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COUNCIL

Minutes of a Council Meeting held on Monday 5 March 2018 in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Matlock at 6.00 pm.

PRESENT

Councillor Richard FitzHerbert - In the Chair

Councillors Jason Atkin, Deborah Botham, Sue Bull, Martin Burfoot, Sue Burfoot, Albert Catt, David Chapman, Ann Elliott, Graham Elliott, Steve Flitter, Helen Froggatt, Chris Furness, Alyson Hill, Susan Hobson, Neil Horton, Vicky Massey Bloodworth, Tony Morley, Dermot Murphy, Joyce Pawley, Irene Ratcliffe, Mike Ratcliffe, Lewis Rose OBE, Andrew Shirley, Peter Slack, Andrew Statham, Jackie Stevens, Colin Swindell and John Tibenham.

Dorcas Bunton (Chief Executive), Sandra Lamb (Head of Corporate Services), Tim Braund (Head of Regulatory Services), Karen Henriksen (Head of Resources), Rob Cogings (Head of Housing), Ashley Watts (Head of Community and Environmental Services), Steve Capes (Head of Regeneration and Policy), Jim Fearn (Communications and Marketing Manager) and Jackie Cullen (Committee Assistant).

2 members of the public.

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Richard Bright, Tom Donnelly, Jean Monks, Garry Purdy, Philippa Tilbrook and Joanne Wild.

324/17 – MINUTES

It was moved by Councillor Richard FitzHerbert, seconded by Councillor Andrew Shirley and

RESOLVED
(unanimously)

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Derbyshire Dales District Council held on 25 January 2018 be approved as a correct record.

The minutes were signed by the Chairman.

325/17 – PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE – COMMERCIALISM

The Council considered a report on the potential for operating on a more commercial basis to help achieve a sustainable financial future. It was agreed at a Members'

Workshop in November 2017 to set out a framework for taking this agenda forward, and the report set out an approach for the Council to explore commercial opportunities.

Some examples that were presented at the Members' Workshop that might be of specific interest to this Council were listed in the report. However, in taking any of the suggestions or other opportunities forward a framework for delivery needed to be set out, as detailed in the report, together with governance arrangements. In this regard, it was recommended that a Working Group of Members and Officers (Chief Executive, Corporate Director, Head of Resources and Head of Corporate Services) be set up, to meet as soon as possible to determine the detailed Terms of Reference for a more formally constituted Board of Members (supported by Officers). It was suggested that the Working Group should comprise 6 Members set up using voluntary proportionality rules (4:1:1). The formal Board structure would be adopted at the Annual Meeting in May.

If Council approved the initial Investment Strategy proposals as set out in the report; the recommendation was to set up a Working Group of Members initially and the establishment of an Investment Fund, it was proposed that the first meeting of the Working Group take place as soon as possible after this meeting and a further report be made to Council in May 2018.

It was moved by Councillor Lewis Rose OBE, seconded by Councillor Albert Catt and

RESOLVED
(unanimously)

1. The setting up of a Working Group of 6 Members (using voluntary proportionality rules) supported by Officers as detailed in paragraph 1.14 of the report is agreed.
2. The main purpose and principles of the Commercial Investment Strategy as outlined in paragraphs 1.10 and 1.11 of the report are approved.
3. The conversion of the Invest to Save reserve to the Investment Fund is approved.
4. The first meeting of the Working Group is agreed to take place as soon as possible after this meeting and will prepare a report to May 2018 Council, comprising:-
 - a) The Board make up and Terms of Reference.
 - b) Detailed Assessment criteria for projects.
 - c) Delegated powers and authority of the Board.

326/17 – CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2017/18 TO 2022/23

Council considered a report that:

- Sought approval for a revised Capital Programme and financing arrangements for 2017/18;
- Sought approval for a revised Capital Programme and financing arrangements for 2018/19 to 2022/23;
- Outlined potential future liabilities not included in the Capital Programme; and
- Sought approval for Prudential Indicators and a Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Statement for 2018/19.

Further to the report on the Capital Programme for 2017/18 approved at the Council meeting on the 2nd March 2017, an updated programme was presented for consideration, to reflect

slippage (there were no new bids, as had been indicated in the report) and to include potential new projects identified by the Corporate Leadership Team that would be required in the next 1-2 years.

The Prudential Indicators and Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Statement, as required by The Local Government Act 2003, was detailed in Appendix 3 to the report.

It was moved by Councillor Albert Catt, seconded by Councillor Jacquie Stevens and

RESOLVED
(unanimously)

1. That the revised Capital Programme and financing arrangements for 2017/18, as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report, in the sum £3,039,954 be approved;
2. That the revised Capital Programme and financing arrangements for 2018/19, as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report, in the sum of £3,621,714 be approved.
3. That the Capital Programmes for the years from 2019/20 to 2022/23, as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report, for the sum of £3,969,879 be approved.
4. That the potential future liabilities outlined in Appendix 2 to the report be noted.
5. That the Prudential Indicators and Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Statement, as detailed in Appendix 3 to the report, be approved.

327/17 – SERVICE PLANS AND REVENUE BUDGET 2018/19

Councillor Lewis Rose, OBE, Leader of the Council, acknowledged the Performance Plan and Revenue Budget 2018/19, and drew Members' attention to the Council Tax increase of 2.99% and the reasons that led to it. The methodology for determining the demand on Council Tax was set out in the Summary Revenue Account in Appendix 2 to the report. Councillor Rose advised Members that the Council was committed to continuing to help provide more affordable housing, whilst maintaining frontline services, and cited some of the more positive achievements to date.

Council were asked to approve the District Council's service plans for 2018/19, and revised spending proposals for 2017/18 and the spending proposals for 2018/19. attached as Appendix 1 to the report.

Details of the provisional Local Government Finance Settlement 2018/19 were reported to Council in January; final figures were issued on 6th February and approved in Parliament on 7th February. The final settlement was broadly in line with the 2018/19 provisional settlement and indicative 2019/20 settlement that was published on 19 December 2017, and tabled in paragraph 2.4 of the report.

The Summary Revenue Account that set out the spending proposals for this Council and the precepts of the Town/Parish Councils for 2018/19 was attached as Appendix 2 to the report.

Savings from service reviews had not yet been identified and, therefore, had not been included in the proposed budget for 2018/19, the medium term financial plan or the efficiency plan. The need to achieve further savings was set out in the Medium Term Financial Plan.

The updated Efficiency Plan; transfers to/from reserves, and the estimated position on the Council's Reserves and Balances as at 31st March 2018 and 31st March 2019 were also reported. The precepts of Town/Parish Councils for 2018/19 were shown in detail in Appendix 10 to the report.

Statutory Legislation required a recorded vote in respect of the Revenue Budget in accordance with rule of procedure 19e.

It was moved by Councillor Lewis Rose OBE, seconded by Councillor Albert Catt and

RESOLVED

(Unanimously)

1. That the level of Council Tax for 2018/19 is increased by 2.99% from the 2017/18 level.
2. The revised estimate of net revenue expenditure for 2017/18 of £5,659,485, as detailed in the Summary Revenue Account in Appendix 2 to the report, is approved.
3. The net sum of £1,089,789 is transferred to earmarked reserves in 2017/18, as shown in Appendix 7 to the report.
4. The estimated net revenue expenditure for 2018/19 totalling £5,889,893, as detailed in the Summary Revenue Account in Appendix 2 to the report, is approved.
5. The minimum level of uncommitted working balances is approved at £1,000,000 at 1st April 2018, and £1,000,000 at 1st April 2019.
6. The net sum of £518,043 is transferred from earmarked reserves in 2018/19, as shown in Appendix 7 to the report.
7. The following amounts are calculated by the Council for the chargeable financial year 2018/19 in accordance with Section 31A of the Localism Act 2011:-
 - i. aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2)(a) to (f) thereof is £35,814,136;
 - ii. aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3)(a) to (d) thereof is £28,404,496;
 - iii. calculation under Section 31A(4) being the amount of which the aggregate at (i) above exceeds the aggregate of (ii) above, as the Council Tax Requirement for 2018/19 is £7,409,640;
8. The Derbyshire Dales District Council Service Plans and Revenue Spending Proposals (as circulated with the agenda) are approved.
9. That a new Corporate Savings Target, to achieve savings of £1m by 2020/21, is approved.
10. That the Head of Resources' report on the robustness of the budget and the adequacy of reserves in accordance with clause 25 of the Local Government Act 2003 is noted.

Voting:

In favour

Councillors Jason Atkin, Deborah Botham, Sue Bull, Martin Burfoot, Sue Burfoot, Albert Catt, David Chapman, Ann Elliott, Graham Elliott, Richard FitzHerbert, Steve Flitter, Helen Froggatt, Chris Furness, Alyson Hill, Susan Hobson, Neil Horton, Vicky Massey Bloodworth, Tony Morley, Dermot Murphy, Joyce Pawley, Irene Ratcliffe, Mike Ratcliffe, Lewis Rose OBE, Andrew Shirley, Peter Slack, Andrew Statham, Jacque Stevens, Colin Swindell and John Tibenham (29)

**Against
Abstentions**

(0)
(0)

328/17 – COUNCIL TAX SETTINGS 2018/19

The Council considered a report that enabled calculation and setting of the Council Tax for 2018/19.

The precept levels of other precepting bodies were included in the report.

A recorded vote was required in respect of Council Tax setting in accordance with rule of procedure 19e.

It was moved by Councillor Lewis Rose OBE, seconded by Councillor Albert Catt and

RESOLVED
(Unanimously)

That the Council approves the formal Council Tax resolution set out in Appendices A to C of the report.

**Voting:
In favour**

Councillors Jason Atkin, Deborah Botham, Sue Bull, Martin Burfoot, Sue Burfoot, Albert Catt, David Chapman, Ann Elliott, Graham Elliott, Richard FitzHerbert, Steve Flitter, Helen Froggatt, Chris Furness, Alyson Hill, Susan Hobson, Neil Horton, Vicky Massey Bloodworth, Tony Morley, Dermot Murphy, Joyce Pawley, Irene Ratcliffe, Mike Ratcliffe, Lewis Rose OBE, Andrew Shirley, Peter Slack, Andrew Statham, Jacque Stevens, Colin Swindell and John Tibenham (29).

**Against
Abstentions**

(0)
(0)

329/17 – CORPORATE PLAN 2018/19

Council were asked to consider a report that set out the top priorities for the District Council, and provided the framework for allocating scarce resources through the budget that followed on the agenda. This report recommended the Corporate Plan targets for 2018/19, on the basis of the Corporate Plan 2015-2019 adopted in November 2015. The report also presented performance against the Corporate Plan targets 2017/18 as at the end of the third quarter.

The Corporate Plan 2015-2019 identified three priorities set by Members:

1. Business growth and job creation (helping new businesses to start; helping existing businesses to grow; and promoting key development sites in and around towns)

2. Affordable housing (identifying and delivering new affordable housing sites; reducing empty homes in the private sector; and improving housing opportunities for vulnerable people)
3. Market towns (reviving stall markets; and seeking public realm improvements)

Sixteen specific Corporate Plan targets for 2018/19 were proposed, compared with thirteen for 2017/18. Progress to December 2017 (end of Q3) was set out in the report, with full details attached as Appendix 1 to the report. Outturn performance would be published later this year. Progress to date was set out in the report, with full details attached as Appendix 2 to the report.

It was moved by Councillor Chris Furness, seconded by Councillor Susan Hobson and

RESOLVED
(unanimously)

1. That Corporate Plan targets for 2018/19 are adopted as set out in section 2 of the report
2. That performance to date against 2017/18 Corporate Plan targets is noted.

330/17 – TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY STATEMENT 2018/19

Council were asked to consider a report that determined the Treasury Management Strategy and Annual Investment Strategy for 2018/19, as required by The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's *Treasury Management in the Public Services: Code of Practice 2017 Edition* (the CIPFA Code) and revised guidance by the Department for Communities and Local Government (CLG).

A detailed economic and interest rate forecast provided by Arlingclose was attached as Appendix A to the report, and the Council's existing investment and debt portfolio position was attached as Appendix B to the report.

It was moved by Councillor Jacquie Stevens, seconded by Councillor Tony Morley and

RESOLVED
(unanimously)

1. That the Treasury Management Strategy Statement for 2018/19 be approved;
2. That the Annual Investment Strategy for 2018/19 be approved.

331/17 – FAIR FUNDING REVIEW

Council were asked to consider a report on the Government's consultation paper "*Fair funding review: a review of relative needs and resources*" and the Council's response.

The deadline for responses to the consultation document was 12 March 2018. The outcome of the Fair Funding Review would enable the Government to reconsider how the relative needs and resources of local authorities should be assessed in a world in which they will continue to have greater control over the money that they raised.

It was noted that the Rural Services Network (RSN), which included SPARSE-Rural, strongly urged all rural authorities to respond to the consultation about the Fair Funding Review. They said "We cannot emphasise too strongly just how important we feel this consultation is and the vital need for all authorities with rural areas to be responding to it". The RSN had provided a draft template to assist authorities, which was used when drafting the Council's response shown in Appendix 1 to the report.

The Head of Resources agreed to send a copy of the Council's response to the local MP once the Recommendation was approved.

It was moved by Councillor Lewis Rose OBE, seconded by Councillor Albert Catt and

RESOLVED That the response to the Consultation Paper, as given in Appendix 1
(unanimously) to the report, be approved.

332/17 - SEALING OF DOCUMENTS

It was moved by Councillor Colin Swindell, seconded by Councillor Dermot Murphy and

RESOLVED That the common seal of the Council be affixed to those documents,
(unanimously) if any, required to complete transactions undertaken by Committees or by way of delegated authority to officers since the last meeting of the Council.

MEETING CLOSED 7.30PM

CHAIRMAN