

FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

3rd September 2015

PRESENT:-

Conservative Group

Councillor Harrison (Chairman), Councillor Mrs Plenderleith (Vice-Chairman) and Councillors, Billings, Mrs Coyle, Hewlett, Smith, Watson, and Wheeler.

Labour Group

Councillors Rhind, Richards, Southerd and Wilkins

In Attendance

Councillor Mrs Farrington.

FM/32 **APOLOGIES**

The Committee was informed that no apologies had been received.

FM/33 **MINUTES**

The Open minutes of the Meeting held on 18th June 2015 were taken as read, approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

FM/34 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The Committee was informed that no declarations of interest had been received.

FM/35 **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO 10**

The Committee was informed that no questions from members of the public had been received.

FM/36 **QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO 11**

The Committee was informed that no questions from Members of the Council had been received.

FM/37 **REPORTS OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

There were no reports of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee to consider.

MATTERS DELEGATED TO COMMITTEE**FM/38 CORPORATE SERVICES PERFORMANCE MONITORING 2015/16: QUARTER 1 TO JUNE 2015**

The Director of Finance and Corporate Services presented the report to Committee highlighting the following points; the Council's collections targets are all above average, apart from arrears on Council Tax collections. The improvements and investment of resources put into new Housing Benefit processes has resulted in targets for the first quarter of 2015/16 being met. Following deteriorating performance on sickness absence in 2013/14, the Council's absence rate during 2014/15 had steadily improved and this was continuing in 2015/16. The Director also highlighted the impact of long-term absences on the headline rate.

RESOLVED:

That the Committee considered and noted the progress against performance targets.

FM/39 BUDGET AND FINANCIAL MONITORING 2015/16

The Director of Finance and Corporate Services presented to Committee the first substantive monitoring report for the financial year 2015/16. He reported that the main reason for variance was the continuing increase in planning fee income compared to the Budget. The National Budget proposal of 1% decrease in social rents was a concern as the Council's HRA budget is based on an increase in rents of 1% per year, in accordance with the Government's rent policy that existed before the Summer Budget.

RESOLVED:

That the Committee considered and approved the latest budget and financial monitoring figures for 2015/16.

FM/40 CORPORATE PLAN UPDATE

The Chief Executive Officer presented a report to Committee of the on the framework for updating the Corporate Plan., highlighting its importance in guiding the direction of the Council and the steps taken to set a vision and strategy for the next five years. The four themes, which guided the Council through 2009/15, are still relevant and offer a starting point upon which to build. Background evidence will be collated before four workshops, one for each theme, will be held to allow Elected Members and Officers to consider updated priorities and performance targets in order to meet the opportunities/challenges ahead.

RESOLVED:

That the Committee considered and approved the process to review and update the Council's Corporate Plan.

FM/41 **MELBOURNE ASSEMBLY ROOMS**

The Director of Finance and Corporate Services delivered the report to Committee on behalf of the Director of Community and Planning Services.

RESOLVED:

That the Committee approved the utilisation of the remaining monies (£76,600) allocated to Melbourne Assembly Rooms from the sale of Bretby Crematorium in line with the Melbourne Assembly Rooms Board's latest strategic plan.

FM/42 **LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 (AS AMENDED BY THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT [ACCESS TO INFORMATION] ACT 1985)**

RESOLVED:-

That, in accordance with Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended), the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the Meeting as it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that there would be disclosed exempt information as defined in the paragraphs of Part 1 of the Schedule 12A of the Act indicated in brackets after each item.

MINUTES

The Exempt minutes of the Meeting held on 18th June 2015 were taken as read, approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

TO RECEIVE QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO. 11

The Committee was informed that no questions had been received.

FINANCIAL SERVICES: REVISED SERVICE DELIVERY STRUCTURE (Paragraph 2)

The Committee approved the revised structure for the Financial Services Unit.

LAND AND PREMISES IN SWADLINCOTE (Paragraph 3)

The Committee approved a disposal subject to prior advertising of the proposed disposal under Section 123, 2(A) Local Government Act 1972.

PREMISES IN MELBOURNE (Paragraph 3)

The Committee approved the surrender of the existing lease and the grant of a new 7-year lease.

The meeting terminated at 18.40pm.

COUNCILLOR J HARRISON

CHAIRMAN