



MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CABINET HELD ON 22nd FEBRUARY 2018

PRESENT: Councillor D Cook (Chair), Councillors R Pritchard (Vice-Chair), S Claymore, S Doyle and M Thurgood

The following officers were present: John Wheatley (Executive Director Corporate Services), Rob Barnes (Executive Director Communities), Andrew Barratt (Chief Operating Officer), Stefan Garner (Director of Finance), Michael Buckland (Head of Revenues) and Matthew Fletcher (Economic Development Officer)

108 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no Apologies for Absence.

109 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the meeting held on 25th January 2018 were approved and signed as a correct record.

(Moved by Councillor R Pritchard and seconded by Councillor M Thurgood)

110 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest.

111 QUESTION TIME:

None.

112 MATTERS REFERRED TO THE CABINET IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PROCEDURE RULES

None.

113 CORPORATE VISION, PRIORITIES PLAN, BUDGET & MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2018/19

The report of The Leader of the Council proposed the **Vision Statement, Priority Themes, Corporate Priorities and Outcomes** and their inclusion in the **Corporate Plan and Support Service Plan**.

□ the recommendation package of budget proposals to enable the Council to agree the:

- General Fund (GF) Revenue Budget and Council Tax for 2018/19;
 - Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Budget for 2018/19;
 - 3 Year General Fund Capital Programme (2018/21);
 - 5 Year HRA Capital Programme (2018/23);
 - 3 Year General Fund Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) (2018/21);
- and
- 5 Year HRA Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) (2018/23).

□ Compliance with the requirement of the Council's Treasury Management Policy in reporting to Council the proposed strategy for the forthcoming year and the Local Government Act 2003 with the reporting of the Prudential Indicators.

RESOLVED: The Committee moved all recommendations within the report.

1. the Vision Statement, Priority Themes, Corporate Priorities and Outcomes for 2018/19.
2. the proposed revisions to Service Revenue Budgets (Policy Changes).
3. the sum of £80,065 be applied from Council Tax Collection Fund surpluses in reducing the Council Tax demand in 2018/19.
4. the sum of £222,336 be applied to Business Rates Collection Fund deficits in 2018/19.
5. that on 30th November 2017, the Cabinet calculated the Council Tax Base 2018/19 for the whole Council area as 21,438 [Item T in the formula in Section 31B(3) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended (the "Act")]
6. that the Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2018/19 is £3,681,977.
7. the following amounts as calculated for the year 2018/19 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Act:

- a. £53,144,554 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) of the Act (Outgoings excluding internal GF Recharges).
 - b. £49,462,577 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act (Income excluding internal GF Recharges);
 - c. £3,681,977 being the amount by which the aggregate at 7(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 7(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 31A(4) of the Act);
 - d. £171.75 being the amount at 7(c) above (Item R), all divided by Item T (at 5 above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B(1) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year.
8. the Council Tax level for the Borough Council for 2018/19 of £171.75 (an increase of £5.00 (3.0%) on the 2017/18 level of £166.75) at Band D.
 9. an aggregate Council Tax (comprising the respective demands of the Borough Council, Staffordshire County Council, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Authority) of £1,648.36 at Band D for 2018/19 be noted (£1,562.01 in 2017/18).
 10. the Council Tax levels at each band for 2018/19.
 11. the sum of £3,077,541 be transferred from General Fund Revenue Balances in 2018/19.
 12. the Summary General Fund Revenue Budget for 2018/19.
 13. the Provisional Budgets for 2018/19 to 2020/21, summarised at Appendix G, as the basis for future planning.
 14. minimum level for balances of £500k to be held for each of the General Fund, Housing Revenue Account, General Capital Fund and Housing Capital Fund.
 15. Cabinet be authorised to release funding from the General Contingency budget and that the release of funding for Specific Contingency items be delegated to the Corporate Management Team in consultation with the Leader of the Council.
 16. proposed HRA Expenditure level of £15,912,710 for 2018/19.
 17. rents for Council House Tenants in General Accommodation for 2018/19 be set at an average of £85.85 (2017/18 £86.72),

- over a 48 week rent year (including the required 1% reduction)
18. rents for Council House Tenants due for 52 weeks in 2018/19 be collected over 48 weeks.
 19. the HRA deficit of £3,805,820 be financed through a transfer from Housing Revenue Account Balances in 2018/19.
 20. the proposed 3 year General Fund Capital Programme of £17.749m.
 21. the proposed 5 year Housing Capital Programme of £41.940m.
 22. to delegate authority to Cabinet to approve/add new capital schemes to the capital programme where grant funding is received or there is no net additional cost to the Council.
 23. the Treasury Management Strategy Statement, the Treasury Management Policy Statement, Minimum Revenue Provision Strategy and Annual Investment Statement 2018/19.
 24. the Prudential and Treasury Indicators and Limits for 2018/19 to 2019/20.
 25. adoption of the Treasury Management Practices contained within ANNEX 8.
 26. the detailed criteria of the Investment Strategy 2018/19 contained in the Treasury Management Strategy within ANNEX 4.
 27. the adoption of the revised CIPFA Prudential code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities (Prudential Code) and Treasury Management in the Public Services Code of Practice and Cross-Sectoral Guidance Notes (Treasury Management Code).
 28. endorse the action taken (under the MIFID II regulations) to opt up to professional status, so that we may continue to use the full range of investments.
 29. to endorse the approach taken in the selection of Property Funds and approve investment in those property funds, making use of both primary and secondary markets as appropriate, at the discretion of the Executive Director Corporate Services and Director of Finance.

(Moved by Councillor D Cook and endorsed by Councillor R Pritchard)

114 WRITE OFFS 01/04/17 - 31/12/17

The Report of the Portfolio Holder for Assets and Finance proposed that Members endorse the amount of debt written off for the period 01 April 2017 to 31 December 2017.

RESOLVED: The Committee endorsed the amount of debt written off for the period 01 April 2017 to 31 December 2017.

(Moved by Councillor R Pritchard and endorsed by Councillor D Cook)

115 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That members of the press and public be now excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item on the grounds that the business involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

(Moved by Councillor R Pritchard and seconded by Councillor D Cook)

116 TAMWORTH ENTERPRISE CENTRE BUDGET AND BUSINESS PLAN

The Report of the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration was considered.

RESOLVED: The Committee:-

1. Endorsed the 4 year business plan as detailed and appended.
2. Endorsed the budget forecast outlined in the business plan.
3. Noted the variance between current base budget and expected outturn and endorse the actions detailed in the report to mitigate the impact.

(Moved by Councillor S Claymore and seconded by Councillor D Cook)

117 TAMWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL GRANT TO SAMARITANS UPDATE AND FUTURE AWARD

The Report of the Portfolio Holder for Communities and Wellbeing was considered.

RESOLVED: The Committee:-

1. Authorised officers to waive financial regulations and issue a grant to Tamworth Samaritans to the value of **£7,000 for the** year April 2018 to March 2019.
2. Delegated authority to the Executive Director of Communities in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Communities to manage the grant including any variations during the term of the grant.

(Moved by Councillor S Doyle and seconded by Councillor D Cook)

118 COUNCIL HOUSING REPAIRS DELIVERY OPTIONS

The Report of the Portfolio Holder for Housing Services was considered.

RESOLVED: The Committee:

1. Acknowledged the debate undertaken by Corporate Scrutiny in relation to discussing the options on 31st January 2018; noting that they support the recommendations being presented in the report.
2. Endorsed an extension to the Wates Living Space contract from 31st March 2019 until 31st March 2020, on existing terms, allowing for further exploration of opportunities identified with the setting up of either an in-house contractor or procuring a long-term managed contract.
3. Recognised the commercial opportunities contained within Arks independent report into the future delivery options for the repairs and investment service.
4. Delegated authority to the Executive Director of Communities, in consultation with Portfolio Holder for Housing and Executive Director of Corporate Services to agree a detailed project and resourcing plan that enables a final decision to be taken on the financial and commercial viability of an in-house contractor by calendar year end (December 2018) when compared to traditional procurement of longer term managed contract.
5. Agreed the principle work-streams identified within the report, which includes the commissioning of an up-to-date stock

condition survey that will allow, as far as practically possible, the Council to test all the financial assumptions made to make a final decision on the future repairs and investment delivery vehicle for its council owned stock.

6. Requested a Temporary Reserve for £150k be created from current underspends on the Housing Repairs Account to meet the costs of the workstream identified in the report.

(Moved by Councillor M Thurgood and seconded by Councillor D Cook)

Leader