

Minutes of a meeting of the **CABINET** held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Priory Road, Spalding, on Tuesday, 13 February 2018 at 10.00 am.

PRESENT

C N Worth (Deputy Leader)

M G Chandler (Deputy Leader)

A Casson

P E Coupland

R Gambba-Jones

C J Lawton

G J Taylor

C N Johnson

The Chief Executive, the Executive Director Commercialisation (S151), the Executive Manager Governance (Deputy Monitoring Officer), the Head of Finance, the Shared Strategic Housing Manager, the Interim Project Consultant, the Democratic Services Manager and the Democratic Services Officer.

Apologies for absence were received from or on behalf of Councillors G A Porter, T A Carter, G R Aley and A M Newton, together with Citizens Advice Bureau and Lincolnshire Community & Voluntary Service, and the Executive Director Place.

Community Representatives: Parish Councils.

43. MINUTES

The minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 21 November 2017 were signed by the Deputy Leader as a correct record.

44. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

There were no declarations of interest.

45. QUESTIONS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC UNDER THE COUNCIL'S CONSTITUTION (STANDING ORDERS).

No questions were raised under the Council's Constitution (Standing Orders).

46. TO CONSIDER ANY MATTERS WHICH HAVE BEEN SUBJECT TO CALL-IN.

There were no matters subject to call-in.

47. TO CONSIDER MATTERS ARISING FROM THE POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND PERFORMANCE MONITORING PANELS

There were no matters arising from the Policy Development and Performance Monitoring Panels.

Action By

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48. DRAFT BUDGET, MEDIUM TERM PLAN AND CAPITAL STRATEGY

Consideration was given to the joint report of the Portfolio Holder for Finance and the Executive Director Commercialisation (S151) on the Draft General Fund and Housing Revenue Account 2018-19 revenue and capital estimates and the Draft Financial Medium Term Plan, to be recommended to full Council.

The following documents were appended to the report, which had been circulated with the agenda:

- Appendix A Draft Budget 2018-19 and Medium Term Financial Plan 2018-19 to 2021-22
- Appendix B Draft General Fund Summary
- Appendix C Spalding Special Expenses 2018-19
- Appendix D General Fund Reserves
- Appendix E Capital Programme 2017/18 to 2021/22
- Appendix F Capital Strategy Draft 2018/19
- Appendix G Treasury Management Policy Statement 2018/19: and Treasury Management Strategy Statement, Minimum Revenue Provision Policy Statement and Annual Investment Strategy 2018/19
- Appendix H Fees and Charges 2017-18 estimates

The joint meeting of the Performance Monitoring Panel and Policy Development Panel had considered the budget and had stated that future budget development must be targeted at increased levels of income generation rather than cuts to budgets. Cabinet members agreed that it was important for the Authority to accelerate income generation, and it was confirmed that work on this was underway.

DECISION:

That delegated authority be given to the Executive Director Commercialisation (s151), in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Finance, to make any necessary amendments to the budget prior to council due to late notifications.

JC,
CMarshall

RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL:

- a) That the revenue estimates for the General Fund, Housing Revenue Account and Spalding Special Expenses for 2018-19 (as set out in Appendices A, B and C) be approved;
- b) That the use of reserves as set out in Appendix D be approved;

JC,
CMarshall,
CMorgan

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- c) That Housing Revenue Account weekly dwelling rents reduce by 1% over the 2017-18 rent with effect from Monday 2nd April 2018. This is in line with current government guidelines and legislation;
- d) That the fees and charges shown in Appendix H be approved for adoption from 1 April 2018;
- e) That the Council Tax for a Band A property in 2018-19 be set at £113.22, a £3.33 per annum increase on 2017-18 levels (Band D £169.83, a £4.99 per annum increase on 2017-18 levels);
- f) That the Spalding special expense for a Band A property be set at £15.99, £15.38 in 2017-18 (Band D £23.99, £23.07 in 2017-18);
- g) That the Medium Term Financial Plan (Appendices A and B) be approved;
- h) That the capital strategy and capital programme (Appendices E and F) be approved; and
- i) That the Treasury Management Strategy, including the Minimum Revenue Provision policy and annual investment strategy (Appendix G) be approved.

(Other options considered:

- *No alternative options were presented however, amendments could be made by Cabinet before release to Council.*

Reasons for decision:

- *To comply with the budget and policy framework).*

49. Q3 FINANCE REPORT 2017-18

Consideration was given to the report of the Portfolio Holder for Finance and the Executive Director Commercialisation (S151) which provided information on Quarter 3 (to 31 December 2017) and forecast full year financial position of the Council.

Members were advised that there were several adjustments and variations from the position reported at Quarter 1, and these were detailed within section 2.1.3 of the report.

Members thanked officers within the Finance Team for their hard work on the budgets.

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DECISION:

That the report be noted;

RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL:

- a) That the use of reserves as set out in paragraph 2.4.2 of the report be approved; and
- b) That the necessary revision to the capital programme as part of the 2018-19 budget report be approved.

(Other options considered:

- *To note the report and not approve the recommendations detailed.*

Reasons for decision:

- *To provide information to members on the overall financial position of the Council).*

50. LINCOLNSHIRE HOMELESSNESS STRATEGY 2017-21

Consideration was given to the report of the Portfolio Holder for Housing and Health and the Executive Director Commercialisation (S151) which asked members to consider the Lincolnshire Homelessness Strategy for adoption.

The Cabinet was advised that P3, a charity set up to support rough sleepers, provided a 24 hour telephone number which was available to report homelessness issues. Members requested that officers speak with the Press to publicise these details.

Section 1.8 of the report set out the new approach to delivery of the strategy. A Homelessness Prevention Programme Manager had been appointed to oversee the delivery of the Strategy. It was agreed that the Portfolio Holder Housing and Health provide an update in six months time on how this was working.

DECISION:

- a) That South Holland District Council adopt the Lincolnshire Homelessness Strategy 2017-21; and
- b) That in order to ensure that that the Strategy and the associated delivery plan remain relevant, a full review of the data under-pinning the Strategy is commenced within six months of adoption of the Strategy.

(Other options considered:

- *Not to adopt the Lincolnshire Homelessness Strategy*

JC,
CMarshall,
CMorgan

MH

MH

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2017-21.

Reasons for decision:

- *To meet the Council's statutory duties under the Homelessness Reduction Act 2002.)*

51. WELLAND HOMES BUSINESS PLAN UPDATE

Consideration was given to the joint report of the Executive Director Commercialisation and the Portfolio Holder for Finance, which updated the Welland Homes Business Plan, and requested that the necessary arrangements for Welland Homes to commence delivery of a housing development at Parkside Crescent, Spalding, be put in place.

Members discussed only the principles of the report and not the specific financial details; so there was no need for the meeting to go into private session.

DECISION:

- a) That subject to business plan and subsequent changes to budget being approved, the sale of the land at Parkside Crescent be approved.
- b) That subject to the business plan and subsequent changes to the budget being approved, delegated authority be granted to the Executive Director - Commercialisation (the S151 Officer), to approve the terms of any loan agreements required and the value of any periodic cash flow payments to be made to the company.

MH,
CMarshall

CMorgan

RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL:

- c) That the amendment to the Welland Homes Business Plan be approved, and that the Capital Programme, included as Appendix E to the draft Budget, Medium Term Plan and Capital Strategy Report to Council on 28 February 2018, and considered at Item 7 of the Cabinet agenda, be amended to reflect the amended programme set out in paragraph 1.18 of the report before Cabinet at item 10 of the agenda.
- d) That the delegated authority, granted by Council on 25 March 2015, to the Executive Director – Commercialisation (the S151 Officer), to approve the final mix of use of reserves and borrowing in line with the business plan and Council Treasury Management Strategy, be reaffirmed.

MH,
CMarshall,
CMorgan

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(Other options considered:

- *Do nothing;*

Reasons for decision:

- *To enable Welland Homes to proceed to contract stage for the proposed development at Parkside Crescent, Spalding.)*

52. ANY OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE LEADER DECIDES ARE URGENT.

There were no urgent items.

(The meeting ended at 10.39 am)

(End of minutes)

These minutes are published on Friday 16 February 2018. In accordance with the Council's Constitution the DECISIONS detailed above will, unless otherwise stated, come into force and may then be implemented on Monday 26 February 2018 (i.e. after the expiry of working days from the date of publication of these minutes), unless during that period a notice which is signed by either a Ward Representative (in relation to a matter in their ward) or two members of the Performance Monitoring Panel or any three members, and complies with the requirements of the Council's Constitution is served on the Executive Manager Governance requesting that the decision be called-in and the Executive Manager Governance approves the request for call-in. Where a decision is called-in it will firstly be considered by the Performance Monitoring Panel on a date to be fixed.

Any FINAL DECISIONS and any URGENT DECISIONS take effect immediately.

Any RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL detailed above will be submitted for consideration to the meeting of the full Council on 28 February 2018.