

Committee: Executive
Date: Monday 6 February 2017
Time: 6.30 pm
Venue: Bodicote House, Bodicote, Banbury, OX15 4AA

Membership

Councillor Barry Wood (Chairman)	Councillor G A Reynolds (Vice-Chairman)
Councillor Ken Atack	Councillor Colin Clarke
Councillor John Donaldson	Councillor Tony Ilott
Councillor Mike Kerford-Byrnes	Councillor Kieron Mallon
Councillor D M Pickford	Councillor Lynn Pratt

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence

2. Declarations of Interest

Members are asked to declare any interest and the nature of that interest that they may have in any of the items under consideration at this meeting.

3. Petitions and Requests to Address the Meeting

The Chairman to report on any requests to submit petitions or to address the meeting.

4. Urgent Business

The Chairman to advise whether they have agreed to any item of urgent business being admitted to the agenda.

5. Minutes (Pages 1 - 8)

To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting held on 9 January 2017.

6. Chairman's Announcements

To receive communications from the Chairman.

7. Discretionary Rate Relief Policy (Pages 9 - 30) 6.35pm

Report of Chief Finance Officer

Purpose of report

To seek approval of the Discretionary Rate Relief Policy effective from 1 April 2017 and agree for the final determination of the policy guidelines to be delegated to the Chief Finance Officer, in consultation with the Lead Member for Financial Management, due to pending legislative changes in respect of Rural Rate Relief announced in the Autumn Statement 2016 and confirmed by the Local Government Finance Bill.

Recommendations

The meeting is recommended:

- 1.1 To note the contents of the report and the recommendation of the Budget Planning Committee at its meeting on 17 January 2017 to approve the Discretionary Rate Relief Policy.
- 1.2 To consider any amendments to the proposed draft Discretionary Rate Relief Policy and to approve the Policy for adoption subject to 1.3 below.
- 1.3 To agree that the final content of the policy guidelines will be subject to confirmation by the Chief Finance Officer in consultation with the Lead Member for Financial Management.

8. Corporate Fraud Prosecution and Sanction Policy (Pages 31 - 42) 6.40pm

Report of Chief Finance Officer

Purpose of report

To provide members with the updated Joint Sanctions and Prosecution Policy and to seek approval to the reviewed policy.

Recommendations

The meeting is recommended:

- 1.1 To approve the updated Joint Corporate Fraud Prosecution and Sanction Policy.

9. Draft Budget, Corporate Business Plan and Cycle of Growth 2017/18 6.45pm
(Pages 43 - 124)

Report of Chief Finance Officer

Purpose of report

The Council is required to produce a balanced budget for 2017/18 as the basis for calculating its level of Council Tax. It has to base that budget on its plans for service delivery during the year, recognising any changes in service demand that may arise in future years.

The proposed budget and business plan for 2017/18, including the new cycle of growth strategies, are presented as an integrated report to demonstrate that the Council adopts a strategic approach to managing all of its resources, ensuring that the delivery of the Council's priorities for the district directs the allocation of financial resources.

Recommendations

The meeting is recommended:

- 1.1 To consider and approve the draft budget in the context of the Council's service objectives and strategic priorities.
- 1.2 To approve and recommend the balanced budget to Full Council.
- 1.3 To recommend to Full Council a Council tax freeze.
- 1.4 To recommend to full council the proposed 2017/18 capital programme set out in Appendix 5.
- 1.5 To note the impact of the proposed budget on reserves and recommend the reserves 2017/18 to full council, see Appendix 6.
- 1.6 To approve the use of £3.053m of reserves to fund the initial one-off payment to the pension fund, in order to achieve the saving of £382,000.
- 1.7 To note the latest Medium Term Revenue Plan (MTRP) for 2016/17 to 2021/22, at Appendix 3; this will be the basis of the work of the Budget Planning Committee for the following year.
- 1.8 To recommend, subject to any further changes Members may wish to include tonight, the updated draft revenue budget for adoption by Full Council on 20 February 2017.
- 1.9 To delegate authority to the Chief Finance Officer, in consultation with the Lead Member for Financial Management to amend the contributions to or from general fund balances to allow the Council Tax to remain at the level recommended to Full Council following the announcement of the final settlement figures, any changes to relating to Business Rates or as a result of any financial implications arising from recommendation 1.8, above.

1.10 To recommend the 2017/18 business plan and performance pledges to Full Council (detailed in Appendix 7) and to delegate authority to the Director – Strategy and Commissioning, in consultation with the Leader of the Council to make any minor amendments to the plan as required before consideration by Full Council.

1.11 To recommend to Full Council the joint cycle of growth strategies of Operational Excellence, Commercial Development and Innovation, and Commissioning, detailed in Appendix 8, and to delegate authority to the Director of Operational Delivery, in consultation with the Leader of the Council to make any minor amendments to the strategies and corporate values as required.

1.12 To note the 2017/18 Business Plan, Budget and Cycle of Growth Equality Impact Assessments at Appendix 9.

10. Notification of Urgent Action: Additional funding for Coach House Mews and Lincoln Close- Build! (Pages 125 - 128) 7.00pm

Report of Commercial Director

Purpose of report

To report the urgent action taken by the Commercial Director in consultation with the Leader which related to the approval of a new contract sum of £2,686,299 to include £78,000 for additional fees associated with the London Housing Consortium (LHC) levy to be applied to Coach House Mews, Bicester and Lincoln Close, Banbury.

Recommendation

The meeting is recommended:

1.1 To note the urgent action taken by the Commercial Director in consultation with the Leader of the Council, which related to the approval of a new contract sum of £2,686,299 to include £78,000 for additional fees associated with the London Housing Consortium (LHC) levy to be applied to both the Coach House Mews, Bicester and Lincoln Close, Banbury housing developments.

11. Proposed Changes to the Local Health and Social Care Sector 7.05pm
(Pages 129 - 196)

Report of Director of Operational Delivery

Purpose of report

To inform the Executive of proposed changes to the health and social care sector, the actions of the Council to date and to consider further Council activity.

Recommendations

The meeting is recommended:

- 1.1 To note the proposals for change and the actions taken by the Council to date.
- 1.2 To consider further the specialist advice to the Councils and the emerging Council response to the stage 1 consultation process upon receipt of further information.
- 1.3 To agree to hold an all member briefing at the end of March 2017 regarding the Council's intended response to the stage 1 consultation proposals.

12. Exclusion of the Press and Public

The following item contains exempt information as defined in the following paragraphs of Part 1, Schedule 12A of Local Government Act 1972.

5 – Information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings

Members are reminded that whilst the following item has been marked as exempt, it is for the meeting to decide whether or not to consider it in private or in public. In making the decision, members should balance the interests of individuals or the Council itself in having access to the information. In considering their discretion members should also be mindful of the advice of Council Officers.

No representations have been received from the public requesting that this item be considered in public.

Should Members decide not to make a decision in public, they are recommended to pass the following recommendation:

“That under Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the ground that, if the public and press were present, it would be likely that exempt information falling under the provisions of Schedule 12A, Part 1, Paragraph 5 would be disclosed to them, and that in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.”

13. Proposed Changes to the Local Health and Social Care Sector - Exempt Appendix

** Please note that this appendix will follow once it has been received from external legal advisors **

(Meeting scheduled to close at 7.15pm)

Information about this Agenda

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence should be notified to natasha.clark@cherwellandsouthnorthants.gov.uk or 01295 221589 prior to the start of the meeting.

Declarations of Interest

Members are asked to declare interests at item 2 on the agenda or if arriving after the start of the meeting, at the start of the relevant agenda item.

Local Government and Finance Act 1992 – Budget Setting, Contracts & Supplementary Estimates

Members are reminded that any member who is two months in arrears with Council Tax must declare the fact and may speak but not vote on any decision which involves budget setting, extending or agreeing contracts or incurring expenditure not provided for in the agreed budget for a given year and could affect calculations on the level of Council Tax.

Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012

This agenda constitutes the 5 day notice required by Regulation 5 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012 in terms of the intention to consider an item of business in private.

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Queries Regarding this Agenda

Please contact Natasha Clark, Democratic and Elections
natasha.clark@cherwellandsouthnorthants.gov.uk, 01295 221589

Sue Smith
Chief Executive

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