

### **FC37. REVENUE BUDGET 2007/08 TO 2009/10**

With reference to Minute of Special Meeting of Policy and Resources Committee held on 7 February 2007 (Paragraph PR 104 refers), there was submitted joint Report (circulated) dated 26 January 2007 by the Chief Executive and Director of Finance (a) providing details of the Local Government Finance Settlement for the financial year 2007/08, and (b) detailing draft Service Revenue Budgets for 2007/08, proposed Council Tax levels for 2007/08 and summarising Falkirk Council's position in relation to Band D Council Tax levels throughout Scotland.

Councillor Alexander, seconded by Councillor Kenna moved acceptance of the recommendations detailed in the Report.

By way of an amendment, Councillor Gow, seconded by Councillor C Macdonald moved that (a) Council use £1 million from reserves to be invested in the roads and footpaths programme; (b) all charges at Meeks Road Car Park and Kemper Avenue Car Park be a flat rate of £1.00 per day, and (c) the charges for special uplifts be removed forthwith.

The Provost agreed to a short adjournment at 10.55 am to allow the terms of the amendment to be considered. The meeting reconvened at 11.10 am with all Members present as per the sederunt.

Councillor Buchanan gave notice of a further amendment.

Councillor G Goldie gave notice of second further amendment.

In terms of standing Order 21.4(i), a vote was taken by way of a roll call, there being 30 Members present with Members voting as undernoted.

For the Motion (17) – Provost Johnston; Depute Provost Wilson; Councillor Alexander, Anderson, Bryson, Coleman, H Constable, J Constable, Eaglesham, Graham, Kenna, A MacDonald, McCafferty, McNally, Patrick, Spears and Williamson.

For the Amendment (12) – Councillors Buchanan, Fowler, D Goldie, G Goldie, Gow, Hamid, Rev. Jenkinson, C MacDonald, Martin, Miller, Reid and Speirs.

Abstentions (1) – Councillor Wilson

Accordingly, the Motion was carried and became the substantive Motion.

Councillor Buchanan's further amendment was not seconded.

By way of further amendment, Councillor G Goldie, seconded by Councillor Speirs, moved that the proposed additional expenditure on roads and footpaths should be spread equally across all wards and that consideration be given to allocating further significant finance in future budgets ring fenced to bring roads and footpaths up to an acceptable standard.

Councillor Nicol entered the meeting during discussion on the foregoing amendment.

In terms of Standing Order 21.4(i), a vote was taken by way of a roll call, there being 31 Members present with Members voting as undernoted:-

For the substantive Motion (18) – Provost Johnston; Depute Provost Wilson; Councillor Alexander, Anderson, Bryson, Coleman, H Constable, J Constable, Eaglesham, Graham, Kenna, A MacDonald, McCafferty, McNally, Nicol, Patrick, Spears and Williamson.

For the Amendment (12) – Councillors Buchanan, Fowler, D Goldie, G Goldie, Gow, Hamid, Rev. Jenkinson, C MacDonald, Martin, Miller, Reid and Speirs.

Abstentions (1) – Councillor Wilson

Accordingly, **RESOLVED** that:-

- (1) Council accepts the Draft 2007/08 Budget as detailed in the Report;
- (2) estimated Expenditure for the financial year 2007/08 be set at £298.9m, before specific Grants of £21.9m, leaving net expenditure of £277.0m;
- (3) Council levies the following Council Tax for the year 2007/08:
  - (a) A Council Tax to be paid in respect of a chargeable dwelling in Band D of £1,070, an increase of £25 per annum (2.4%);
  - (b) A Council Tax to be paid in respect of a chargeable dwelling in each of the other valuation bands in accordance with Section 74 (1) of the Local Government Act 1992 (as set out in Appendix 3 of the Report)
- (4) Chief Officers be instructed to deliver services within the Revenue Budget allocated to each Service.