

CABINET

Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held on Thursday, 20th June 2013 at Worksop Town Hall

Present: Councillor S A Greaves (Chair)
Councillors A Chambers, J Evans, J A Leigh, S May and J White.

Assistants: Councillors I J Campbell and C Palmer.

Advisory Members: Councillor D Challinor.

Liaison Members: Councillors H Burton and K H Isard.

Officers: C Crossland, M Hill, L Hull, M Ladyman, N Taylor and R Theakstone.

Also present: Councillor J M Sanger

(Meeting commenced at 5.05pm.)

(The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting and read out the Fire Alarm/Evacuation Procedure.)

20. NOMINATIONS FOR ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Councillor J Evans was elected Chair for the meeting in the absence of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman. Councillor S Greaves then entered the meeting and took the Chair.

21. QUESTION TIME - PUBLIC

Council Procedure Rules were suspended for fifteen minutes to allow questions from the public; however, no members of the public were present.

22. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors B Barker, H M Brand, M Gregory, G Jones, J Potts, C Wanless and G J Wynne.

23. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

(a) Members

There were no declarations of interest by Members.

(b) Officers

There were no declarations of interest by officers.

SECTION A – ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION IN PUBLIC

Key Decisions

24. REPORT(S) OF THE CABINET MEMBER – FINANCE – COUNCILLOR J EVANS

(a) Financial Outturn 2012/13 (Key Decision No. 373)

Members were presented with the 2012/13 financial outturn position on the Council's revenue and capital budgets, including: General Fund Revenue; Housing Revenue Account; Capital Programme; Provisions and Impaired Estimates on Debtors; Usable Reserves; Collection Fund; Balance Sheet; and Treasury Management. The 2012/13 Unaudited Statement of Accounts and the Annual Governance Statement had been circulated prior to the meeting.

Options, Risks and Reasons for Recommendations

Statement of Accounts 2012/13:

The unaudited Statement of Accounts for 2012/13 will be presented to Council on 27th June 2013 for consideration and approval and onward submission to the external auditor (KPMG) for audit and certification. Should the Council not approve the Statement of Accounts by 30th June there would be a serious impact on the Council's accountability, its reputation, and on its standing nationally and locally.

Revenue Expenditure 2012/13:

There are no options for Members to consider as the outturn represents the final position at the end of the financial year. Due consideration needs to be given to the on-going effects of any reported service overspends on 2013/14 budgets, and early action is essential to mitigate further impacts on General Fund balances.

Capital Expenditure and Financing 2012/13:

There are no options for Members to consider as the financing is in accordance with approvals already obtained. The re-profiling on the Capital Programme presents a challenge to the Council's capacity to deliver the full programme of planned works in 2013/14.

Treasury Management 2012/13:

There are no options for Members to consider at this stage since past performance is being reported. Treasury Management is an important Council function since it deals with large value money transactions. The potential risk in this area is very high; however the Council has in place sound systems of financial control to minimise these risks. These controls are reviewed on an annual basis in order to provide the assurance that risk is being minimised. Additionally, by monitoring the Prudential Indicators, this also serves to minimise the risk in this area.

RESOLVED that:

1. The final outturn of revenue and capital spending for 2012/13 be approved.
2. The capital financing proposals, as set out in Appendix 3, be approved, and these be referred to Council on 27th June 2013 and thereafter to the external auditors as part of the 2012/13 Statement of Accounts (paragraph 3.17).
3. The net variations of £2.182m not spent in 2012/13 on the Capital Programme be re-profiled and carried forward into 2013/14, as set out in Appendix 4 (paragraph 3.18).
4. The movement in Provisions and Impaired Estimates on Debtors be approved (paragraphs 3.19 and 3.20).
5. The creation of a new MRR-Capital Reserve for £0.410m, a new MRR-Principal Reserve for £0.539m, a new Pension Strain Reserve for £0.041m and a new High Street Innovation Reserve for £0.063m be approved (paragraph 3.22 and 3.25).
6. The individual contributions to, and withdrawals from, the revenue and capital Usable Reserves be approved (paragraph 3.22 and 3.25).

7. The contents of the Pension Fund Actuary report be approved, and the proposed assumptions to be used in the IAS19 pensions report be approved for inclusion in the 2012/13 Statement of Accounts (paragraph 3.31 and Appendix 5).
8. The Annual Report on Treasury Management Activity (Appendix 6) be received and, together with any comments as appropriate, be referred to Council for information, as required by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's Code of Practice on Treasury Management.
9. It be noted that the Treasury Management activities are consistent with the objectives identified in the Treasury Management Strategy for 2012/13.
10. The three cases of business rates be approved for write-off as an uncollectable debt (paragraph 3.36).
11. Authority be delegated for the Head of Finance and Property to enter into the CAS3000 Guarantee Scheme with Barclays Bank, which will indemnify the losses of the Council or A1 Housing to the Bank in the event of a default on the agreed banking arrangements in future years (paragraph 3.38).
12. Thanks be recorded to the Finance Team and the Cabinet Member for Finance for their work producing the Unaudited Statement of Accounts.

Other Decisions

None.

25. LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

RESOLVED that, in accordance with Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, and after considering the public interest test as set out by the officer in the body of the report, Members agreed that the following items of business involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 2, and therefore, in accordance with Section 100A of the Act, the press and public be excluded from the meeting:

Agenda Item No. 5(a) – Nottinghamshire Derbyshire Procurement Unit (Key Decision No. 390) – Paragraph 2

(Councillor J M Sanger remained in the meeting with the Chairman's permission.)

SECTION B – ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION IN PRIVATE

Key Decisions

26. REPORT(S) OF THE CABINET MEMBER – FINANCE – COUNCILLOR J EVANS

(a) Nottinghamshire Derbyshire Procurement Unit (Key Decision No. 390)

Members' approval was sought to provide a shared Procurement Service between a number of District Councils in Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire. The report outlined: background; management and house-keeping; procurement processes; and proposals.

Options, Risks and Reasons for Recommendations

Option One – For Bassetlaw to continue operating as a single entity which will continue the excellent work that has been achieved so far, but this will not take it to the next level in terms of maximising procurement efficiencies.

Option Two – To accept and approve the proposal which will enable Bassetlaw to develop an effective procurement team that will deliver efficiencies and quality in all procurement activity across all of the six councils.

RESOLVED that:

1. Bassetlaw as the lead procurement authority on behalf of the six councils be approved.
2. A new Nottinghamshire Derbyshire Procurement Unit staffing structure be approved to facilitate a joint working approach to be delivered.

Other Decisions

None.

27. ANY OTHER BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS TO BE URGENT

As there was no other business to be considered, the Chairman closed the meeting.

(Meeting closed at 5.25pm.)