

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE POLICY, FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE  
HELD AT THE COUNCIL OFFICES, STATION ROAD, WIGSTON ON TUESDAY, 11  
FEBRUARY 2020 COMMENCING AT 7.00 PM**

**PRESENT**

Dr I K Ridley Vice-Chair, in the Chair  
Mrs L Kaufman Vice-Chair, Acting



**COUNCILLORS**

N Alam  
L A Bentley  
G A Boulter  
J W Boyce  
Miss P V Joshi  
J Kaufman  
K J Loydall JP  
D W Loydall

**OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE**

D M Gill Head of Law & Democracy / Monitoring Officer  
C Mason Chief Finance Officer / Section 151 Officer  
C Raymakers Financial Services Manager  
S Tucker Democratic & Electoral Services Manager / Deputy Monitoring Officer

**48. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

An apology for absence was received from Councillors Mrs L M Broadley, M L Darr, R F Eaton, Mrs L Eaton JP and D A Gamble.

It was moved by J W Boyce, seconded by K J Loydall JP and

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:**

**Councillor Mrs L Kaufman assume the role Vice-Chair for the duration of the meeting.**

**49. APPOINTMENT OF SUBSTITUTES**

None.

**50. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

**51. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

By affirmation of the meeting, it was

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:**

**The minutes of the previous meeting held on 26 November 2019 be taken as**

read, confirmed and signed.

**52. PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS**

None.

**53. 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 on 26 November 2019 be deferred for consideration at the next standard quarterly-reporting meeting on 10 March 2020.**

In accordance with Rule 6.3 of Part 4 of the Constitution, the Chair moved for the order of business to be altered and taken in the order as reflected in the minutes.

By affirmation of the meeting, it was

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:**

**The order of business be altered and taken accordingly.**

**54. FINANCIAL OUTTURN REPORT (Q3 2019/20)**

The Committee gave consideration to the report and appendices (as set out on pages 105 - 113 of the agenda reports pack) which asked it to note the overall Council position for the financial year 2019/20 at the end of the third quarter for both Revenue and Capital expenditure.

The Committee requested that a report on absence management be provided to a future meeting of an appropriate Committee, in particular with a focus on sickness rates for Depot based staff.

It was moved by Councillor J Kaufman, seconded by the Chair and

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:**

**The content of the report be noted.**

**55. DRAFT 2020/21 BUDGET (INCLUDING APPROVAL OF COUNCIL TAX) & MEDIUM-TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY (2021/22 TO 2024/25)**

The Committee gave consideration to the report and appendix (as set out on pages 5 - 104 of the agenda reports pack) which asked it to recommend to Full Council the draft Budget 2020/21 (including approval of Council Tax) and Medium Term Financial Strategy (2021/22 to 2024/25).

The Committee requested that further consideration at a future Committee be given to the proposal to generate savings from moving to a digital-only version of Letterbox, citing concerns that certain groups of residents in the Borough rely upon receiving a hard copy of the publication for information about Council services and consultations.

The Committee also requested that an update be provided to a future meeting of Service Delivery Committee on the progress that has been made since the cleaning contract was brought back in house.

An amendment was moved by Councillor K J Loydall JP and seconded by Councillor G A Boulter, proposing that in respect of recommendation A, the words "and to develop options on the Council's housing stock" be deleted.

The amendment was put to the vote and was carried.

<b>Votes For</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Votes Against</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Abstentions</b>	<b>0</b>

The recommendations (as amended) were then put to the vote en bloc and it was

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:**

**(i) Members recommend to Full Council:**

- **the savings, income and growth proposals (para 3.1 – 3.7);**
- **the Consolidated 2020/21 Budget and Medium Term Financial Strategy (2020/21 to 2024/25); including a 2020/21 Council Tax of £229.50 (Band D equivalent; reflecting an increase of £5) (para 3.8 – 3.11, and Table 6 & 7);**
- **The Revenue Reserves position and the use of Reserves to meet the estimated budget deficit of £100,951. (section 4, and Table 8);**
- **The Capital Programme for 2020/21 (and 2021/22 to 2024/25) for both the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account (section 5);**
- **The Housing Revenue Account, including:**
  - **2020/21 rent increase of 2.7%, giving an average weekly rent of £77.44; and**
  - **other 2020/21 specific charges increase of 2.7% (section 6)**
- **The Fees & Charges for 2020/21 (section 7);**
- **The Treasury Management Strategy and other related Treasury plans, strategies and statements (section 8);**
- **The development of a Commercial Investment Strategy, that will include the potential to acquire and dispose of assets within a commercial operating environment. Such commercial activity may include commercial property and Private Rented Sector (residential) property both inside and outside of the Borough boundary.**

**(ii) That Members note the work to date on the redevelopment of the Bushloe House site and the relocation of the Council's Civic and Administrative Offices to the Depot (para 3.4); and**

**(iii) That Members note the commentary given by the Chief Financial Officer in respect of the Robustness of the 2020/21 Budget and Medium Term Financial Strategy (section 9).**

**THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.03 PM**



---

**Chair**

---

**Tuesday, 10 March 2020**

---

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