

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE POLICY, FINANCE & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
HELD AT CIVIC SUITE 2, BROCKS HILL COUNCIL OFFICES, WASHBROOK LANE, OADBY,
LEICESTER, LE2 5JJ ON TUESDAY, 3 DECEMBER 2024 COMMENCING AT 7.00 PM**

PRESENT

I K Ridley Chair
F S Broadley Vice-Chair



Meeting ID: 2728

COUNCILLORS

N Alam
L A Bentley
G A Boulter
M L Darr
D A Gamble
C S Gore
S Z Haq
P Joshi
J Kaufman
K J Loydall

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

S A E Ball Senior Finance Business Partner
D M Gill Head of Law & Democracy / Monitoring Officer
A Thorpe Head of Built Environment
C Warren Chief Finance Officer / Section 151 Officer
S Wheeliker Senior Democratic & Electoral Services Officer

27. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Councillors J K Ford and G G Hunt.

28. APPOINTMENT OF SUBSTITUTES

None.

29. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor K J Loydall declared a non-pecuniary interest with regard to item 12 of the agenda, insofar as he is a veteran.

30. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

By affirmation of the meeting, it was

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 10 September 2024 be taken as read, confirmed and approved.

31. ACTION LIST ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

**Policy, Finance & Development
Committee**
Tuesday, 3 December 2024, 7.00 pm

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and Wigston Borough Council, Brocks Hill Council
Offices, Washbrook Lane, Oadby, Leicester, LE2 5JJ*

None.

32. PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS

None.

33. BUDGET MONITORING (Q2 2024/25)

The Committee gave consideration to the report and appendices (as set out at pages 8 - 20 of the agenda reports pack), which provided the forecast outturn position for the Council for the financial year 2024/25 at the end of Q2.

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 use of the contingency budget to fund some of the overspend on Housing Benefit from providing Homelessness be approved; and**
- iii) The slippage as shown in the capital projects be carried forward.**

34. TREASURY MANAGEMENT MID-YEAR REPORT (2024/25)

The Committee gave consideration to the report and appendices (as set out at pages 21 – 36 of the agenda reports pack), which detailed the performance and activities of the authority's treasury management function for the financial year 2024/25 to 30 September 2024.

By general affirmation of the meeting, it was

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

- i) The content of the report and appendices be noted.**

35. 2025/26 DRAFT REVENUE BUDGETS, MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN AND 2025/26 - 2029/30 DRAFT CAPITAL PROGRAMMES

The Committee gave consideration to the report (as set out at pages 37 – 44 of the agenda reports pack), which presented the revised General Fund Annual Budget for 2025/26, an updated MTFP for 2025/26, an update on the capital programme for 2025/26 and the HRA Annual Budget for 2025/26.

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

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

- i) The content of the report be noted; and**
- ii) An increase in housing rents, service charges and garage rents by the maximum social rent level of 2.7% be recommended to Council.**

36. FOOD WASTE – CAPITAL ALLOCATION

The Committee gave consideration to the report (as set out at pages 45 – 47 of the

agenda reports pack), which provided information on capital expenditure relating to the implementation of the food waste scheme that is being rolled out nationally by all local authorities with the deadline of 1 April 2026 for collections to have commenced by.

By general affirmation of the meeting, it was

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

- i) The content of the report be noted.**

37. LEICESTERSHIRE, LEICESTER AND RUTLAND'S DRAFT LOCAL NATURE RECOVERY STRATEGY

The Committee gave consideration to the report and appendices (as set out at pages 3 – 151 of the agenda update pack), which sought approval for a response to the draft Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS).

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

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

- i) The content of the report and appendices be noted; and**
- ii) The comments set out at 1.11 in this report be approved.**

38. RESIDENTS' FORUM FUNDING REQUEST

The Committee gave consideration to the report (as set out at pages 56 – 57 of the agenda reports pack), which sought approval for the funding requests that were approved by the Borough's three Residents' Forums.

Councillor G A Boulter proposed that recommendation B be amended to including £400 for the Wigston Residents' Forum for the purchase of a bench at Willow Park.

It was moved by Councillor G A Boulter, seconded by Councillor S Z Haq, and

RESOLVED THAT:

- i) The content of the report be noted; and**
- ii) Releasing the requested funds to the requesting parties (as set out in the report), including £400 for the Wigston Residents' Forum for the purchase of a bench at Willow Park be approved.**

For 11
Against 0
Abstention 1

39. STANDARDS & ETHICAL INDICATORS (Q2 2024/25)

The Committee gave consideration to the report and appendix (as set out at pages 58 – 68 of the agenda reports pack), which provided the figures for local determination of complaints and ethical indicators for Q2 2024/25.

By general affirmation of the meeting, it was

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

- i) The content of the report and appendix be noted.**

40. UPDATED CAR PARK STRATEGY (2024-2027)

The Committee gave consideration to the report and appendices (as set out at pages 69 – 93 of the agenda reports pack), which sought approval for the updated Car Park Strategy for the Borough for 2024 – 2027.

By general affirmation of the meeting, it was

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

- i) The Car Park Strategy (2024 – 2027) (as set out at Appendix 2) be approved.**

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8.39 pm