

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE POLICY, FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
HELD AT THE COUNCIL OFFICES, STATION ROAD, WIGSTON ON TUESDAY, 26 MARCH
2019 COMMENCING AT 7.00 PM**

PRESENT

Councillor Mrs S B Morris (Chair)
Councillor D A Gamble (Vice Chair)

COUNCILLORS

L A Bentley	H E Loydall	(Left 7.30 pm)
G A Boulter	K J Loydall	(Left 7.30 pm)
J W Boyce	Samia Z Haq	(Left 7.30 pm)
Mrs L M Broadley	Lynda Eaton JP	(Left 7.30 pm)
F S Broadley		
M L Darr		
B Dave		
R F Eaton		
J Kaufman		
Mrs L Kaufman		
Dr T K Khong		
R E R Morris		

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

S J Ball	(Senior Democratic Services Officer / Legal Officer)
Mrs A E Court	(Chief Executive / Head of Paid Service)
S Hinds	(Director of Finance & Transformation / Section 151 Officer)
A Thorpe	(Head of Planning, Development & Regeneration)
S Tucker	(Democratic & Electoral Services Manager)

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

G Patterson	(External Auditor, Grant Thornton)
T Ridout	(Internal Auditor, CW Audit Services)

64. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Councillor E R Barr.

65. APPOINTMENT OF SUBSTITUTES

None.

66. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

67. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

By affirmation of the meeting, it was

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

The minutes of the meeting of the previous Committee held on 5 February 2019

be taken as read, confirmed and signed.

68. ACTION LIST ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

By affirmation of the meeting, it was

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

The Action List arising from the meeting of the previous Committee held on 5 February 2019 be read, confirmed and noted.

69. PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS

None.

70. PROPOSED CORPORATE PLAN (2019-2024)

It was moved by the Chair, seconded by the Vice-Chair and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

Under Rule 22.1 of the Constitution, the Council's Rules of Procedure, specifically Rule 4.4, be suspended for the duration of the ensuing item of business only to allow Members who do not ordinarily sit on the Committee to otherwise be entitled to vote and take part in the discussion thereon.

The Committee received the report as set out on pages 9-46 of the agenda, which asked it to consider and approve the proposed Corporate Plan 2019-2024, to be implemented from 1 April 2019.

The Chief Executive provided the Committee with a brief overview of the Plan, which had been modified to take account of feedback received by Change Management Committee at its meeting on 5 March 2019.

The Committee welcomed the Plan and stated that it was appropriate that the Council should set out a comprehensive vision for the next 5 years accompanied by realistic targets. In particular, Members felt that the Plan outlined a range of positive aspirations, in contrast to the somewhat negative political mood nationally.

A Member of the Committee suggested that with the Council being a major purchaser of goods and services in the Borough, the Plan should demonstrate a clearer commitment under the Localism Act to procure local services as far as possible to ensure investment stays within the community. It was confirmed by Officers that whilst the Council's has a Procurement Strategy that deals with this area, a line could be inserted into the Plan reaffirming the position.

A Member of the Committee noted the commitments made in the Plan to deliver redevelopment projects at Paddock Street and Sandhurst Street, and suggested that in order to ensure that parking capacity is maintained there should be a Car Park Strategy agreed before any development is permitted to commence. Other Committee Members disagreed with the view that such a strategy should be in place at the beginning of the process, as the Council had already committed to retaining existing levels of parking provision and did not wish to see this reduced. Instead, it was suggested that the strategy for parking provision in these developments would arise and evolve out of discussions with the developer(s) at the design stage.

A Member of the Committee welcomed the commitment in Corporate Objective Three to 'Providing Excellent Services' but noted that there was no target in place whereby the commitment to investing in the Council's workforce was to be measured. It was also suggested that a commitment should be made to ensuring appropriate Member development through a coordinated training programme.

A motion to amend the Corporate Plan was put to the vote and it was

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

A target be introduced to the Corporate Plan to measure the Council's commitment to investing in its workforce, and a further commitment be made to ensuring appropriate Member training and development.

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

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

- (i) The new proposed Corporate Plan for the period 2019 to 2024 be approved and implemented as from 1 April 2019; and**
- (ii) The Corporate Plan be a working document with at least an annual review by the Policy, Finance and Development Committee on the progress of the Plan's key objectives and whether there needs to be any amendments to the Plan as it evolves.**

71. EXTERNAL AUDIT PLAN (2018/19)

The Committee received the report as set out on pages 47-63 of the agenda, which asked it to note the details of the Council's External Audit Plan covering the 2018/19 Accounts and Financial Statements.

Mr Grant Patterson from Grant Thornton provided the Committee with a brief overview of the report.

A Member of the Committee noted that the services of Grant Thornton had been procured at a significantly reduced fee in comparison to the previous provider, and therefore sought reassurance that this would not translate into a reduced level of service than that delivered under the previous contract. Mr Patterson provided an assurance that through efficient and established working practices, Members could be confident of service delivery being maintained whilst providing value for money.

It was moved by the Chair, seconded by the Vice-Chair and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

The contents of the report and appendix be noted.

72. INTERNAL AUDIT OPERATIONAL PLAN (2019/20)

The Committee received the report as set out on pages 64-89 of the agenda, which asked it to approve the Internal Audit Operational Plan for 2019/20.

Mr Tim Ridout, Chief Internal Auditor at CW Audit Services provided the Committee with a brief summary of the report.

A Member of the Committee noted that it was unclear what the colours used in the Strategic Risk Register at Appendix 2 were intended to denote. The Director of Finance and Transformation confirmed that a revised version of the Risk Register with clearer colours and a legend explaining each of their meanings was now available on the web version of the agenda on the Council's website.

It was moved by the Chair, seconded by the Vice-Chair and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

The Internal Audit Operational Plan for 2019/20 be approved.

73. REGULATION OF INVESTIGATORY POWERS ACT 2000 (RIPA) POLICY (MARCH 2019)

The Committee received the report as set out on pages 90-149 of the agenda, which asked it to approve and adopt updated policies in relation to directed surveillance and covert human intelligence sources on the use of powers under the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 (RIPA).

The Democratic & Electoral Services Manager provided the Committee with a brief summary of the report.

A Member of the Committee noted that in respect of the draft Standards and Ethical Indicators Report template, the Committee would receive details of the number recommendations made to improve governance policies/procedures, as well as the number of these recommendations successfully implemented. It was suggested that in order for Members to divulge this information more clearly, the report template should include a recommendation tracker to keep the Committee informed of progress made in implementing recommendations, along with commentary/explanation for any recommendations not implemented.

It was moved by the Chair, seconded by the Vice-Chair and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

- (i) The contents of the report and appendices be noted;**
- (ii) The Directed Surveillance Policy be approved; and**
- (iii) The Covert Human Intelligence Sources Policy be approved.**

74. NAMING OF NEW PAVILION BUILDING, HORSEWELL LANE

The Committee received the report as set out on pages 150-152 of the agenda, which asked it to agree the proposed name for the new pavilion building at Horsewell Lane, along with names for the large and small community rooms within the building.

It was moved by L A Bentley, seconded by the Chair and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

- (i) The new pavilion building at Horsewell Lane be named the 'Thythorn Hill Community and Sports Centre';**
- (ii) The large community room within the new pavilion building be named the 'Jean Crane Hall'; and**
- (iii) The small community room within the new pavilion building be named**

the 'Dan Shirley' room.

75. SERVICE DELIVERY UPDATE (MARCH 2019) (VERBAL UPDATE)

The Committee received a brief verbal report from the Chair of Service Delivery Committee, detailing the progress made on a number of projects since the last meeting of the Committee in January 2019.

It was requested that a full report concerning the new Housing Tenancy Agreement be taken to the next meeting of Full Council on 16 April 2019 for approval.

It was moved by the Chair, seconded by the Vice-Chair and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

The contents of the verbal update be noted.

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8.15 PM



Chair

Tuesday, 11 June 2019

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