

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL

6 FEBRUARY 2018

PRESENT:

At a Special Meeting of Rugby Borough Council held on 6th February 2018.

The Mayor (Councillor Mrs Garcia), Councillors Mrs A'Barrow, Mrs Avis, Brader, Mrs Bragg, Brown, Butlin, Cade, Mrs Crane, Cranham, Douglas, Miss Dumbleton, Ms Edwards, Gillias, Leigh Hunt, Keeling, Miss Lawrence, Lewis, Lowe, Mahoney, Mrs New, Mrs O'Rourke, Pacey-Day, Mrs Parker, Poole, Roberts, Ms Robbins, Roodhouse, Mrs Roodhouse, Sandison, Mrs Simpson-Vince, Stokes, Mrs Timms, Ms Watson-Merret and Williams.

56. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of Council held on 14th December 2017 were approved and signed by the Mayor.

57. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence from the meeting were received from Councillors Ellis, Mrs Nash, Mistry, Dr Shera and Srivastava.

58. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor informed the Council that this day marked the centenary of the Representation of the People Act 1918 when women over the age of 30 and 'with property', along with men over 21, were given the right to vote.

The anniversary highlighted the journey to equality and further work which needed to be done. The Mayor stated currently that two thirds of local councillors nationally were male. However, Rugby bucked this trend with almost 50% of its councillors being female.

The Government was facing calls to overturn the convictions of female activists jailed before the implementation of the Act.

The Home Secretary has said she would look at calls to pardon suffragettes who were treated as criminals during their fight for the right to vote. She had stressed that whilst it was complicated when looking at specific cases, she had promised to analyse individual proposals.

The Mayor sought Council's support on this initiative to write to the Home Secretary on behalf of the Council, which was endorsed.

59. DRAFT HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT CAPITAL & REVENUE BUDGETS FOR 2018/19

Council considered the report of the Head of Corporate Resources and Chief Financial Officer (Part 1 – agenda item 5) concerning the draft housing revenue account capital and revenue budgets for 2018/19.

The Executive Director reported that revised pages 5 and 15 of the report had been circulated to all Members.

Councillor Ms Edwards moved and Councillor Brader seconded the following amendment:

“Insert a new clause (3) to the recommendation to read, “Establish a scrutiny task group to review the impact of changes on the service received and include engagement with housing tenants affected.”

Following discussion, the Mayor put the amendment to the vote and by a show of hands of 13 for the amendment and 22 against declared the amendment lost.

The Mayor then put the substantive motion to the vote and declared it carried.

RESOLVED THAT -

(1) the proposed revenue and capital budget estimates for 2018/19 at Appendices A and B inclusive of:

1.1 a 1% reduction in rents be approved; and

(2) service charges be amended as outlined in the revised page 5 of the report.

MAYOR