

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CORPORATE MANAGEMENT
COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY 26 JUNE 2017 AT 7.30 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL
CHAMBER, COUNCIL OFFICES, WEELEY**

Present: Councillors Baker (Vice-Chairman, in the Chair), Bush, Chapman, Scott, Skeels Jnr and Whitmore

In Attendance: Head of People, Performance and Projects (Anastasia Simpson), Head of Finance, Revenues and Benefits (Richard Barrett), Committee Services Manager (Ian Ford) and Committee Services Officer (Katie Sullivan)

7. CHAIR

In the absence of the Chairman (Councillor Steady), the Chair was occupied by the Vice-Chairman (Councillor Baker).

8. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Cawthron (with no substitute), Chittock (with no substitute), Steady (with Councillor Chapman substituting) and Stephenson (with Councillor Bush substituting).

9. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE HELD ON 15 MAY 2017

The Minutes of the meeting of the Committee, held on 15 May 2017, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

10. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

11. CORPORATE BUDGET MONITORING – FINANCIAL OUTTURN 2016/17

The Committee had before it a report of the Corporate Director (Corporate Services) which provided it with an overview of the Council's financial outturn for the year 2016/17.

It was reported that Cabinet, at its meeting held on 16 June 2017, had considered the Financial Outturn 2016/17 and had decided –

“That Cabinet:

- (a) notes the financial outturn position for 2016/17 as set out in item A.4 of the Report of the Resources and Corporate Services Portfolio Holder and its appendices;*
- (b) approves the General Fund Revenue Commitments of £11.448m to be carried forward from 2016/17 to 2017/18 as set out in Appendix A of the above-mentioned report;*
- (c) approves that the overall General Fund Outturn Variance of £1.434m be carried forward via the Revenue Commitments Reserve for further consideration as part of the Initial Financial Strategy for 2018/19 later in the year;*
- (d) approves the financing of General Fund capital expenditure for 2016/17 as detailed in Appendix D of the aforementioned report;*

- (e) *approves the General Fund capital budgets of £10.907m to be carried forward from 2016/17 to 2017/18 and the associated carry forward of the revenue contribution to capital of £1.925m;*
- (f) *approves the movement in uncommitted and earmarked General Fund reserves for 2016/17 as set out in Appendix E to the aforesaid report;*
- (g) *in respect of the HRA, approves the movement on HRA balances for 2016/17 including any commitments set out within Appendices I and J along with recharges to the HRA from the General fund of £2.203m for the year and the financing of the HRA capital expenditure as set out in Appendix J to the above report;*
- (h) *delegates authority to the Council's Section 151 Officer, in consultation with the Resources and Corporate Services Portfolio Holder, to adjust the outturn position for 2016/17 along with any corresponding adjustment to earmarked reserves as a direct result of any recommendations made by the Council's External Auditor during the course of their audit activities relating to the Council's 2016/17 accounts; and*
- (i) *following additional flexibilities given to Local Authorities by the Government, agrees to planning fees being increased by 20% from 1 July 2017 with the necessary budget adjustments being made to reflect the increase in income and associated ring-fencing arrangements, and that further information is provided to a future Cabinet meeting as to how the additional income is to be used to improve the Planning Service."*

The Cabinet report and appendices referred to above were attached as Appendix A to the Report of the Corporate Director (Corporate Services) for the Committee's consideration.

During the discussion of this item, and in response to Members' questions, the Head of Finance, Revenues and Benefits (Richard Barrett) undertook to circulate to Members after the meeting the following –

- (i) a break down of the grants given to organisations under the Big Society scheme during the last financial year;
- (ii) a copy of the Officer report to Cabinet associated with the appointment of a Public Health specialist;
- (iii) a schedule of statutory and non-statutory budgets undertaken by Local Authorities as prepared by the Department for Communities and Local Government as a useful reference for the future;
- (iv) an update against the various comments that the Committee made to Cabinet when it considered the Financial Strategy and detailed Budgets for 2017/18 earlier in the year; and
- (v) in respect of the collection of housing rent performance, the comparative performance for 2015/16.

It was agreed that Members' questions on the following matters would be put to the relevant Officers when they attended the next meeting of the Committee on 24 July 2017:

- (1) Fast Food Initiative Funded Projects;
- (2) Weekly Waste Collection Grant Funded Initiatives;
- (3) Men's Cycle Tour;
- (4) Health and Safety Review following Legionnaires issue at Frinton & Walton Pool;
- (5) Beach Economy; and
- (6) The proposed provision of new Beach Huts.

It was **AGREED** that the Committee **COMMENTS/RECOMMENDS TO CABINET** that –

- (a) the Committee supports the 20% in planning fees;
- (b) the Committee looks forward to receiving an update in due course on how this additional income will be used to improve the Planning service; and
- (c) the insurance claim monies from the Cloes Lane, Clacton-on-Sea rebuild should be ring-fenced and used (with Section 106 monies) to 'buy back' a former Council dwelling lost under the 'right to buy' legislation.

The meeting was declared closed at 9.04 p.m.

Chairman