



Committee: Executive

Date: Monday 5 December 2022

Time: 6.30 pm

Venue Bodicote House, Bodicote, Banbury, Oxon OX15 4AA

Membership

Councillor Barry Wood (Chairman)

Councillor Phil Chapman
Councillor Nicholas Mawer
Councillor Adam Nell
Councillor Eddie Reeves

Councillor Ian Corkin (Vice-Chairman)

Councillor Colin Clarke
Councillor Richard Mould
Councillor Lynn Pratt
Councillor Dan Sames

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. Minutes (Pages 7 - 14)

To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting held on 7 November 2022.

5. Chairman's Announcements

To receive communications from the Chairman.

6. Urgent Business

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

7. Monthly Performance, Risk and Finance Monitoring Report October 2022 (Pages 15 - 68)

Report of Assistant Director of Finance and Assistant Director – Customer Focus

Purpose of report

To update the Executive on the Council's Performance, Risk and Finance positions as at the end of October 2022.

Recommendations

The meeting is recommended to:

- 1.1 Note the Performance, Risk and Finance Monitoring Report for October 2022.

8. Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2023-2024 (Pages 69 - 74)

Report of Assistant Director of Finance

Purpose of report

To enable members to consider the banded scheme for Council Tax Reduction and to seek approval to recommend to Council a council Tax Reduction Scheme for the financial year 2023/24.

To note potential changes to Council Tax discounts and reliefs which are currently subject to consultation as part of the Council's budget consultation

Recommendations

The meeting is recommended:

- 1.1 To note the contents of this report and the financial implications for the Council.
- 1.2 To recommend to Council:
 - The option of no change to the Council Tax Reduction Income Banded Scheme for Working Age Customers for 2023 -24.
 - To amend Working Age Regulations in line with annual uprating; and to amend the Council Tax Regulations for pensioners in line with uprating announced by Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities.

- 1.3 To recommend to Council the levels of Council Tax discounts and premiums remain the same as previous years:
- Retain the discount for second homes at zero .
 - Retain the discount for empty homes (unoccupied and substantially unfurnished) at 25% for 6 months and thereafter zero.
 - Retain the empty homes premium of an additional 100% for properties that have remained empty for more than 2 years (total Council Tax payable 200%).
- 1.4 To note and to highlight to Council that the following Council Tax discounts and premiums are currently proposed to change as part of the Council's 2023/24 budget consultation:
- Introduce an empty homes premium of an additional 200% for properties that have remained empty for more than 5 years (total Council Tax payable 300%).
 - Introduce an empty homes premium of an additional 300% for properties that have remained empty for more than 10 years (total Council Tax payable 400%).
 - Removal of the 25% discount for 12 months (zero thereafter) for dwellings which are vacant and undergoing major repair work to render them habitable.

9. Infrastructure Funding Statement 2021/22 (Pages 75 - 122)

Report of Assistant Director – Planning and Development

Purpose of report

To seek approval of the Council's Infrastructure Funding Statement 2021/22 for publication and for an accompanying data submission to the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities.

Recommendations

The meeting is recommended:

- 1.1 To approve the Infrastructure Funding Statement 21/22 at Appendix 1 for publication by 31 December 2022, subject to any final changes considered to be necessary by the Assistant Director – Planning and Development to secure accuracy in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Planning.
- 1.2 To authorise the Assistant Director – Planning and Development to publish and submit the associated Infrastructure Funding Statement data as required by the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities.

10. Update on the UK Shared Prosperity Fund and the Rural England Prosperity Fund (Pages 123 - 142)

Report of the Assistant Director - Growth and Economy

Purpose of report

The purpose of this report is to:

1. Provide Executive with a comprehensive update on the UK Shared Prosperity Fund investment plan (awaiting approval and imminent arrival of the first tranche of funding) and the development of an 'Addendum' to unlock the Rural England Prosperity Fund.
2. Gain support for the proposed management of the two funds up to March 2025.

Recommendations

The meeting is recommended:

- 1.1 To note progress made on unlocking Cherwell's £1.255m allocation of UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) through the submission of an investment plan on 1 August 2022.
- 1.2 To note the launch of the Rural England Prosperity Fund (REPF) and delegate authority to the Corporate Director - Communities, in consultation with the relevant Portfolio Holder, to endorse an investment plan 'Addendum' to unlock Cherwell's £526,831 allocation.
- 1.3 To endorse the approach set out in paragraph 4.2, in relation to external and internal governance structures, to manage the delivery of UKSPF and REPF projects, including the delegated authority to the Corporate Director, Communities to agree change requests.

11. Digital Infrastructure - East West Rail (Pages 143 - 148)

Report of Assistant Director - Growth and Economy

Purpose of report

To seek approval for a financial contribution of £133,000 to be made to install related digital infrastructure along the East West rail route, and for delegated authority to be given to officers to progress any necessary agreements.

Recommendations

The meeting is recommended:

- 1.1 To authorise investment of £133,000 in digital infrastructure along the East West Rail line.
- 1.2 To delegate authority to the Corporate Director – Communities, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration and Economy, the

S151 Officer and Monitoring Officer, to progress this workstream and to enter into any necessary agreement with partners to enable the works to proceed.

Information about this Agenda

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence should be notified to democracy@cherwell-dc.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 democracy@cherwell-dc.gov.uk, 01295 221589

Yvonne Rees
Chief Executive

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