

Minutes of Meeting of the Council

Meeting Date: Tuesday, 1 March 2016, starting at 6.30pm
Present: Councillor B Hilton (Chairman)

Councillors:

P Ainsworth	S Hind
J E Alcock	S A Hirst
S Atkinson	J Holgate
S Bibby	S Hore
A Brown	A M Knox
S Brunskill	S Knox
P Dobson	G Mirfin
P Dowson	J Rogerson
P Elms	I Sayers
M Fenton	G Scott
M French	R E Sherras
G Geldard	D T Smith
L Graves	D Taylor
R Hargreaves	R J Thompson
T Hill	N C Walsh
K Hind	J White

In attendance: Chief Executive, Director of Community Services, Director of Resources, Head of Human Resources, Head of Legal and Democratic Services.

The meeting opened with a minute's silence in respect of former Mayor and Honorary Alderman, Ted Boden, who had died recently.

605 PRAYERS

The Mayor's Chaplain, Monsignor Corcoran, opened the meeting with prayers.

606 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillors R Bennet, I Brown, S Carefoot, R Elms, R Newmark, M Robinson, R Swarbrick.

607 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no declarations of pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest.

608 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr D Berryman asked a question regarding the development of Montgomerie Gardens at the southern end of Woone Lane and the Section 106 conditions that applied to it. He asked if monies had been transferred in accordance with the agreement and if any plans were in place for the regeneration of Primrose Lodge.

The Chairman of Planning and Development Committee, Councillor Bibby, thanked Mr Berryman for his question and confirmed that monies had been collected from developers to contribute towards Primrose Lodge. An initial

£75,000 had been received and a further £80,000 was due. Money had also been allocated towards survey work and the Council's Countryside Officer was in dialogue with Lancashire Wildlife Trust in relation to managing the site as a Local Nature Reserve.

609 COUNCIL MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 15 December 2015 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

610 MAYORAL COMMUNICATIONS

The Mayor reported on engagements that she had attended since the last meeting and highlighted three particular areas. Firstly, she extended her personal thanks and appreciation to the Chief Executive, Directors and Officers for their contribution to the response to the flooding in Whalley over the Christmas period.

In the run up to Christmas the Mayor had also attended numerous church services, concerts and nativity services across the borough.

Finally the Mayor reported on a recent event where she had been asked to present the Légion d'honneur to Mr Heseltine from Clitheroe. She had been very privileged and honoured to do so.

611 STATUTORY BUDGET CONSULTATIONS WITH NON-DOMESTIC RATE PAYER REPRESENTATIVES AND VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS

Consideration was given to the report of the Director of Resources referring to a meeting which had taken place with representatives and non-domestic rate payers on the Council's budget proposals. The meeting had been attended by Mr Williams of Clitheroe Chamber of Trade and Mr Atherton of Whalley Chamber of Trade and Councillors Hirst and Thompson.

RESOLVED: That Members receive the report.

612 REVENUE BUDGET 2016/17 AND CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2016/19 AND SETTING THE COUNCIL TAX FOR EACH CATEGORY OF DWELLING IN THE COUNCIL'S AREA FOR 2016/17

Consideration was given to the written report of the Director of Resources concerning the budget for 2016/17 and the setting of the different amounts of Council Tax for different parts of the Council's area where special items applied (Parish Precepts).

Enclosed with the report was the budget summary of the financial year 2016/17 which contained details of revenue and capital requirements. Approval of the budget proposals contained in the report was proposed by Councillor S Hirst and seconded by Councillor T Hill. In his budget speech the Leader confirmed that by 2020 the central finance grant would disappear but beyond that details of a promised business rate retention rate scheme were uncertain. In addition New Homes Bonus funding would be subject to changes.

The Leader noted the challenges that had been faced in reaching a balanced budget that preserved service standards for the residents of the borough. He was pleased to report that this had been achieved once again this year, together with continuing job security for all Council staff. In balancing income streams to meet the total requirement of over £6m the Council had proceeded with caution and prudence and with a constant watch upon efficiency savings, income generation and control of overheads. Following a record Council Tax freeze of six years, the Leader reported that the Government had allowed the Council, as a low tax authority, to raise its Band D Council Tax by a flat £5.

In addition the Council had made prudent use of New Homes Bonus income and a contribution from reserves in order to reach a balanced budget.

The Leader was also pleased that the Council had been able to propose a modest but effective and affordable capital programme for the year 2016/19.

The Leader expressed his thanks for the time and effort Committee, officers and the Budget Working Group had dedicated to achieving the budget as presented which had resulted in an excellent budget for the Council and the residents of the borough.

The Leader of the Opposition, Councillor A Knox, added his thanks to officers for their work in preparing the budgets.

Members then debated the budget proposal. At the end of the debate a recorded vote was taken.

The following Members voted for the motion:

P Ainsworth	P Elms	S Hind	G Scott
J Alcock	G Geldard	S Hirst	R Sherras
S Atkinson	L Graves	J Holgate	D Smith
S Bibby	R Hargreaves	S Hore	D Taylor
A Brown	T Hill	G Mirfin	R Thompson
S Brunskill	B Hilton	J Rogerson	N Walsh
P Dobson	K Hind	I Sayers	J White
P Dowson			

The following Members abstained:

M Fenton	A Knox
M French	S Knox

The motion was carried.

RESOLVED: That the Council:

1. approve the following submitted by the Policy and Finance Committee and included in the budget summary book:
 - a) the revised estimates of 2015/16 and the revenue estimates for 2016/17;

- b) the revised capital programme for 2015/16 and the forward capital programme for 2016/19.
2. approve the Prudential indicators, borrowing limits and MRP policy statement as set out in Annex 1 of the report;
3. note that under delegated powers in accordance with Section 84 of the Local Government Finance Act 2003, the Council determined the following amounts for 2016/17, in accordance with the Local Authority's (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulation 1992 (as amended) as its Council Tax base for the year:
- a) 22,024 being the amount of its Council Tax Base for the whole district [item T and the formula in Section 31B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 as amended (the Act)], and

b)

Parish Area	Tax base
Aighton, Bailey & Chaigley	443
Balderstone	193
Barrow	353
Bashall Eaves, Great Mitton & Little Mitton	202
Billington & Langho	2,032
Bolton by Bowland, Gisburn Forest & Sawley	477
Bowland Forest (High)	73
Bowland Forest (Low)	77
Bowland with Leagram	83
Chatburn	374
Chipping	481
Clayton le Dale	495
Clitheroe	4,961
Dinckley	44
Downham	49
Dutton	104
Gisburn	197
Grindleton	345
Horton	46
Hothersall	73
Longridge	2,657
Mearley	8
Mellor	991
Newsholme	20

Parish Area	Tax base
Newton	145
Osbaldeston	110
Paythorne	44
Pendleton	106
Ramsgreave	281
Read	552
Ribchester	650
Rimington & Middop	221
Sabden	515
Salesbury	186
Simonstone	490
Slaidburn & Easington	154
Thornley with Wheatley	160
Twiston	37
Waddington	455
West Bradford	360
Whalley	1,496
Wilpshire	1,065
Wiswell	176
Worston	43
	22,024

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.

4. Calculate that the Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2016/17 (excluding Parish precepts) is £3,208.677.
5. Calculate the following amounts for 2016/17, in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Act:
 - a) £26,519,479 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) £22,934,023 Being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act.

- c) £3,585,456 Being the amount by which the aggregate at 5(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 5(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) £162.80 Being the amount at 5(c) above (Item R), all divided by Item T (3(a) above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year (including Parish precepts).
- e) £376,779 Being the aggregate amount of all special items (Parish precepts) referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act.
- f) £145.69 Being the amount at 5(d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 5(e) above by Item T (3(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) Aggregate of the basic amount of council tax for Ribble Valley Borough Council and Parish precept for Band D properties:

Parts of the Council's area		£
Aighton, Bailey & Chaigley		156.86
Balderstone		152.11
Barrow		167.01
Bashall Eaves, Great Mitton & Little Mitton		151.64
Billington & Langho		153.72
Bolton by Bowland, Gisburn Forest & Sawley		156.08
Bowland Forest Higher		175.22
Bowland Forest Lower		161.27
Bowland with Leagram		148.10
Chatburn		176.10
Chipping		161.49
Clayton le Dale		151.53
Clitheroe		165.10
Dinckley		145.69
Downham		145.69
Dutton		150.50

Parts of the Council's area		£
Gisburn		165.70
Grindleton		167.43
Horton		145.69
Hothersall		155.96
Longridge		169.78
Mearley		145.69
Mellor		160.12
Newsholme		145.69
Newton		162.77
Osbaldeston		152.05
Paythorne		145.69
Pendleton		157.85
Ramsgreave		151.57
Read		160.28
Ribchester		157.32
Rimington & Middop		163.62
Sabden		173.80
Salesbury		171.50
Simonstone		162.42
Slaidburn & Easington		157.05
Thornley with Wheatley		155.24
Twiston		145.69
Waddington		175.36
West Bradford		163.73
Whalley		167.11
Wilpshire		160.60
Wiswell		165.63
Worston		145.69

Being the amount given by adding to the amount at 5(f) above to 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 contained in 3(b), 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.

- h) Aggregate of the basic amount of council tax for Ribbles Valley Borough Council and Parish precept for Band D properties by valuation band:

VALUATION BANDS								
	A £	B £	C £	D £	E £	F £	G £	H £
Aighton, Bailey & Chaigley	104.58	122.00	139.43	156.86	191.72	226.57	261.44	313.72
Balderstone	101.41	118.30	135.21	152.11	185.92	219.71	253.52	304.22
Barrow	111.34	129.89	148.45	167.01	204.13	241.24	278.35	334.02
Bashall Eaves, Great Mitton & Little Mitton	101.10	117.94	134.79	151.64	185.34	219.03	252.74	303.28
Billington & Langho	102.48	119.56	136.64	153.72	187.88	222.04	256.20	307.44
Bolton by Bowland, Gisburn Forest & Sawley	104.06	121.39	138.74	156.08	190.77	225.45	260.14	312.16
Bowland Forest Higher	116.82	136.28	155.75	175.22	214.16	253.09	292.04	350.44
Bowland Forest Lower	107.52	125.43	143.35	161.27	197.11	232.94	268.79	322.54
Bowland with Leagram	98.74	115.18	131.64	148.10	181.02	213.92	246.84	296.20
Chatburn	117.40	136.96	156.53	176.10	215.24	254.37	293.50	352.20
Chipping	107.66	125.60	143.54	161.49	197.38	233.26	269.15	322.98
Clayton le Dale	101.02	117.85	134.69	151.53	185.21	218.88	252.55	303.06
Clitheroe	110.07	128.41	146.75	165.10	201.79	238.48	275.17	330.20
Dinckley	97.13	113.31	129.50	145.69	178.07	210.44	242.82	291.38
Downham	97.13	113.31	129.50	145.69	178.07	210.44	242.82	291.38
Dutton	100.34	117.05	133.78	150.50	183.95	217.39	250.84	301.00
Gisburn	110.47	128.87	147.29	165.70	202.53	239.34	276.17	331.40
Grindleton	111.62	130.22	148.82	167.43	204.64	241.84	279.05	334.86
Horton	97.13	113.31	129.50	145.69	178.07	210.44	242.82	291.38
Hothersall	103.98	121.30	138.63	155.96	190.62	225.27	259.94	311.92
Longridge	113.19	132.05	150.91	169.78	207.51	245.24	282.97	339.56
Mearley	97.13	113.31	129.50	145.69	178.07	210.44	242.82	291.38
Mellor	106.75	124.53	142.33	160.12	195.71	231.28	266.87	320.24
Newsholme	97.13	113.31	129.50	145.69	178.07	210.44	242.82	291.38
Newton	108.52	126.59	144.68	162.77	198.95	235.11	271.29	325.54
Osbaldeston	101.37	118.26	135.15	152.05	185.84	219.63	253.42	304.10
Paythorne	97.13	113.31	129.50	145.69	178.07	210.44	242.82	291.38
Pendleton	105.24	122.77	140.31	157.85	192.93	228.00	263.09	315.70
Ramsgreave	101.05	117.88	134.73	151.57	185.26	218.93	252.62	303.14
Read	106.86	124.66	142.47	160.28	195.90	231.51	267.14	320.56

VALUATION BANDS								
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Ribchester	104.88	122.36	139.84	157.32	192.28	227.24	262.20	314.64
Rimington & Middop	109.08	127.26	145.44	163.62	199.98	236.34	272.70	327.24
Sabden	115.87	135.17	154.49	173.80	212.43	251.04	289.67	347.60
Salesbury	114.34	133.38	152.44	171.50	209.62	247.72	285.84	343.00
Simonstone	108.28	126.32	144.37	162.42	198.52	234.61	270.70	324.84
Slaidburn & Easington	104.70	122.15	139.60	157.05	191.95	226.85	261.75	314.10
Thornley with Wheatley	103.50	120.74	137.99	155.24	189.74	224.23	258.74	310.48
Twiston	97.13	113.31	129.50	145.69	178.07	210.44	242.82	291.38
Waddington	116.91	136.39	155.87	175.36	214.33	253.30	292.27	350.72
West Bradford	109.16	127.34	145.54	163.73	200.12	236.50	272.89	327.46
Whalley	111.41	129.97	148.54	167.11	204.25	241.38	278.52	334.22
Wilpshire	107.07	124.91	142.75	160.60	196.29	231.98	267.67	321.20
Wiswell	110.42	128.82	147.22	165.63	202.44	239.24	276.05	331.26
Worston	97.13	113.31	129.50	145.69	178.07	210.44	242.82	291.38

being the amounts given by multiplying (as appropriate) the amounts at 5(f) or 5(g) 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.

6. Note, that for 2016/17 Lancashire County Council has 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 dwellings shown below.

Valuation Bands							
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
783.24	913.78	1,044.32	1,174.86	1,435.94	1,697.02	1,958.10	2,349.72

7. Note, that for 2016/17 the Police and Crime Commissioner for Lancashire has 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 dwellings shown below.

Valuation Bands							
A £	B £	C £	D £	E £	F £	G £	H £
108.15	126.17	144.20	162.22	198.27	234.32	270.37	324.44

8. Note, that for 2016/17 the Lancashire Combined Fire Authority has 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 dwellings shown below.

Valuation Bands							
A £	B £	C £	D £	E £	F £	G £	H £
43.67	50.94	58.22	65.50	80.06	94.61	109.17	131.00

9. Having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 5(h), 6, 7 and 8 above, the Council, in accordance with Section 30(2) of the Act, hereby sets the following amounts as the amounts of council tax for 2016/17 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

VALUATION BANDS								
	A £	B £	C £	D £	E £	F £	G £	H £
Aighton, Bailey & Chaigley	1,039.64	1,212.89	1,386.17	1,559.44	1,905.99	2,252.52	2,599.08	3,118.88
Balderstone	1,036.47	1,209.19	1,381.95	1,554.69	1,900.19	2,245.66	2,591.16	3,109.38
Barrow	1,046.40	1,220.78	1,395.19	1,569.59	1,918.40	2,267.19	2,615.99	3,139.18
Bashall Eaves, Great Mitton & Little Mitton	1,036.16	1,208.83	1,381.53	1,554.22	1,899.61	2,244.98	2,590.38	3,108.44
Billington & Langho	1,037.54	1,210.45	1,383.38	1,556.30	1,902.15	2,247.99	2,593.84	3,112.60
Bolton by Bowland, Gisburn Forest & Sawley	1,039.12	1,212.28	1,385.48	1,558.66	1,905.04	2,251.40	2,597.78	3,117.32
Bowland Forest (High)	1,051.88	1,227.17	1,402.49	1,577.80	1,928.43	2,279.04	2,629.68	3,155.60
Bowland Forest (Low)	1,042.58	1,216.32	1,390.09	1,563.85	1,911.38	2,258.89	2,606.43	3,127.70
Bowland with Leagram	1,033.80	1,206.07	1,378.38	1,550.68	1,895.29	2,239.87	2,584.48	3,101.36
Chatburn	1,052.46	1,227.85	1,403.27	1,578.68	1,929.51	2,280.32	2,631.14	3,157.36
Chipping	1,042.72	1,216.49	1,390.28	1,564.07	1,911.65	2,259.21	2,606.79	3,128.14
Clayton le Dale	1,036.08	1,208.74	1,381.43	1,554.11	1,899.48	2,244.83	2,590.19	3,108.22
Clitheroe	1,045.13	1,219.30	1,393.49	1,567.68	1,916.06	2,264.43	2,612.81	3,135.36
Dinckley	1,032.19	1,204.20	1,376.24	1,548.27	1,892.34	2,236.39	2,580.46	3,096.54
Downham	1,032.19	1,204.20	1,376.24	1,548.27	1,892.34	2,236.39	2,580.46	3,096.54
Dutton	1,035.40	1,207.94	1,380.52	1,553.08	1,898.22	2,243.34	2,588.48	3,106.16
Gisburn	1,045.53	1,219.76	1,394.03	1,568.28	1,916.80	2,265.29	2,613.81	3,136.56

VALUATION BANDS								
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Grindleton	1,046.68	1,221.11	1,395.56	1,570.01	1,918.91	2,267.79	2,616.69	3,140.02
Horton	1,032.19	1,204.20	1,376.24	1,548.27	1,892.34	2,236.39	2,580.46	3,096.54
Hothersall	1,039.04	1,212.19	1,385.37	1,558.54	1,904.89	2,251.22	2,597.58	3,117.08
Longridge	1,048.25	1,222.94	1,397.65	1,572.36	1,921.78	2,271.19	2,620.61	3,144.72
Mearley	1,032.19	1,204.20	1,376.24	1,548.27	1,892.34	2,236.39	2,580.46	3,096.54
Mellor	1,041.81	1,215.42	1,389.07	1,562.70	1,909.98	2,257.23	2,604.51	3,125.40
Newsholme	1,032.19	1,204.20	1,376.24	1,548.27	1,892.34	2,236.39	2,580.46	3,096.54
Newton	1,043.58	1,217.48	1,391.42	1,565.35	1,913.22	2,261.06	2,608.93	3,130.70
Osbaldeston	1,036.43	1,209.15	1,381.89	1,554.63	1,900.11	2,245.58	2,591.06	3,109.26
Paythorne	1,032.19	1,204.20	1,376.24	1,548.27	1,892.34	2,236.39	2,580.46	3,096.54
Pendleton	1,040.30	1,213.66	1,387.05	1,560.43	1,907.20	2,253.95	2,600.73	3,120.86
Ramsgreave	1,036.11	1,208.77	1,381.47	1,554.15	1,899.53	2,244.88	2,590.26	3,108.30
Read	1,041.92	1,215.55	1,389.21	1,562.86	1,910.17	2,257.46	2,604.78	3,125.72
Ribchester	1,039.94	1,213.25	1,386.58	1,559.90	1,906.55	2,253.19	2,599.84	3,119.80
Rimington & Middop	1,044.14	1,218.15	1,392.18	1,566.20	1,914.25	2,262.29	2,610.34	3,132.40
Sabden	1,050.93	1,226.06	1,401.23	1,576.38	1,926.70	2,276.99	2,627.31	3,152.76
Salesbury	1,049.40	1,224.27	1,399.18	1,574.08	1,923.89	2,273.67	2,623.48	3,148.16
Simonstone	1,043.34	1,217.21	1,391.11	1,565.00	1,912.79	2,260.56	2,608.34	3,130.00
Slaidburn & Easington	1,039.76	1,213.04	1,386.34	1,559.63	1,906.22	2,252.80	2,599.39	3,119.26
Thornley with Wheatley	1,038.56	1,211.63	1,384.73	1,557.82	1,904.01	2,250.18	2,596.38	3,115.64
Twiston	1,032.19	1,204.20	1,376.24	1,548.27	1,892.34	2,236.39	2,580.46	3,096.54
Waddington	1,051.97	1,227.28	1,402.61	1,577.94	1,928.60	2,279.25	2,629.91	3,155.88
West Bradford	1,044.22	1,218.23	1,392.28	1,566.31	1,914.39	2,262.45	2,610.53	3,132.62
Whalley	1,046.47	1,220.86	1,395.28	1,569.69	1,918.52	2,267.33	2,616.16	3,139.38
Wilpshire	1,042.13	1,215.80	1,389.49	1,563.18	1,910.56	2,257.93	2,605.31	3,126.36
Wiswell	1,045.48	1,219.71	1,393.96	1,568.21	1,916.71	2,265.19	2,613.69	3,136.42
Worston	1,032.19	1,204.20	1,376.24	1,548.27	1,892.34	2,236.39	2,580.46	3,096.54

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LEADER'S REPORT

The Leader began by reflecting on the impact of the Boxing Day floods which had left over 250 properties inundated. He expressed his immense pride in the work of Ribble Valley officers, staff and Members who had played such a valuable part in the recovery efforts. He confirmed that CMT and staff who supported the residents of Whalley had the genuine gratitude and appreciation of all Members of the Council.

The Leader also acknowledged the way in which many individuals and charitable organisations had come forward and in an all-round response to those affected by the trauma and distress of the flooding, which clearly reflected the community

spirit and civic pride of Ribble Valley residents. The Leader confirmed that a de-brief process was now underway and that Councillor Hill, the Chief Executive and himself had met with the County Leader and the County's Lead Officer on flooding to deal with issues of concern that had arisen in relation to the response to the event. The meeting had been constructive and Councillor Hill was now working through further detailed issues with a Senior Officer who had been allocated specifically to Ribble Valley. Updates on discussions would be reported to future meetings of Policy and Finance Committee.

The Leader was pleased that towards the end of 2015 Barnfield Construction Ltd had been selected as the Council's preferred partner for the redevelopment of the Clitheroe Market Site. This represented a significant investment of over £8m in the town, which would do much to support economic prosperity in the borough.

Next the Leader reported on the ongoing work in relation to the Lancashire Combined Authority proposal which was a process that would require an increasing focus for the coming year. He confirmed that 14 Lancashire Council's had now agreed a draft proposal to move into "shadow" status and this would be presented to all Councils over the coming months. He confirmed that the Council's own position in relation to this would be discussed at the next full Council meeting.

Finally the Leader extended the Council's most sincere best wishes to the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Carefoot, his wife the Mayoress, and family at a very difficult time for them all.

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LEADER'S QUESTION TIME

The Leader of the Opposition, Councillor A Knox, also added the best wishes of his group to Councillor Carefoot, his wife and family.

Councillor Knox then asked what action the Council was taking to stop the spread of Alabama Rot to the Ribble Valley. The Leader thanked Councillor Knox for his question and confirmed that Alabama Rot was a rare but deadly disease that could affect dogs. Although it was thought that infection was picked up on dogs paws and legs on muddy walks, it was not known how the disease was caused or how it could be prevented. As a result a regime or measures that could be taken to prevent infection had not yet been identified. However he could confirm that the Council would publish cautionary advice on its website in relation to the risk of Alabama Rot.

In a supplementary statement Councillor Knox suggested that it would be helpful for the Council's Dog Wardens to work with dog walkers to pass on information regarding the risks of Alabama Rot.

Next Councillor Knox asked what the implications were for the Council following Lancashire County Council's decision to "mothball" the Farrington and Thornton recycling plants. The Leader confirmed that the County Council had not consulted with districts on their plans to "mothball" the facilities and so it was difficult to provide an accurate assessment of the full implications to date. However the immediate effect was that the Council had been instructed to cease the collection of food waste with garden waste before the 1 April 2016. The Leader understood that the closure of the facilities treating general/residual

waste (MBT) would result in the waste being landfilled which, whilst not having an immediate effect on the Council operationally or financially, that would have a significant impact on both the District, and County, recycling performance. The Leader also reported that the Council had been asked by other districts to host an urgent meeting of District Officers to discuss the closure of the treatment facilities and the consequent impact on the future of the Lancashire Waste Management Strategy and the Lancashire Waste Partnership.

Finally, Councillor Knox asked how many parking tickets had been issued in the Council's car parks in each of the past 5 years. The Leader reported the following figures:

2011	1,287
2012	1,357
2013	858
2014	904
2015	593

615 COMMITTEE MINUTES

(i) Planning and Development Committee – 17 December 2015

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the above meeting be received.

(ii) Community Services Committee – 12 January 2016

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the above meeting be received.

(iii) Planning and Development Committee – 14 January 2016

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the above meeting be received.

(iv) Personnel Committee – 20 January 2016

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the above meeting be received with the exception of minute number 521.

MINUTE 521 – ANNUAL PAY POLICY STATEMENT

RESOLVED: That the Annual Pay Policy Statement 2016/17 be approved.

(v) Health and Housing Committee – 21 January 2016

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the above meeting be received.

(vi) Policy and Finance Committee – 26 January 2016

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the above meeting be received with the exception of minute number 557.

MINUTE 557 – LOCAL COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT SCHEME 2016/17

RESOLVED: That the Local Council Tax Support Scheme for 2016/17 be approved.

(vii) Parish Council Liaison Committee – 28 January 2016

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the above meeting be received.

(viii) Special Policy and Finance Committee – 9 February 2016

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the above meeting be received with the exception of minute numbers 589 and 590 which had already been dealt with earlier in the meeting.

(ix) Planning and Development Committee – 11 February 2016

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the above meeting be received.

The meeting closed at 7.40pm.

If you have any queries on these minutes please contact Marshal Scott (414400).