

Chairman - Councillor R M Smith

Present (for all or part of the meeting):-

Councillors:

F Beatty - Economic Development and Planning Portfolio
J M Pert - Community Portfolio
K S Williamson - Resources Portfolio

Also present - Councillors J Hood and J K Price

Officers in attendance:-

Mr B Kean - Head of Finance
Mrs T Redpath - Corporate Business and Partnerships Manager
Mr J Dean - Democratic Services Officer

CAB34 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 1 November 2018 were submitted and signed.

CAB35 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors P M M Farrington and F A Finlay and Mr T Clegg, Chief Executive.

CAB36 Budget Reports

The Cabinet Member - Resources Portfolio tabled all of the budget reports for the various Portfolios.

Councillor Williamson noted that the increase in Council Tax was required to maintain existing service levels and to generate income for capital projects. However this increase was below the current level of inflation.

Continuing, the Cabinet Member highlighted the uncertainty of future funding for the Council and the delayed announcement regarding the Local Governance Finance Settlement.

Continuing further, Councillor Williamson demonstrated a balanced budget and confirmed that further detail regarding future funding would be considered by the Cabinet, when made available by Government.

In conclusion, the recommendations as set out in paragraph 2 of each of the budget reports were highlighted, to which the Cabinet voted on the proposals.

(i) General Fund Revenue Budget 2018-19 to 2021-22 and Capital Programme 2018-19 to 2021-22

Considered a report setting out the current position of the General Fund Revenue Budget for 2018-19 to 2021-22 and the updated capital programme 2018-19 to 2021-22, as set out in Section 2 of Digest No 249 of 7 December 2018.

RESOLVED:- that the proposal of the Cabinet Member - Resources Portfolio be approved as follows:-

- (a) that the following be submitted to the Resources Scrutiny Committee for consultation:-
 - (i) the level of net spending for the General Fund Revenue Budget for 2019-20 be set at £16.164 million; with indicative net spending for 2020-21 and 2021-22 of £15.243 million and £15.632 million respectively;
 - (ii) that Government Grants of £3.205 million be used in 2019-20;
 - (iii) that, in order to ensure as a minimum the maintenance of the existing level of service provision and also to generate additional capital resources to invest in the borough, that council tax be recommended to increase by 1.9% (to £156.30) for 2019-20, with similar indicative increases for 2020-21 and 2021-22 respectively;
 - (iv) the revised capital programme as set out in Appendix 2 of the report;
 - (v) that the Revised Outturn Forecast for 2018-19 of £15.571 million be approved;
- (b) it be noted that no update report in relation to New Homes Bonus; Business Rates (including the pilot application) or other measures was available due to the delayed announcement of the Provisional Local Government Settlement;

- (c) it be noted that although indicative figures existed for the use of Governments Grants for 2020-21 and 2021-22 they could not be accurately determined at this stage with each element of Government funding being subject to review;
- (d) it be noted that details would not be known until the provisional settlement for 2020-21 nevertheless the level of Working Balances maintained by the Council would enable a Balanced Budget to be set for the duration of the Financial Plan.

THIS ITEM IS NOT SUBJECT TO CALL IN AND WILL BE REFERRED TO RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE ON 15 JANUARY 2019.

(ii) Resources Portfolio - General Fund Revenue Budget 2018/2019 - 2021/2022 and Capital Programme 2018/2019 - 2021/2022

Considered a report setting out the draft detailed Resources Portfolio Revenue Budget for 2018/2019 - 2021/2022 and the draft Resources Portfolio Capital Programme for 2018/2019 - 2021/2022, as set out in Section 2 of Digest No 249 of 7 December 2018.

RESOLVED:- that the proposal of the Cabinet Member - Resources Portfolio be approved as follows:-

that the detailed draft portfolio revenue budget for 2018/2019 - 2021/2022 and the draft Capital Programme 2018/2019 - 2021/2022 be approved for submission to the Resources Scrutiny Committee for consultation.

THIS ITEM IS NOT SUBJECT TO CALL IN AND WILL BE REFERRED TO RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE ON 15 JANUARY 2019.

(iii) Planning Portfolio - General Fund Revenue Budget 2018/2019 - 2021/2022 and Capital Programme 2018/2019 - 2021/2022

Considered a report setting out the draft detailed Economic Development and Planning Portfolio Revenue Budget for 2018/2019 - 2021/2022 and the draft Economic Development and Planning Portfolio Capital Programme for 2018/2019 - 2021/2022, as set out in Section 2 of Digest No 249 of 7 December 2018.

RESOLVED:- that the proposal of the Cabinet Member - Economic Development and Planning Portfolio be approved as follows:-

that the detailed draft portfolio revenue budget for 2018/2019 - 2021/2022 and the draft Capital Programme 2018/2019 - 2021/2022 be approved for submission to the Economic Development and Planning Scrutiny Committee for consultation.

THIS ITEM IS NOT SUBJECT TO CALL IN AND WILL BE REFERRED TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE ON 11 DECEMBER 2018.

(iv) Leisure Portfolio - General Fund Revenue Budget 2018/2019 - 2021/2022 and Capital Programme 2018/2019 - 2021/2022

Considered a report setting out the draft detailed Leisure Portfolio Revenue Budget for 2018/2019 - 2021/2022 and the draft Leisure Portfolio Capital Programme for 2018/2019 - 2021/2022, as set out in Section 2 of Digest No 249 of 7 December 2018.

RESOLVED:- that the proposal of the Cabinet Member - Leisure Portfolio be approved as follows:-

that the detailed draft portfolio revenue budget for 2018/2019 - 2021/2022 and the draft Capital Programme 2018/2019 - 2021/2022 be approved for submission to the Community Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee for consultation.

The Deputy Leader highlighted the positive impact of outsourcing the Leisure functions to Freedom Leisure and referred to the New Capital Schemes as set out in Appendix 6 of the report.

THIS ITEM IS NOT SUBJECT TO CALL IN AND WILL BE REFERRED TO COMMUNITY AND WELLBEING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE ON 8 JANUARY 2019.

(v) Community Portfolio - General Fund Revenue Budget 2018/2019 - 2021/2022 and Capital Programme 2018/2019 - 2021/2022

Considered a report setting out the draft detailed Community Portfolio Revenue Budget for 2018/2019 - 2021/2022 and the draft Community Portfolio Capital Programme for 2018/2019 - 2021/2022, as set out in Section 2 of Digest No 249 of 7 December 2018.

RESOLVED:- that the proposal of the Cabinet Member - Community Portfolio be approved as follows:-

that the detailed draft portfolio revenue budget for 2018/2019 - 2021/2022 and the draft Capital Programme 2018/2019 - 2021/2022 be approved for submission to the Community Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee for consultation.

Councillor Pert highlighted that despite the tough financial environment the budget reflected continuing ongoing support for the voluntary sector. The Capital Programme included improvements to the Glover Street site, whereas uncertainty existed in relation to future impacts of the Homelessness Reduction Act.

THIS ITEM IS NOT SUBJECT TO CALL IN AND WILL BE REFERRED TO COMMUNITY WELLBEING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE ON 8 JANUARY 2019.

(vi) **Environment Portfolio - General Fund Revenue Budget 2018/2019 - 2021/2022 and Capital Programme 2018/2019 - 2021/2022**

Considered a report setting out the draft detailed Environment Portfolio Revenue Budget for 2018/2019 - 2021/2022 and the draft Environment Portfolio Capital Programme for 2018/2019 - 2021/2022, as set out in Section 2 of Digest No 249 of 7 December 2018.

RESOLVED:- that the proposal of the Cabinet Member - Environment Portfolio be approved as follows:-

that the detailed draft portfolio revenue budget for 2018/2019 - 2021/2022 and the draft Capital Programme 2018/2019 - 2021/2022 be approved for submission to the Community Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee for consultation.

THIS ITEM IS NOT SUBJECT TO CALL IN AND WILL BE REFERRED TO COMMUNITY WELLBEING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE ON 8 JANUARY 2019.

CAB37 **Treasury Management Strategy, Minimum Revenue Provision Policy, Annual Investment Strategy 2019/20 and Capital Strategy 2018/22**

Considered a report seeking approval by Council of:-

- Prudential and Treasury indicators;
- The Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Policy;
- Treasury Management Strategy Statement for 2019/20;
- Annual Investment Strategy 2019/20;
- Capital Strategy 2018/22

as set out in Section 2 of Digest No 249 of 7 December 2018.

The Cabinet Member confirmed that this was the first of 3 such reports to be received during the year before highlighting the proposals as set out in paragraph 2, to which the Cabinet voted on the recommendations:-

The Head of Finance referred Members to the attached Capital Strategy which set out in the broad principles to be applied by the Council when considering Capital Investment and provided context for the Councils Capital Programme.

RESOLVED:- that the proposal of the Cabinet Member - Resources Portfolio be approved as follows:-

(a) the following be approved:-

- (i) The Prudential and Treasury indicators;
- (ii) The MRP Policy Statement;
- (iii) The Treasury Management Policy;
- (iv) The Annual Investment Strategy for 2019/20;
- (v) The Capital Strategy 2018/22.

(b) it be noted that indicators may change in accordance with the final recommendations from Cabinet to Council in relation to both the General Fund Revenue Budget and the Capital Programme.

THIS ITEM IS NOT SUBJECT TO CALL IN AND WILL BE REFERRED TO AUDIT AND ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE ON 11 DECEMBER 2018 AND COUNCIL ON 29 JANUARY 2019.

CAB38 **Discretionary Housing Payments Policy**

Considered a report updating Members on recent changes to the purposes for which Discretionary Housing Payments be used, detailing the associated work carried out by Officers in respect of this matter and seeking approval of the updated policy, as set out in Section 2 of Digest No 249 of 7 December 2018.

The Cabinet Member noted the recent briefing sessions held for Members on this issue before highlighting the proposals as set out in paragraph 2, to which the Cabinet voted on the recommendations:-

RESOLVED:- that the proposal of the Cabinet Member - Resources Portfolio be approved as follows:-

that:- (a) the content of the report be noted;

(b) the updated policy be adopted;

(c) subject to there being no additional policy changes or cost implications arising from Government funding of DHPs, the Head of Finance in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Resources, amend the policy as necessary, from time to time, to ensure that DHPs are made in appropriate circumstances, as soon as practically possible.

Councillor Pert reported that the Policy was a critical tool used by Housing Officers to focus the Councils policy of homelessness prevention.

CAB39 Committee Cycle 2019/20

Considered a report setting out the proposed Committee Cycle for 2019/20, as set out in Section 2 of Digest No 249 of 7 December 2018.

The Cabinet Member highlighted the proposal as set out in paragraph 2, to which the Cabinet moved directly to voting on the recommendation:-

RESOLVED:- that the proposal of the Cabinet Member - Resources Portfolio be approved as follows:-

that the Committee Cycle for 2019/20 as submitted be approved.

CAB40 Stone Neighbourhood Plan Submission - Response

Considered a report setting out the current position regarding the Stone Neighbourhood Plan and to seeking agreement of the Council's representation to the Submission document, as set out in Section 2 of Digest No 249 of 7 December 2018.

The Cabinet Member highlighted the correction to page 123 of the agenda relating to local Green Space site 34 (South) which was subject to the decision by the Planning Inspectorate on appeal against the refusal of outline planning permission to 20 affordable dwellings. Councillor Beatty then referred Members to the proposals as set out in paragraph 2, to which the Cabinet voted on the recommendations:-

RESOLVED:- that the proposal of the Cabinet Member - Economic Development and Planning Portfolio be approved as follows:-

- (a) the response (and correction as reported) set out in the Appendix to the report be agreed;
- (b) the Head of Development submit the response on behalf of the Council as part of the consultation process concerning the Stone Neighbourhood Plan Submission before Wednesday 19 December 2018.

CAB41 Brownfield Land Register Part 1 - Update

Considered a report seeking approval of the sites on the update to Part 1 of the Brownfield Land Register and its publication on the Council's website, as set out in Section 2 of Digest No 249 of 7 December 2018.

The Cabinet Member confirmed the requirement of Government to produce the register which would inform the Local Plan Review. Councillor Beatty then highlighted the proposal as set out in paragraph 2, to which the Cabinet voted on the recommendation:-

RESOLVED:- that the proposal of the Cabinet Member - Economic Development and Planning Portfolio be approved as follows:-

that the updated Part 1 of the Brownfield Land Register be published by the end of December 2018.

CAB42 Leisure Facilities at Gnosall - S106 Agreement

Considered a report seeking approval to allocate Section 106 funding towards the development of the existing open space in Gnosall, as set out in Section 2 of Digest No 249 of 7 December 2018.

The Cabinet Member highlighted the proposal as set out in paragraph 2, to which the Cabinet moved directly to voting on the recommendation:-

RESOLVED:- that the proposal of the Cabinet Member - Leisure Portfolio be approved as follows:-

that the allocation of an existing off site contribution under the terms of the Section 106 agreement for Knights Court, Knightley Road, Gnosall (14/20018/FUL) of £43,617 to provide outdoor gym equipment and refurbish the existing play facilities at Brookhouse Road, Gnosall, be approved.

CHAIRMAN