

FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

14th March 2019

PRESENT:-

Conservative Group

Councillor Harrison (Chairman), Councillor Watson (Vice-Chairman) and Councillors Billings, Mrs Coe, Ford, Hewlett, MacPherson and Smith

Labour Group

Councillors Rhind, Southerd, Taylor and Tilley (substituting for Cllr Richards)

FM/147 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Councillor Dr Coyle (Conservative Group) and Councillor Richards (Labour Group).

FM/148 **MINUTES**

The Open Minutes of the Meetings held on 10th January 2019 were taken as read, approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

FM/149 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

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

FM/150 **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/151 **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/152 **REPORTS OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

The Committee was informed that no reports had been received.

MATTERS DELEGATED TO COMMITTEE

FM/153 **AUDIT SUB-COMMITTEE**

The Open Minutes of the Audit Sub-Committee Meeting held on 19th September 2018 and 12th December 2018 were submitted.

FM/154 **CORPORATE PLAN 2016-21: PERFORMANCE REPORT
(1 OCTOBER – 31 DEC 2018)**

The Strategic Director (Corporate Resources) presented the report to Committee.

RESOLVED:

1.1 The Committee considered progress against performance targets set out in the Corporate Plan.

1.2 The Committee reviewed the Risk Register and Action Plan for the Committee's services.

1.3 The updated risk matrix, as detailed in the report, to record risks be approved for implementation for future reporting across all Policy Committees and Council Services.

FM/155 **BUDGET and FINANCIAL MONITORING 2018/19**

The Strategic Director (Corporate Resources) presented the report to Committee, highlighting the key variances to the budget including the revenue generated by the Council's inclusion in the Business Rates Retention pilot, vacancies and investment income.

The Chairman queried why the planned maintenance budget had not been used. The Strategic Director responded that whilst the stock condition survey was being conducted, some contracts had come to an end. Associated budgets would now be re-profiled in accordance with the outcomes of the stock condition survey.

Councillor Ford sought reassurance that the income generated through the inclusion in the Business Rates Retention pilot would be spent on economic development; the Strategic Director (Corporate Resources) confirmed this to be the case.

Councillor Tilley, whilst referring to paragraph 3.4 of the report, queried why the capital expenditure earmarked for the Swadlincote Nature Reserve had not been spent. The Strategic Director (Corporate Resources) advised that with the match funding secured, the work on Swadlincote Woodlands Nature Reserve project is set to commence in due course.

RESOLVED:

The Committee considered and approved the latest budget and financial position for 2018/19 as detailed in the report.

FM/156 **TREASURY MANAGEMENT UPDATE 2018/19**

The Strategic Director (Corporate Resources) presented the report to Committee outlining the potential implications of Brexit on the money market funds that are domiciled in Europe.

RESOLVED:

- 1.1 The Committee considered and approved the latest Treasury Management Update for quarter 3 2018/19 as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report.**
- 1.2 The Committee approved the updated Counterparty List for investments and bank deposits as detailed in Appendix 2 to the report. This had been updated to increase the Debt Management Office (DMO) limit, as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report.**

FM/157 MIDWAY COMMUNITY CENTRE – BUDGET AND FORWARD PLANS

The Cultural Services Manager presented the report to Committee updating Members on activity at Midway Community Centre since its handover to the Council from developers in September 2016, including reasons for the request to continue the management of the facility.

Councillor Rhind, whilst welcoming the report, noted that mistakes had been made in the delivery of the facility and that there seemed to be discrepancies between the report and local Members' opinion in that local residents had felt side-lined in the engagement process.

A discussion ensued in relation to the engagement process for local residents. The Cultural Services Manager advised that leaflets had been distributed and a meeting had been held, but to no avail. Some Members expressed that this may be due local residents' concerns relating to the scale of responsibility involved in managing such facilities. It was commented that support and guidance could be provided in order to address this matter. Councillor MacPherson suggested a strategic approach through the creation of a job specification, a working panel and a framework. Members agreed that community engagement in such matters was required in order to facilitate collaboration.

Councillor Taylor commented on the issues with the football pitches at the facility, expressing concern that they were not designed appropriately and that liability ought to have been with the developer. The Cultural Services Manager responded that the matter would be addressed.

RESOLVED:

- 1.1 The Committee approved a budget of £20,217 in 2019/20, £20,622 in 2020/21 and £21,034 in 2021/22 in order to continue Council management of Midway Community Centre.**
- 1.2 The Committee noted forward plans for the centre in relation to infrastructure and community engagement.**
- 1.3 The Committee approved that the "windfall" Capital Receipt received from the original development be earmarked to fund the outline works**

identified in the report and that the detailed costs be reported back to this Committee when finalised.

FM/158 **HEALTH AND WELLBEING INITIATIVES**

The Strategic Director (Corporate Resources) presented the report to Committee highlighting the work being progressed to improve the health and wellbeing of employees and the community through the promotion of internal and external activities. It was reported that a particular internal focus would be centred on mental health and musculoskeletal issues that are the highest reasons cited for absence across the Councils' workforce.

Councillor Southerd queried the form of interview that would be undertaken, in relation to the attendance management process, upon a trigger point being reached. The Strategic Director (Corporate Resources) responded explaining that the first and second stage interview process would be with line management and human resources, if required.

Councillor Billings welcomed the report highlighting the importance of mental wellbeing of the workforce and anticipated the roll-out of these initiatives to the wider community.

RESOLVED:

1.1 The Committee approved that health and wellbeing initiatives are progressed to promote healthier lifestyles within the Councils' workforce and across the community.

1.2 The Committee approved that the promotion of the Five Ways to Wellbeing (5WTWB), with support from public sector partners, be maintained to raise awareness of and support for people with mental health conditions.

1.3 The Committee approved that the impact of any interventions are monitored and analysed with performance information presented to the appropriate Committee in line with the existing corporate performance management framework.

FM/159 **COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME**

RESOLVED:

Members considered and approved the updated work programme.

FM/160 **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.

**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.

SUNDRY DEBTOR WRITE OFFS

The Committee approved the recommendations in the report.

WRITE OFF DEBTS FOR COUNCIL TAX and BENEFIT OVERPAYMENTS

The Committee approved the recommendations in the report.

LAND IN WOODVILLE

The Committee approved the recommendations in the report.

NATIONAL PAY AWARD 2019

The Committee approved the recommendations in the report.

The meeting terminated at 7.10pm

COUNCILLOR J HARRISON

CHAIRMAN