

Minutes of the meeting of the Resources & Policy Committee held at Birchwood Leisure Centre, Longmead, Hatfield on Wednesday 23rd January 2019 at 19:30.

PRESENT: Councillor L. Mendez – Vice Chairman in the Chair
Councillor F. Bowron
Councillor L. Brandon
Councillor P. Knott
Councillor J. Nelson
Councillor G. Wiltshire
ALSO PRESENT: Councillor J. Broach
Councillor M. Eames-Petersen
Councillor K. Holman
OFFICERS: C. Lloyd (Town Clerk)

44. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor J. Fitzpatrick, Councillor S. Jones.

45. QUESTIONS

There were none.

46. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

47. MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 21st November 2018 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

48. BUDGET 2019/20

Members noted the draft budget and Special Expenses as circulated.

Members noted the following under Local Government Finance Act 1992 Section 50 Calculation of budget requirement;

(1) In relation to each financial year a local precepting authority shall make the calculations required by this section.

(2) The authority must calculate the aggregate of –

(a) the expenditure the authority estimates it will incur in the year in performing its functions and will charge to a revenue account for the year;

(b) such allowance as the authority estimates will be appropriate for contingencies in relation to expenditure to be charged to a revenue account for the year;

- (c) the financial reserves which the authority estimates it will be appropriate to raise in the year for meeting its estimated future expenditure; and
- (d) such financial reserves as are sufficient to meet so much of the amount estimated by the authority to be a revenue account deficit for any earlier financial year as has not already been provided for.

These were shown on the budget papers circulated with the agenda.

- (3) The authority must calculate the aggregate of -
 - (a) the sums which it estimates will be payable to it for the year and in respect of which amounts will be credited to a revenue account for the year, other than sums which it estimates will be so payable in respect of any precept issued by it; and
 - (b) the amount of the financial reserves which the authority estimates that it will use in order to provide for the items mentioned in paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (2) above.
- (4) If the aggregate calculated under subsection (2) above exceeds that calculated under subsection (3) above, the authority must calculate the amount equal to the difference; and the amount so calculated shall be its budget requirement for the year.
- (5) For the purposes of subsection (2)(c) above an authority's estimated future expenditure is -
 - (a) that which the authority estimates it will incur in the financial year following the year in question, will charge to a revenue account for the year and will have to defray in the year before the following sums are sufficiently available, namely, sums -
 - (i) which will be payable to it for the year; and
 - (ii) in respect of which amounts will be credited to a revenue account for the year; and
 - (b) that which the authority estimates it will incur in the financial year referred to in paragraph (a) above or any subsequent financial year in performing its functions and which will be charged to a revenue account for that or any other year.

On 4th October 2017 Members had considered the Reserves Policy for the Medium Term. The proposed Budget worked with that Policy and the Council's future medium and long term plans to provide a balanced budget placing money into reserves for capital expenditure plans for the future whilst adequately providing for revenue expenditure in 2019/20 and keeping the precept at 0% increase.

RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL that the precept for the year 2019/20 be set at £829,405. The Band D equivalent would be £71.54.

The meeting adjourned at 8pm so that Council could consider the above recommendation.

The meeting reconvened at 8.05pm.

(Action: Town Clerk)

49. A414 CONSULTATION

Members considered the consultation. Concern was expressed at the intention to remove one lane of the Comet Way. It was considered essential that this remained dual carriage way because of the business park. Members further considered that the quarries being created needed to be considered as they were feeding extra vehicles onto the A414 and additional entrances needed creating onto the A414.

RESOLVED that Members views be conveyed as detailed in the preamble to this minute.

(Action: Town Clerk)

50. CATERING TRAILER

Members considered the trailer for events.

RESOLVED that up to £5,000 be spent on a catering trailer for the Town Council.

(Action: Town Clerk)

51. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Noted that the next meeting of the Committee will take place on 12th June 2019 at 7.30pm.

52. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED that the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business;

- (i) Financial Matters – Lemsford Hall Extension
- (ii) Property Matters – Financial reports
- (iii) Integrated Risk Management Plan

53. LEMSFORD HALL EXTENSION

Members considered the three quotes received to prepare plans and tenders for the new extension at Lemsford Village Hall.

RESOLVED that the contract be awarded to Saunders Architects (quote B) for £34,250 plus survey costs.

54. LEMS福德 CHANGING ROOM UPDATES

Members considered the 3D drawings for the new extension and noted that the next stage was to prepare plans and go out to tender.

55. CASH FLOW REPORT

Members were circulated with the cash flow report at Appendix A to these minutes.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

(Action: Head of Operations)

56. FIRE AND RESCUE INTEGRATED RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN

Members noted that the Town Council's objection to the amalgamation of the Fire and Police Services appeared to have been ignored RESOLVED that every effort be made to ensure that the Council's objection to the Plan continue to be made.

(Action: Town Clerk)

Closure 8.32pm

Chairman