

## **Cherwell District Council**

### **Budget Planning Committee**

Minutes of a meeting of the Budget Planning Committee held at Bodicote House, Bodicote, Banbury, OX15 4AA, on 19 January 2016 at 6.30 pm

Present: Councillor Nicholas Mawer (Chairman)  
Councillor Nigel Randall (Vice-Chairman)

Councillor Ken Atack  
Councillor Ian Corkin  
Councillor Carmen Griffiths  
Councillor Mike Kerford-Byrnes  
Councillor Barry Richards  
Councillor Douglas Webb  
Councillor Barry Wood  
Councillor Sean Woodcock

Substitute Members: Councillor Richard Mould (In place of Councillor Colin Clarke)

Also Present:: Linda Wilson – Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council, for agenda item 6  
Paul Evans - Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council, for agenda item 6

Apologies for absence: Councillor Colin Clarke  
Councillor Russell Hurle

Officers: Paul Sutton, Head of Finance and Procurement  
George Hill, Corporate Finance Manager  
Linda Barlow, Property and Facilities Manager  
Lesley Farrell, Democratic and Elections Officer

#### **51 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

#### **52 Urgent Business**

There were no items of urgent business.

#### **53 Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 1 December 2015 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

54 **Chairman's Announcements**

There were no Chairman's announcements.

55 **Cherwell / Solihull Partnership member presentation**

The Chairman welcomed Linda Wilson and Paul Evans of Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council to the meeting.

Linda Wilson and Paul Evans gave a presentation on the Solihull Partnership, a Property Services Partnership which they advised delivered a more cost effective capital works by reducing contract administration and procurement time and therefore delivered better value for money.

The Committee was advised that the Solihull Partnership had been procured to complete interim works and was working with Cherwell District Council Property Services to complete planned capital works.

The depth of service had yet to be agreed but once this had been ascertained, a business case would be developed to enter into partnership with Solihull Property Services Partnership.

**Resolved**

(1) That the presentation be noted.

56 **Review of Reserves**

The Director of Resources submitted a report on the review of reserves held by Cherwell District Council.

The Committee were appreciative of the work that had been done in reviewing the reserves. It had proved very useful and requested that it be repeated and included in future work programmes.

**Resolved**

(1) That the figures in the appendices, in relation to earmarked reserves, be accepted and endorsed by the Committee.

57 **Medium Term Revenue Plan and draft 2016-17 Revenue and Capital Budgets**

The Head of Finance and Procurement submitted a report which set out the Medium Term Revenue Plan, draft Revenue and Capital Budget proposals for 2016/17.

The Head of Finance and Procurement gave a presentation on the Provisional Settlement for 2016/17 and beyond. The proposal for a four year settlement was welcomed as it would give more certainty and accuracy in budget setting.

**Resolved**

- (1) That the updated Medium Term Revenue Plan be noted.
- (2) That the 2016/17 draft revenue budget be recommended to Executive to recommend to Full Council for adoption.
- (3) That the 2016/17 capital programme be recommended to Executive to recommend to Full Council for adoption.
- (4) That Executive be recommended to recommend to Full Council that there be no Council Tax Increase for 2016/17

(Councillor Barry Richards and Councillor Sean Woodcock requested that their abstention from the vote on resolutions 2, 3 and 4 be recorded.)

58 **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

59 **Exempt Appendices of BPC Revenue and Capital Budget 16-17 Report**

The Committee considered the exempt appendices of the report of Head of Finance and Procurement on the Medium Term Revenue Plan, Draft 2016/17 Revenue and Capital Budgets.

**Resolved**

- (1) That the exempt appendices be noted.

60 **Re-admittance of Press and Public**

**Resolved**

That the Press and Public be re-admitted.

61 **Review of Committee Work Plan**

The Committee considered its work plan 2015/16.

The Committee agreed that the in-depth review of reserves should remain on the work plan and requested that details be issued to Budget Planning Committee members two weeks prior to the meeting at which it would be considered to enable requests for Officers to attend the meeting for further in-depth analysis.

**Resolved**

(1) That the Work Plan be noted.

The meeting ended at 8.40 pm

Chairman:

Date: