

MINUTES OF CABINET

28TH NOVEMBER 2016

PRESENT:

Councillors Stokes (Chairman), Leigh Hunt, Mrs Parker and Mrs Timms.

Councillors Ms Edwards, Mrs O'Rourke and Sandison were also in attendance.

63. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 31st October 2016 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

64. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence from the meeting were received from Councillors Ms Robbins and Roodhouse.

65. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Item 10 of Part 1 – SLA Grant Funding for community associations (2017/18 and 2018/19) and one-off community grants (2017/18) – Councillor Ms Edwards (non-pecuniary interest as defined by the Council's Code of Conduct for Councillors by virtue of being a member of Brownsover Community Association and Secretary of Newbold Community Partnership).

Item 10 of Part 1 – SLA Grant Funding for community associations (2017/18 and 2018/19) and one-off community grants (2017/18) – Councillor Mrs O'Rourke (non-pecuniary interest as defined by the Council's Code of Conduct for Councillors by virtue of being Chair of Long Lawford Partnership, Chair of REAP and her involvement with the Benn Partnership).

Item 10 of Part 1 – SLA Grant Funding for community associations (2017/18 and 2018/19) and one-off community grants (2017/18) – Councillor Sandison (non-pecuniary interest as defined by the Council's Code of Conduct for Councillors by virtue of being a trustee of Fareham Youth Trust).

66. QUESTION TIME

There were no questions.

Corporate Resources Portfolio

67. DRAFT GENERAL FUND REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGET 2017/18 AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2017-20

Cabinet considered the report of the Head of Corporate Resources and Chief Financial Officer (Part 1 – agenda item 5) concerning the draft General Fund revenue and capital budget position for 2017/18 alongside the 2017-120 Medium Term Financial Plan.

RESOLVED THAT –

- (1) the draft General Fund Revenue and Capital Budget position for 2017/18 be noted alongside the Council's 2017-20 Medium Term Financial Plan;
- (2) Cabinet continues to consider the key decisions detailed within the report and identifies alternative income/savings sources to replace any items that are not to be included within the 2017/18 revenue budgets; and
- (3) a detailed scheme by scheme review of the items in the Capital Programme be continued in order to rationalise the overall programme in terms of affordability and sustainability.

68. FINANCE AND PERFORMANCE MONITORING 2016/17 – QUARTER 2

Cabinet considered the report of the Head of Corporate Resources and Chief Financial Officer (Part 1 – agenda item 6) concerning the Council's anticipated financial position for 2016/17 and performance monitoring information for the second quarter of 2016/17.

RESOLVED THAT –

- (1) the Council's anticipated financial position for 2016/17 be noted;
- (2) the Council's performance monitoring information for the second quarter of 2016/17 be noted;
- (3) a General Fund revenue contribution to Corporate Savings of £39,450 from salary savings as a result of the Senior Management Restructure be noted; and
- (4) IT BE RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL THAT -
 - (a) a General Fund revenue budget virement to Corporate Savings of £90,000 from Refuse and Recycling be approved, in relation to savings achieved through reduced charges from April to September 2016;
 - (b) a carry forward of General Fund capital budget of £347,000 be approved to 2017/18 for the Carbon Management Plan – Solar PV installation at RAGML/QDJLC;
 - (c) a supplementary HRA capital budget of £103,500 be approved for 2016/17 for the Purchase of Vehicles for the Property Repairs Team to be met from HRA balances and a corresponding reduction to the General Fund capital budget;
 - (d) a carry forward of General Fund capital budget of £251,960 be approved to 2017/18 for the Purchase of Vehicles;
 - (e) a supplementary General Fund capital budget of £142,000 be approved for 2016/17 for Disabled Facilities Grants to be met from additional external funding; and

- (f) a carry forward of HRA capital budget of £640,000 be approved to 2017/18 to facilitate the completion of Housing Window Replacement programme in spring 2017.

69. LOCAL COUNCIL TAX REDUCTION SCHEME 2017/18

Cabinet considered the report of the Head of Corporate Resources and Chief Financial Officer (Part 1 – agenda item 7) concerning the adoption of the Council's Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme for 2017/18.

RESOLVED THAT – the draft Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme be amended, as detailed in the report, and adopted as the Council's Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme for 2017/18.

Note: this decision is not subject to call-in.

Communities and Homes Portfolio

70. DRAFT HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT CAPITAL AND REVENUE BUDGETS 2017/18 AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2017-21

Cabinet considered the report of the Head of Communities and Homes and Head of Corporate Resources and Chief Financial Officer (Part 1 – agenda item 8) concerning the draft Housing Revenue Account capital and revenue budgets for 2017/18 alongside the Medium Term Financial Plan for 2017-21.

RESOLVED THAT –

- (1) the draft revenue and capital budgets at Appendices A and B be noted; and
- (2) a draft Disposals Strategy be established for consideration and approval following the publication of final details of the Vacant High Value Local Authority Housing policy.

71. CONTRACTS WITH CHARITIES 2017/19

Cabinet considered the report of the Communities and Homes Portfolio Holder (Part 1 – agenda item 9) concerning the implementation of contracts with charities for 2017-19.

RESOLVED THAT -

- (1) the Council follows a tendering process to secure the following services from the voluntary and community sector for 2-years, starting April 2017, with an option to extend for a further 2 years:
 - (a) the provision of support to increase the resilience of community and voluntary organisations in Rugby, with a particular emphasis on risk identification and support in managing the risks identified
 - (b) the provision of advice and support to Rugby's residents to prevent their falling into crisis. The main catalysts for this are issues relating to – housing, legal, financial, domestic and consumer issues; and

- (2) in addition, service level agreements (which will be compliant with procurement requirements due to the relatively modest amounts involved) be:
- (a) established with Bareboards to provide support for the poorest and most vulnerable customers in obtaining start-up furniture packages for their tenancy (both council and private-rented sector tenancies). Funding to be capped at £1,500 per annum for two-years, depending on on-going budget approval; and
 - (b) maintained with the Rugby Foodbank for £2,500 per annum for two-years, depending on on-going budget approval.

Note: this decision is not subject to call-in.

72. SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT GRANT FUNDING FOR COMMUNITY ASSOCIATIONS (2017/18 AND 2018/19) AND ONE-OFF COMMUNITY GRANTS (2017/18)

Cabinet considered the report of the Communities and Homes Portfolio Holder (Part 1 – agenda item 10) concerning service level agreement grant funding allocations for community associations for 2017-19 and one off grants for 2017/18.

RESOLVED THAT - IT BE RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL THAT -

- (1) the service level agreement grant funding allocations for the community associations for 2017/19 be agreed, as identified in table 1, subject to budget availability;
- (2) the proposals related to the Council's one-off grant funds, as identified in table 2, be endorsed for implementation in 2017/18; and
- (3) the discontinued grant to RELATE (Rugby and NE Warwickshire) be reallocated to the Grants to Voluntary and Community Organisations from 2017/18 onwards.

73. CONTROL CENTRE LIFELINE SERVICE – PURCHASE OF REPLACEMENT HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE SYSTEMS

Cabinet considered the report of the Head of Communities and Homes (Part 1 – agenda item 11) concerning the replacement of hardware and software systems for the Control Centre lifeline service.

RESOLVED THAT - IT BE RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL THAT a HRA Capital budget of £71,000 be approved for replacement hardware and software systems for the control centre's lifeline service, including the replacement of 300 lifelines to be met from existing HRA capital and revenue funding as detailed in the report.

Note: this decision is not subject to call-in.

Items considered en bloc

74. TREASURY MANAGEMENT REPORT 2016/17 – PROGRESS REPORT

Cabinet considered the report of the Head of Corporate Resources and Chief Financial Officer (Part 1 – agenda item 12) concerning progress on the Council's treasury management activities for the first half of 2016/17.

RESOLVED THAT –

- (1) the report be noted; and
- (2) the monitoring and review of the treasury management indicators be agreed.

75. CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2017/18

Cabinet considered the report of the Executive Director (Part 1 – agenda item 13) concerning the proposed calendar of meetings for 2017/18.

RESOLVED THAT – IT BE RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL THAT the calendar of meetings for 2017/18 be approved.

76. APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES – MISCELLANEOUS APPOINTMENTS

Cabinet considered the report of the Executive Director (Part 1 – agenda item 14) concerning the appointment of a Council representative to the Trustees of Hillmorton Charities.

RESOLVED THAT – Mr W Goodman be re-appointed to the Trustees of Hillmorton Charities for a further four year term of office expiring on 28th November 2020.

CHAIRMAN