

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 4 MARCH 1996 AT 1400 HOURS IN THE MEETING ROOM, LONDON ROAD CENTRE, KILMARNOCK

- PRESENT:** Councillors David Sneller, Drew McIntyre, Irene Reeves, Wilma Doyle, Robert Stirling, Jane Darnbrough, Jim O'Neill, Kathleen Hall, Bob Beattie, Daniel Coffey, David Fulton, Kim Nicoll, Tommy Farrell and Eric Jackson.
- ATTENDING:** David Montgomery, Chief Executive; Des Tierney, Director of Commercial Operations; Stephen Chorley, Director of Development Services; John Mulgrew, Director of Education; Gordon Clark, Director of Finance; Iain McLachlan, Director of Personnel Services; Jim Dickie, Director of Social Work; Barbara Haughan, Director of Support Services; Douglas Campbell, Head of Public Relations and Marketing and Anne Marie Carr and James Lally (Support Unit).
- APOLOGIES:** Councillors Douglas Reid, Ronald Brailsford, George Turnbull, Eric Ross, Jim Kelly and Jimmy Boyd.
- CHAIR:** Councillor David Sneller, Chair.

DRAFT ESTIMATES 1996/97 - GENERAL SERVICES SAVINGS AND GROWTH PROPOSALS

1. There was submitted a report dated 27 February 1996 (circulated) by the Chief Executive, detailing a package of measures to align the service delivery plans in respect of the Chief Executive's, Support Services, Personnel and Finance Departments, with the final financial allocations for 1996/97 agreed at the Special meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee on 27 February 1996, taking into account the views and comments made during the Council's public consultation exercise.

Councillor Sneller seconded by Councillor McIntyre moved that the Committee recommend approval of the savings and growth proposals detailed in the tables appended to the report in respect of the Chief Executive's, Support Services, Personnel and Finance Departments to align the service delivery plans with the financial allocations for 1996/97 as approved by the Committee on 27 February 1996.

Councillor Coffey seconded by Councillor Nicoll moved as an amendment that consideration of this matter be continued to the Special Council meeting on 5 March 1996.

On a division by a show of hands the motion was carried by 11 votes to 3.

DRAFT ESTIMATES 1996/97 - REPORT FROM SERVICE COMMITTEES

2. There was submitted a report dated 1 March 1996 (circulated) by the Chief Executive advising the Committee of the decisions taken by the Service Committees when considering the financial allocations made to them by the Policy and Resources Committee at the special meeting on 27 February 1996 and of their recommended packages for savings and growth to align their services with these allocations.

Having noted that there had been an error in the savings/growth packages which had been agreed by the Special Community Services Committee on 29 February 1996, as detailed in appendix 5a of the report, and that this error had been corrected as detailed in appendix 5b of the report, Councillor Sneller seconded by Councillor McIntyre moved that the committee agree to:

- (i) note that all the service committees had met and aligned service delivery plans with the financial allocations for 1996/97 made by this committee on 27 February 1996; and
- (ii) recommend adoption of the savings and growth packages as detailed in appendices 1, 2, 3, 4, 5b and 6 of the report.

Councillor Coffey seconded by Councillor Nicoll moved as an amendment that the Committee agree to:

- (i) note that all the service committees had met and aligned service delivery plans with the financial allocations for 1996/97 made by this committee on 27 February 1996; and
- (ii) continue consideration of the savings and growth packages as detailed in appendices 1, 2, 3, 4, 5b and 6 of the report to the Special Council meeting on 5 March 1996.

On a division by a show of hands the motion was carried by 11 votes to 3.

SETTING COUNCIL TAX

3. There was submitted a report dated 28 February 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Finance requesting that the Committee agree that overall budget proposals including the measures proposed by Service Committees comply with the level of expenditure which was set by the Secretary of State (ie. capping level) and to recommend to the Council, the Council Tax (band 'D' equivalent) for financial year 1996/97.

Councillor Sneller, seconded by Councillor McIntyre moved that the Committee recommend to the full Council that the Council:-

- (i) approve the draft General Services Revenue Estimates 1996/97, as set out in the report, taking into account the savings/growth packages approved under the previous two items of this minute.
- (ii) declare a level of relevant expenditure for capping purposes amounting to £130.131M;
- (iii) approve a CFCR of £1.732M contribution for the 1996/97 financial year;
- (iv) approve the level of other items of non-relevant expenditure amounting to £16.366M as shown in paragraph 3.5 of the report;
- (v) instruct the Director of Finance to submit a report to a future meeting of the Committee regarding the implementation of the setting up of an insurance fund for which financial provision had been made;
- (vi) approve the level of net expenditure to be met from the Council Tax on the basis as shown in paragraph 3.6 of the report;
- (vii) approve the Council Tax bad debt provision at 6%; and
- (viii) declare a Council Tax (band `D' equivalent) of £714 for 1996/97.

Councillor Coffey, seconded by Councillor Nicoll, moved as an amendment:-

- (i) that the consideration of the budget be continued to the Special Council meeting on 5 March 1996; and
- (ii) to request that the Director of Finance submit a report to a future meeting of the Committee regarding the implementation of the setting up of an insurance fund for which financial provision had been made.

On a division by a show of hands the motion was carried by 11 votes to 3.

The meeting terminated at 1420 hours.

4-3.min