

## **Cherwell District Council**

### **Budget Planning Committee**

Minutes of a meeting of the Budget Planning Committee held at Bodicote House, Bodicote, Banbury, OX15 4AA, on 27 September 2016 at 6.30 pm

Present: Councillor Nicholas Mawer (Chairman)  
Councillor Douglas Webb (Vice-Chairman)

Councillor Ken Atack  
Councillor Hugo Brown  
Councillor Ian Corkin  
Councillor Carmen Griffiths  
Councillor Barry Richards  
Councillor Sean Woodcock

Substitute Members: Councillor Barry Wood (In place of Councillor David Anderson)

Apologies for absence: Councillor David Anderson  
Councillor Alan MacKenzie-Wintle  
Councillor Tom Wallis

Officers: Paul Sutton, Chief Finance Officer / Section 151 Officer  
George Hill, Corporate Finance Manager  
Lesley Farrell, Democratic and Elections Officer

#### **31 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

#### **32 Urgent Business**

There were no items of urgent business.

#### **33 Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 30 August 2016 were agreed a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

#### **34 Chairman's Announcements**

There were no Chairman's Announcements

## **Budget Strategy 2017/18 and Beyond**

The Chief Finance Officer submitted a report on the Budget Strategy 2017/18 and beyond which informed the Committee of the service and financial planning process for 2017/18, the 2017/18 budget strategy and the budget guidelines for service managers to enable to production of the 2017/18 budget.

In considering the report, members were pleased that front line services would be protected.

In response to members' comments regarding internal recharging and how it would sit in relation to commercialisation, the Chief Finance Officer explained that when the current year's accounts had closed, work on recharging would start and feed into commercialisation.

### **Resolved**

- (1) That the contents of the report be endorsed.
- (2) That the following three recommendations be made to Executive
  - That the updated medium term revenue plan forecast for the Council's revenue budget for 2017/18 to 2021/22 be noted
  - That the overall 2017/18 budget strategy and service and financial planning process be endorsed
  - That the proposed budget guidelines and timetable for 2017/18 budget process be agreed

## **Review of Committee Work Plan**

In considering the work plan the Committee requested that the Solihull Partnership be invited back to the Committee along with the appropriate Executive Members. The Committee also requested that a tour of the outstanding Capital Projects be organised to give a better idea of the outstanding projects across the district.

The Chief Finance Officer suggested that due to the settlement technical consultation a further Committee could be scheduled if timings allowed.

### **Resolved**

- (1) That the Solihull Partnership, Executive members and the Head of Regeneration and Housing be invited, to a future meeting, to discuss the those capital projects currently being undertaken by the Solihull Partnership.
- (2) That arrangements be made for a members' tour of outstanding Capital Projects

- (3) That subject to resolutions (1) and (2) above the contents of the Work Programme be noted

37 **Exclusion of Press and Public**

**Resolved**

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 3 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

38 **Exempt Appendices - Budget Strategy 2017/18 and Beyond**

The Committee reviewed the exempt appendices

**Resolved**

- 1) That the exempt appendices be noted

39 **Efficiency Plan - 2017/18 to 2021/22**

The Chief Finance Officer submitted an exempt report which provided an update on the Council's Efficiency Plan 2017/18 to 2021/22.

The Committee noted and welcomed that the Government was offering a four year settlement, subject to the submission of and Efficiency Plan by 14 October 2016.

The Chief Finance Officer advised the Committee that a Technical Consultation which would look at changes to the established process and last for a period of 6 weeks would commence on 29 September 2016 and officers would be submitting a response on behalf of the Council.

**Resolved**

- (1) That the Executive be recommended to approve the Efficiency Plan 2017/18 to 2021/22.

The meeting ended at 7.50 pm

Chairman:

Date: