

CABINET

Date and Time: Thursday, 5 December 2019 at 7pm

Place: Council Chamber, Civic Offices, Fleet

Present:

Ambler, Bailey, Cockarill, Kinnell (from 7.03 pm), Neighbour (Chairman), Oliver, Quarterman, Radley (from 7.09 pm)

In attendance: Crookes

Officers:

Andrew Vallance Head of Corporate Services
Gill Chapman Committee Services

73 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Members agreed that the Minutes of the meeting of 7 November 2019 were incorrect.

After discussion, Members agreed that Minute 71, Decision 8, should read:

RESOLVED

That a total budget of £500k be part of the draft 2020/21 budget. If passed the amount be allocated to the Joint Chief Executive from a bespoke earmarked reserve to be utilised for the procurement of appropriate expertise and resources to help the Council make informed choices associated with the Garden Community, and that any budget spend will be reported to and monitored by Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Cabinet as part of the normal budget monitoring process.

NB Councillors Kinnell and Radley entered the meeting during this item.

74 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None received.

75 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

76 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None declared.

77 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (ITEMS PERTAINING TO THE AGENDA)

None.

78 CLIMATE CHANGE WORKING GROUP

The minutes of the meeting of 18 November 2019 were noted.

79 2019-20 BUDGET MONITORING – TO END OF SEPTEMBER

Cabinet were advised of the position on revenue and capital expenditure at the end of September. Overview and Scrutiny Committee had considered this report at their meeting on 19 November 2019.

Members discussed the following issues:

- Budgeting around the new settlement
- Savings on staff vacancies
- Edenbrook – a written response regarding its delay would be circulated

DECISION

The revised projections and reasons for the main revenue variations shown be noted.

80 TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY– HALF YEAR REVIEW 2019/20

Cabinet considered the Council's treasury management activities and performance during the first half of the 2019/20 financial year (April-September 2019). This report had been considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 19 November 2019.

Members discussed the global picture and the Council's prudent approach.

DECISION

The treasury management activities during the first half of the 2019/20 financial year be noted.

81 2020/21 BUDGET & MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY

Cabinet were given early consideration of the emerging budget for 2020/21 and the draft Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS). This information had been considered at the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting of 19 November 2019.

Members considered the following concerns:

- Challenges ahead, and the effects on Hart revenue and budgets in future years
- Commercial income target a challenge in that timescale
- Potential loss of new homes bonus
- Commercialisation
- Challenges in setting the budget in February

DECISION

The issues around the emerging budget for 2020/21 be noted.

82 CABINET WORK PROGRAMME

The Cabinet Work Programme was considered and amended:

- Public Space Protection Order - February
- Crondall Neighbourhood Plan – January

It was confirmed that the Parking Review had been taken off the Work Programme as, after consideration and recommendations by Overview and Scrutiny Committee, it would be incorporated into the 2020/21 Budget.

The meeting closed at 7.44 pm