

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FULL COUNCIL HELD AT CIVIC SUITE, BROCKS HILL COUNCIL OFFICES, WASHBROOK LANE, OADBY, LEICESTER, LE2 5JJ ON THURSDAY, 19 FEBRUARY 2026 COMMENCING AT 7.00 PM

PRESENT

J K Chohan Mayor
C A M Walter Deputy Mayor



Meeting ID: 2976

COUNCILLORS

N Alam Leader of the Opposition
S S Athwal
L A Bentley Deputy Leader of the Council
G A Boulter
M H Charlesworth
H E Darling
J K Ford Deputy Leader of the Opposition
D A Gamble
F S Ghattoraya
C S Gore
S Z Haq Leader of the Council
J Kaufman
C D Kozlowski
K J Loydall
C J R Martin
I K Ridley

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

S A E Ball Finance Manager
A E Court Chief Executive / Head of Paid Service
D Gill Legal Consultant / Interim Monitoring Officer
M Scott Environmental Health Manager
C Ward Licensing & Enforcement Team Leader
C Warren Chief Finance Officer / Section 151 Officer
S Wheeliker Senior Democratic & Electoral Services Officer

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

G G Hunt Councillor (Remote)
P Joshi Councillor (Remote)
R V Joshi Councillor (Remote)

69. CALLING TO ORDER OF THE MEETING

The meeting of the Council was called to order to receive Her Worship The Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

70. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Councillors R H Adams, L M Broadley, F S Broadley, M L Darr and R E R Morris.

Councillors G G Hunt, P Joshi and R V Joshi attended the meeting remotely, so were not considered present for voting purposes according to the 1972 Act.

71. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors C S Gore and M H Charlesworth declared non-pecuniary interests with regard to item 13 of the agenda, insofar as they both rented allotment plots in the Borough.

72. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

By affirmation of the meeting, it was

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 9 December 2025 be taken as read, confirmed and approved.

73. ACTION LIST ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

None.

74. MOTIONS ON NOTICE

None.

75. PETITIONS, DEPUTATIONS AND QUESTIONS

76. COUNCIL & JENNO'S PROFIT SHARE

The Chief Finance Officer / Section 151 Officer, on behalf of the Leader of the Council, provided the response (as set out on page 10 of the agenda reports pack) to the Question on Notice (as set out on page 9 of the agenda reports pack) as posed by Councillor M H Charlesworth in relation to the Council's profit share agreement with Jenno's café.

77. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

77a. OFFICIAL MAYORAL / DEPUTY MAYORAL ENGAGEMENTS

By affirmation of the meeting, it was:

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

The list of Official Engagements attended by The Mayor and/or Deputy Mayor be noted.

78. LEADER'S STATEMENT

The Leader of the Council presented a statement outlining her recent work and meetings she has attended, the administration's plans and an overview of recent decisions taken since the previous meeting of the Council, together with fielding questions in relation to her statement.

79. STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY (2025 - 2030)

Council gave consideration to the report and appendix (as set out at pages 15 – 52 of the agenda reports pack) which sought approval of the Statement of Licensing Policy (2025-2030).

It was moved by Councillor C D Kozlowski, seconded by Councillor J Kaufman and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

- i) The Statement of Licensing Policy (2025-2030) be approved and adopted; and**
- ii) Delegated authority be granted to the Chief Finance Officer / Section 151 Officer to add updates during the policy with regards to new terrorism legislation expected to come into force during the period.**

80. TREASURY MANAGEMENT POLICY AND STRATEGIES AND PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS (2026/27)

Council gave consideration to the report and appendices (as set out at pages 53 – 102 of the agenda reports pack) which sought approval of the Treasury Management Policy and Strategies and Prudential Indicators.

It was moved by Councillor G A Boulter, seconded by Councillor L A Bentley and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

- i) The Capital Strategy 2026/27 including the Prudential Indicators (as set out in Appendix 1) be approved;**
- ii) The Treasury Management Policy, Treasury Strategy and Plan 2026/27 (as set out in Appendices 2 & 3) be approved;**
- iii) The Minimum Revenue Provision Statement 2026/27 (as set out in Appendix 4) be approved;**
- iv) The Investment Strategy 2026/27 (as set out in Appendix 5) be approved; and**
- v) The Flexible Use of Capital Receipts Strategy (as set out in Appendix 6) be approved.**

81. COUNCIL TAX SETTING (2026/27)

Council gave consideration to the report (as set out at pages 103 – 107 of the agenda reports pack) to set and approve the amount of Council Tax for its area for 2026/27 in accordance with section 30(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 as amended by the Localism Act 2011.

It was moved by Councillor I K Ridley, seconded by the Deputy Leader of the Council and

RESOLVED THAT:

- A. It be noted that under powers delegated to the Chief Financial Officer, the Council has calculated the amount of 19,004.95 as its Council Tax base for the financial year 2026/27 in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (England) Regulations 2012;**

- B. It be noted that the Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2026/27 is £5,096,747;**
- C. The following amounts be calculated by the Council for the year 2026/27 in accordance with sections 30 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (as amended):**
- (i) £45,742,064 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in section 31A(2) of the Act.**
 - (ii) £40,645,317 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in section 31A(3) of the Act.**
 - (iii) £5,096,747 being the amount by which the aggregate at C(i) above exceeds the aggregate at C(ii) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with section 31 A (4) of the Act, as its Council Tax Requirement for the year.**
 - (iv) £268.18 being the amount at C(iii) divided by the amount at A above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with section 3 B of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year.**
 - (v) Valuation Bands 2026/27**

Being the amounts given by multiplying the amount at C(iv) 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 amount to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands.

Oadby & Wigston Borough Council			
A	B	C	D
£178.79	£208.59	£238.38	£268.18
E	F	G	H
£327.78	£387.37	£446.97	£536.36

- D. It is noted that for the year 2026/27, the Police and Crime Commissioner for Leicester/shire, and the Leicester/shire and Rutland Combined Fire 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 of the categories shown below and that Leicestershire County Council have indicated that their provisional precept will be confirmed in February 2026.**

Precepting Authorities - Valuation Bands 2026/27

Leicestershire County Council			
A	B	C	D
£1,154.53	£1,346.95	£1,539.37	£1,731.79
E	F	G	H
£2,116.63	£2,501.47	£2,886.31	£3,463.58

Police & Crime Commissioner for Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland			
A	B	C	D
£210.15	£245.18	£280.20	£315.23
E	F	G	H
£385.28	£455.33	£525.38	£630.46

Leicester, Leicestershire & Rutland Combined Fire Authority			
A	B	C	D
£61.10	£71.29	£81.47	£91.65
E	F	G	H
£112.02	£132.39	£152.75	£183.31

- E. That having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at C(v) and D above, the Council, in accordance with section 30(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, set the following amounts as the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2026/27 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below.**

Valuation Bands

Total amount payable Oadby & Wigston Borough Council Residents			
A	B	C	D
£1,604.47	£1,872.00	£2,139.42	£2,406.85
E	F	G	H
£2,941.71	£3,476.55	£4,011.41	£4,813.70

82. 2025/26 REVENUE BUDGETS, MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN AND 2026/27 - 2030/31 CAPITAL PROGRAMMES

Council gave consideration to the report and appendices (as set out at pages 108 – 146 of the agenda reports pack) which sought approval of the General Fund Revenue Budget for 2026/27, the Housing Revenue Account revenue budget for 2026/27 and Capital Programme and the MTFP for 2026/27 to 2030/31.

It was moved by Councillor I K Ridley, seconded by the Deputy Leader of the Council and

RESOLVED THAT:

- i) The General Fund Revenue Budget for 2026/27 as set out in Appendix 1 be approved;**
- ii) An increase to Council Tax by 2.5% be approved;**
- iii) A housing rent and service charge increase of 4.8% be approved;**
- iv) The HRA budget for 2026/27, as detailed in Table 4 be approved and the HRA MTFP be noted;**
- v) The adoption of rent convergence at up to £3 per week when legislation allows be approved;**

- vi) The Scale of Fees and Charges as set out in Appendix 4 be approved and an ongoing annual increase by the September CPI rate be approved, with the exception of Car Parking and Garden Waste;
- vii) The Capital Schemes of the General Fund and HRA as set out in Appendix 5 be approved;
- viii) The MTFP for 2026/27 to 2030/31 as set out in Table 7 be noted; and
- ix) The S151 Officer's statement on the robustness of the budget and the adequacy of reserves as set out in Section 13 of the report be noted.

83. PAY POLICY STATEMENT (2026/27)

Council gave consideration to the report and appendices (as set out at pages 147 – 160 of the agenda reports pack) which sought approval of the Pay Policy Statement (2026/27).

It was moved by Councillor K J Loydall, seconded by C J R Martin and

RESOLVED THAT:

- i) The Pay Policy Statement for 2026/2027 (as set out at Appendix 1) be approved; and
- ii) The cessation of paying the Real Living Wage for the reasons set out at Paragraph 2.5 be approved and revert back to paying the National Living Wage for 2026/2027.

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8.10 pm