

FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

15th October 2015

PRESENT:-

Conservative Group

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

Labour Group

Councillors Rhind, Richards, Southerd and Wilkins.

In Attendance

Councillors Mrs Farrington and Taylor.

FM/58 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence from the Meeting were received on behalf of Councillor Smith (Conservative Group).

FM/59 **MINUTES**

The Open Minutes of the Meeting held on 25th June 2015 were taken as read, approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

FM/60 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

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

FM/61 **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/62 **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/63 **REPORTS OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

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

MATTERS DELEGATED TO COMMITTEE

FM/64 **AUDIT SUB-COMMITTEE**

The Minutes of the Audit Sub-Committee Meetings held on 23rd September 2015 and 30th September 2015 were submitted.

RESOLVED:-

That the Minutes of the above Audit Sub-Committee Meetings be received and any recommendations contained therein approved.

FM/65 **UPDATE ON THE COUNCIL'S MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL POSITION**

The Director of Finance and Corporate Services presented the report to Committee, highlighting various elements that may impact on the financial position, in relation to the General Fund and the Housing Revenue Account.

In relation to the General Fund, the Leader commended Officers for their efforts and the resultant positive figures during the last five years. Councillor Richards queried the rent levels for those tenants earning in excess of £30k. The Director of Housing and Environmental Services confirmed that further details were due to be issued by the Government.

RESOLVED:

1.1 That the updated financial projections on the General Fund to 2021 and the Housing Revenue Account to 2025, as detailed in the Report, be approved.

1.2 That the financial projection provided form the basis for planning purposes and for setting the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account's Base Budget for 2016/17.

1.3 That the Housing Revenue Account Business Plan be reviewed, in particular the capital investment programme following the proposed reduction in social housing rents.

FM/66 **A REVIEW OF THE LOCAL COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT SCHEME**

The Director of Finance and Corporate Services delivered the report to the Committee, outlining the options available.

The Leader expressed a reluctance to add any further burden to those Council Tax payers most in need of assistance and recommended the retention of the default scheme into 2016/17, a view supported by Councillor Richards. Other comments made by Members relating to Parish Council grants and a consultation process were noted and responded to.

RESOLVED:

1.1 That the Committee considered changing the parameters of the current Local Council Tax Support Scheme for 2016/17 and determined that a recommendation be made to Full Council that the current parameters of the Local Scheme be retained for 2016/17.

1.2 That the current Compensation Grant for the Tax Base paid to Parish Councils be approved for 2016/17.

FM/67 **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 25th June 2015 were received.

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.

CORPORATE SERVICES CONTRACT AND STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP (Paragraph 3)

The Committee considered the recommendations made in the Report.

LAND AT REPTON (Paragraph 3)

The Committee approved the recommendation contained in the Report.

The meeting terminated at 7.15pm.

COUNCILLOR J HARRISON

CHAIRMAN