65	348.23	401.80	482.16
Peacehaven		185.17	216.04	246.90	277.76	339.48	401.21	462.93	555.52
Piddinghoe		153.31	178.87	204.42	229.97	281.07	332.18	383.28	459.94
Plumpton		161.79	188.76	215.72	242.69	296.62	350.55	404.48	485.38
Ringmer		160.75	187.55	215.72	242.69	294.71	348.30	401.88	482.26

Bands £ Ratio	40,000	52,000	68,000	88,000	120,000	160,000	320,000	>320,000
	6/9	7/9	8/9	9/9	11/9	13/9	15/9	18/9
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Rodmell	155.93	181.92	207.91	233.90	285.88	337.86	389.83	467.80
St Ann Without	128.32	149.71	171.09	192.48	235.25	278.03	320.80	384.96
St John Without	128.32	149.71	171.09	192.48	235.25	278.03	320.80	384.96
Seaford	162.20	189.23	216.27	243.30	297.37	351.43	405.50	486.60
Southeast	128.32	149.71	171.09	192.48	235.25	278.03	320.80	384.96
South Heighton	153.99	179.66	205.32	230.99	282.32	333.65	384.98	461.98
Streat	150.46	175.54	200.61	225.69	275.84	326.00	376.15	451.38
Tarring Neville	128.32	149.71	171.09	192.48	235.25	278.03	320.80	384.96
Telscombe	190.43	222.17	253.91	285.65	349.13	412.61	476.08	571.30
Westmeston	148.33	173.06	197.78	222.50	271.94	321.39	370.83	445.00
Wivelsfield	164.01	191.35	218.68	246.02	300.69	355.36	410.03	492.04

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

4. That it be noted that for the year 2012/2013 the major precepting authorities have stated the following amounts in precepts issued to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for each of the categories of dwelling shown below:-

Precepting Authority	Valuation Bands							
	A £	B £	C £	D £	E £	F £	G £	H £
East Sussex County Council	772.20	900.90	1,029.60	1,158.30	1,415.70	1,673.10	1,930.50	2,316.60
Sussex Police Authority	92.28	107.66	123.04	138.42	169.18	199.94	230.70	276.84
East Sussex Fire Authority	54.57	63.67	72.76	81.86	100.05	118.24	136.43	163.72

5. That, having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 3(h) and 4 above, 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 2012/2013 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:-

Bands £ Ratio	40,000	52,000	68,000	88,000	120,000	160,000	320,000	>320,000
	6/9 A £	7/9 B £	8/9 C £	9/9 D £	11/9 E £	13/9 F £	15/9 G £	18/9 H £
Barcombe	1,075.84	1,255.15	1,434.45	1,613.76	1,972.37	2,330.98	2,689.60	3,227.52
Chailey	1,071.48	1,250.07	1,428.64	1,607.23	1,964.39	2,321.55	2,678.71	3,214.46
Ditchling	1,087.60	1,268.88	1,450.14	1,631.41	1,993.94	2,356.48	2,719.01	3,262.82
East Chiltington	1,063.45	1,240.70	1,417.93	1,595.18	1,949.66	2,304.15	2,658.63	3,190.36
Falmer	1,051.60	1,226.88	1,402.14	1,577.41	1,927.94	2,278.48	2,629.01	3,154.82
Firle	1,085.34	1,266.24	1,447.12	1,628.02	1,989.80	2,351.58	2,713.36	3,256.04
Glynde/Beddingham	1,075.44	1,254.68	1,433.92	1,613.16	1,971.64	2,330.12	2,688.60	3,226.32
Hamsey	1,091.20	1,273.07	1,454.93	1,636.80	2,000.53	2,364.26	2,728.00	3,273.60
Iford	1,047.37	1,221.94	1,396.49	1,571.06	1,920.18	2,269.31	2,618.43	3,142.12
Kingston	1,109.77	1,294.74	1,479.69	1,664.66	2,034.58	2,404.51	2,774.43	3,329.32
Lewes	1,127.02	1,314.87	1,502.70	1,690.54	2,066.21	2,441.89	2,817.56	3,381.08
Newhaven	1,110.08	1,295.09	1,480.10	1,665.12	2,035.15	2,405.17	2,775.20	3,330.24
Newick	1,079.77	1,259.74	1,439.69	1,619.66	1,979.58	2,339.51	2,699.43	3,239.32
Peacehaven	1,104.22	1,288.27	1,472.30	1,656.34	2,024.41	2,392.49	2,760.56	3,312.68
Piddinghoe	1,072.36	1,251.10	1,429.82	1,608.55	1,966.00	2,323.46	2,680.91	3,217.10
Plumpton	1,080.84	1,260.99	1,441.12	1,621.27	1,981.55	2,341.83	2,702.11	3,242.54
Ringmer	1,079.80	1,259.78	1,439.74	1,619.71	1,979.64	2,339.58	2,699.51	3,239.42
Rodmell	1,074.98	1,254.15	1,433.31	1,612.48	1,970.81	2,329.14	2,687.46	3,224.96
St Ann Without	1,047.37	1,221.94	1,396.49	1,571.06	1,920.18	2,269.31	2,618.43	3,142.12
St John Without	1,047.37	1,221.94	1,396.49	1,571.06	1,920.18	2,269.31	2,618.43	3,142.12
Seaford	1,081.25	1,261.46	1,441.67	1,621.88	1,982.30	2,342.71	2,703.13	3,243.76
Southeast	1,047.37	1,221.94	1,396.49	1,571.06	1,920.18	2,269.31	2,618.43	3,142.12
South Highton	1,073.04	1,251.89	1,430.72	1,609.57	1,967.25	2,324.93	2,682.61	3,219.14
Streat	1,069.51	1,247.77	1,426.01	1,604.27	1,960.77	2,317.28	2,673.78	3,208.54
Tarring Neville	1,047.37	1,221.94	1,396.49	1,571.06	1,920.18	2,269.31	2,618.43	3,142.12
Telscombe	1,109.48	1,294.40	1,479.31	1,664.23	2,034.06	2,403.89	2,773.71	3,328.46
Westmeston	1,067.38	1,245.29	1,423.18	1,601.08	1,956.87	2,312.67	2,668.46	3,202.16
Wivelsfield	1,083.06	1,263.58	1,444.08	1,624.60	1,985.62	2,346.64	2,707.66	3,249.20

Section C

1. That the Council's relevant basic amount of council tax for 2012/2013 is not excessive in accordance with principles approved under Section 52ZB of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.

(b) Remaining Recommendations from Cabinet Held on 5 January 2012 and 8 February 2012

Unreserved Items

The Chair of the Council, Councillor Russell, moved, and Councillor Nicholson seconded, the motion that the recommendations of the Cabinet held on 5 January 2012 and 8 February 2012 contained in:

- (a) Minute 118 relating to Lewes Cemetery, Winterbourne Hollow, Lewes;
- (b) Minute 120 relating to the Meetings Timetable 2012/2013; and
- (c) Minute 129 relating to the Revised Local Development Scheme,

be received and adopted.

The motion was put to the meeting, Declared Carried, and it was

Resolved:

136.3 Accordingly.

CHCE/
CHLDS/
DPES

137 Notices of Motion

- (a) The Chair of the Council reported that a Notice of Motion had been submitted under Council Procedure Rule 13 by Councillor Gardiner relating to the Communities and Local Government Committee's report into the National Planning Policy Framework.

With the agreement of Council and in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 13, Councillor Gardiner moved, and Councillor Jones seconded, a revised version of the Notice of Motion to that which was set out in the Agenda papers as follows, (the revision related to the deletion of the words "...and by Liberal Democrats..." in the first paragraph of the Notice of Motion which was set out in the Agenda papers):

"This council notes the Communities and Local Government Committee's report into the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) published on Wednesday, 21st December 2011. It notes the report is very sympathetic to the arguments put forward by the Local Government Association in its lobbying work both inside and outside Parliament.

In particular this council notes that there is positive support from the Committee for calls for reform in the following areas:

Sustainable Development

- That the final NPPF must provide a better balance between economic, environmental and social issues so that elected councillors

can decide weighting and trade offs between priorities at local level;

- It also suggests any implication of a default "yes" to development should be removed from the NPPF and clarified by saying that local authorities should be encouraged to define sustainable development in line with the Local Plan;

- Very significantly, the committee suggests that the presumption in favour of sustainable development should be redefined as 'a presumption in favour of sustainable development consistent with the Local Plan'.

Definition of Viability

- The Committee agree with the LGA that the approach to economic 'viability' in the draft NPPF must make "clear that calculations of viability presuppose requirements to provide infrastructure and other measures necessary to the development, not simply returns deemed acceptable by the developer."

Transition Arrangements

- Committee supports the LGA assertion that councils must have adequate time to get sensible plans and new evidence bases underpinning them in place

- Committee explicitly recommend that the Government establish a timetable for a transition period in consultation with local government.

Statutory status of the local plan

- Recommend that the NPPF unambiguously reflect the statutory supremacy of local plans, in accordance with the 2004 Planning Act.

Council calls for these recommendations to be strongly supported, and for the Chief Executive to write to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government as a matter of urgency asking for the Government to take these on board."

The motion was put to the meeting, Declared Carried, and it was

Resolved:

137.1 Accordingly.

DPES

- (b) The Chair of the Council reported that a Notice of Motion had been submitted under Council Procedure Rule 13 by Councillor Davy relating to reducing the issue and discarding of single-use plastic bags in the District.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 13, Councillor Davy moved, and Councillor Sheppard seconded, the Notice of Motion as follows:

“In support of a waste reduction campaign, spearheaded by local residents and our Recycling and Sustainability Officer, a report was submitted to Cabinet in 2009 supporting a policy for Reducing Plastic Bag Usage in the Lewes District. Many residents, small local businesses, town and parish councils have given their support. This Motion is intended to strengthen our active role in reducing single-use plastic bags in our District.

This administration strongly support a policy of reducing waste and wishes to help find solutions that encourage retailers and, in particular, large retailers to demonstrate their corporate and social responsibilities. It would be admirable if retailers involved in proposals for large, new retail developments in Lewes District could headline their support in a very practical way.

This motion proposes to find an accommodation between the Council – existing and future retailers as to how best a reduction in single-use bags can be achieved. The Council has no power to insist, but finding local solutions wherever practicable better serve the wishes of our local communities.

This Council resolves that:

1. The Council will encourage all retailers in the Lewes District to consider actively reducing single-use plastic bags and introduce the use of reusable bags to support the sustainability credentials in our District.
2. The Council commends action to reduce the discard of single-use plastic bags by large retailers, set out at the time they apply for planning permission.”

The motion was put to the meeting, Declared Carried, and it was

Resolved:

137.2 Accordingly.

DPES

138 Pay Policy Statement

The Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources, Councillor Page, moved, and Councillor Howson seconded, the motion that the recommendation contained in Report No 37/12 relating to the Pay Policy Statement, be received and adopted.

The motion was put to the meeting, Declared Carried, and it was

Resolved:

138.1 Accordingly.

CHIS/
CHLDS

139 Town/Parish Councillors to Serve on the Standards Committee

The Chair of the Council, Councillor Russell, moved, and Councillor Nicholson seconded, the motion that the appointments made by the Sussex Associations of Local Councils to serve on the Standards Committee namely, Councillors Kathy Baker (Plumpton Parish Council), Don McBeth (Ditchling Parish Council) and Candida Terry (Peacehaven Town Council), be noted.

The motion was put to the meeting, Declared Carried, and it was

Resolved:

139.1 Accordingly.

CHLDS
(R Allan)

140 Announcement from the Leader of the Council – Councillor Nicholson

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Nicholson, announced that, with immediate effect, he had resigned from his position as Leader of the Council and had written to the Chief Executive accordingly.

Resolved:

140.1 That the resignation of Councillor Nicholson from his position as Leader of the Council, be received and noted.

CMT

141 Election of Leader of the Council

The Chair of the Council requested nominations for the election of Leader of the Council, who would also be the Chair of Cabinet.

Councillor Nicholson proposed, and Councillor Smith, seconded, the motion that Councillor James Page be elected Leader of the Council.

The motion was put to the meeting and, in accordance with the multiple round Runoff Voting procedure for the election of the Leader of the Council, which was agreed by the Council at its meeting held on 27 April 2011, it was

Resolved:

141.1 That, having received more than 50% of the total number of votes cast, Councillor James Page be elected Leader of the Council and Chair of Cabinet.

CMT

142 Announcement by the new Leader of the Council

The new Leader of the Council and Chair of Cabinet, Councillor Page, delivered a speech of acceptance of his new position during which he outlined his vision for the future direction of the Council. He also paid tribute to Councillor Nicholson who had been a Member of Cabinet since May 2007, Leader of the Conservative Group on the Council since September 2007 and Leader of the Council since May 2011.

Councillor Page reported that, for the time being, he and Councillor Nicholson would retain their existing Cabinet portfolios and that Councillor Jones would be the Deputy Leader of the Majority Group.

Resolved:

142.1 That the acceptance speech of Councillor Page in his new position as Leader of the Council and Chair of Cabinet, be received and noted.

The meeting ended at 3.43pm

E E J Russell
Chair