

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE POLICY, FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
HELD AT THE COUNCIL OFFICES, BUSHLOE HOUSE, STATION ROAD, WIGSTON,
LEICESTERSHIRE, LE18 2DR ON TUESDAY, 6 DECEMBER 2022
COMMENCING AT 7.00 PM

PRESENT

M H Charlesworth Chair



Meeting ID: 2278

COUNCILLORS

N Alam
J W Boyce
Mrs H E Darling JP
Mrs S Z Haq
Miss P V Joshi
J Kaufman
Mrs L Kaufman
K J Loydall
D W Loydall
Mrs S B Morris

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

S J Ball	Legal & Democratic Services Manager / Deputy Monitoring Officer
T Bingham	Strategic Director / Section 151 Officer
P Fisher	Strategic Director
D M Gill	Head of Law & Democracy / Monitoring Officer
T Hatton	Head of Customer Service & Transformation
R Sohal	Finance Manager
A Thorpe	Head of Built Environment

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Cllr G A Boulter (Attended Remotely)

47. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Councillors L A Bentley, F S Broadley, Mrs L M Broadley, D A Gamble and Dr I K Ridley.

Councillor G A Boulter attended the meeting remotely, but in accordance with the provisions in the Local Government Act 1972, was not considered present for the purposes of voting.

48. APPOINTMENT OF SUBSTITUTES

None.

49. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

50. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

By affirmation of the meeting, it was

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 15 November 2022 be taken as read, confirmed and signed.

51. ACTION LIST ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

By affirmation of the meeting, it was

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

The Action List arising from the previous meeting held on 15 November 2022 be noted.

52. PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS

None.

53. ETHICAL STANDARDS AND INDICATORS (Q2 2022/23)

The Committee gave consideration to the report and appendix (as set out at pages 8 – 18 of the main agenda reports pack) which provided Members with the figures for the local determination of complaints and ethical indicators for Q2 2022-23.

By affirmation of the meeting, it was

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

The content of the report and appendix be noted.

54. TREASURY MANAGEMENT ANNUAL REPORT (2021/22)

The Committee gave consideration to the report and appendices (as set out at pages 19 - 34 of the agenda reports pack) which provided details regarding the performance and activities of the authority's treasury management function for the financial year 2021/22.

The Committee was asked to note that the total figures produced in the table at Appendix 1 (at page 25) were incorrect and should read '184' for 'Cumulative No. of Investments In Year' and '£103,061' for 'Total Value Invested in Year' respectively.

By affirmation of the meeting, it was

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

The content of the report and appendices be noted.

55. BUDGET MONITORING (Q2 2022/23)

The Committee gave consideration to the report and appendix (as set out at pages 3 - 17 of the first agenda update reports pack) which provided an update on the forecast

financial position for the Council for the financial year 2022/23, as at the end of Q2 2022/23.

It was moved by the Chair, seconded by Councillor K J Loydall and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

- (i) The contents of the report and appendix be noted; and**
 - (ii) The decisions of the Section 151 Officer to repurpose earmarked reserves back to General Unallocated General Fund and Housing Revenue Account reserves (as set out in section 6 of the report) be ratified.**
-

The following postscript explanations of the 'other' variances included in Budget Monitoring (Q2 2022/23) for inclusion in these minutes was agreed with the Chair.

The Built Environment

- Homelessness – additional pressures on the service in relation to emergency accommodation and underachievement of salary savings previously reported - £20k
- Environmental Strategy – Inclusion of Shared Services Officer post - £18k
- Private Sector Housing - Repayment of improvement grants forecast to underachieve against budgeted level. Improvement grants are required to be repaid if the resident moves within a set timeframe, therefore the level of repayments received is unpredictable - £11k

Customer Services and Transformation

- Corporate Projects - This is an accounting adjustment; the variance will be reversed in the following period – £39k

56. LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME (WINTER 2022)

The Committee gave consideration to the report and appendix (as set out at pages 35 - 54 of the agenda reports pack) which illustrated the proposed revised timetable for the Council's new Local Plan process and asked it to approved Local Development Scheme for 2022.

It was moved by the Chair, seconded by Councillor J W Boyce and

RESOLVED THAT:

- (i) The content of the report be noted; and**
- (ii) The Local Development Scheme 2022 (as set out in Appendix 1) be approved.**

Votes For	9
Votes Against	0
Abstentions	2

57. 2023/24 DRAFT REVENUE BUDGET, MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN AND 2023/24 - 2025/26 DRAFT CAPITAL PROGRAMMES

The Committee gave consideration to the report and appendices (as set out at pages 55 -

102 of the agenda reports pack) together with the updated appendix (as set out at pages 3 - 27 of the second agenda update reports pack) which asked the Committee to recommend to Council the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account revenue budget proposals and the Draft Capital Programmes for consultation.

It was moved by the Chair, seconded by Councillor K J Loydall and

RESOLVED THAT:

- (i) A recommendation to increase Council Tax by the core referendum limit of 2.99%, from the options as set out in Table 4 in the report, be approved;**
- (ii) A recommendation to increase Rents by the maximum social rent level of 7%, from the options as set out in Table 5 in the report, be approved;**
- (iii) Having approved the recommendations as set out above, the draft revenue budgets for 2023/24 and Draft Capital Programmes 2023/24 – 2025/26 for statutory consultation be recommend to Council; and**
- (iv) The indicative assurance statement provided by the Section 151 Officer be noted.**

Votes For	9
Votes Against	2
Abstentions	0

58. COMMITTEE WORK PLAN (2022 - 2023)

By affirmation of the meeting, it was

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

The Committee Work Plan (2022-23) as at 29 November 2022 be noted.

59. BROCKS HILL - BUDGET UPDATE (URGENT ITEM)

Under section 100B(4)(B) of the Local Government Act 1972, by reason of special circumstance, in that an additional item of business needed to be considered before the next meeting of the Committee.

The Chair was of the opinion that an urgent item of business regarding a budget update on the ongoing Brocks Hill re-location project was be considered at this meeting as a matter of urgency as a decision was required so not to unduly delay the construction work schedule.

The Committee gave consideration to the urgent item report (as set out at pages 3 -6 of the third agenda update reports pack) provided an update on the overall budget position and sought approval of a supplementary budget.

It was moved by the Chair, seconded by Councillor J W Boyce and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

- (i) A supplementary budget of £210,000 to cover the cost of the works outlined in paragraph 1.3 of the report be approved;**
- (ii) It be noted that if the contingency budget remains unspent, or spent in part, at the end of the project, then the monies left in the contingency**

- budget will be used to fund the costs of the works outlined in paragraph 1.3 of the report, thus reducing or eliminating the need to spend the supplementary budget; and
- (iii) The update on the overall budget position be noted.

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8.36 pm



Chair / Vice-Chair

Tuesday, 7 February 2023

Printed and published by Democratic Services, Oadby and Wigston Borough Council, Council Offices, Station Road, Wigston, Leicestershire, LE18 2DR