



POLICY, FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

PARKSIDE, STATION APPROACH, BURTON STREET, MELTON MOWBRAY

25 JANUARY 2017

Present:-

Councillors P.M. Posnett (Chair), L. Higgins (Vice Chair), M. Glancy, J.T Orson,
J.B. Rhodes, J. Wyatt.

Strategic Director (KA), Head of Central Services,
Corporate Property Officer, Committee Support Officer (KW)

P55. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors R. De Burle and E. Holmes.
Councillors E. Hutchison and T. Greenow were not present.

P56. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on the 30 November 2017 were confirmed and
authorised to be signed by the Chair.

*(The discussion here went into exempt session and returned to public session for
the following agenda items)*

P57. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Posnett, Rhodes and Orson declared a personal interest in any items
relating to Leicestershire County Council due to their position as County
Councillors.

P58. UPDATE ON DECISIONS

The updates on decisions were agreed.

P59. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM OTHER COMMITTEES

There were no recommendations from other committees.

P60. CIVIC SUITE REVIEW OF CHARGES

The Head of Central Services submitted a report to provide information on the
civic suite fees and charges that are made by this committee and to recommend
changes to operate from 1st April 2017.

The Head of Central Services explained that expanding the use of the civic suite and generating additional income was an area identified within the efficiency programme. Whilst this was not considered to be an area where significant additional income could be raised it was determined it was worth looking into with the limited resources we have. As such the report sets out what has been undertaken to date and it recommends some revised charges to operate from the 1 April 2017.

The Head of Central Services explained that a new website would be set up to market the facility as currently a search would take you to the Melton Borough Council webpage. It was clarified that each of the civic rooms could be let individually or all together and the prices are broken down in appendix A, an hourly charge has been proposed and there will also be the option of catering which can be added to the package.

A Member questioned why the discounts on the old rates were less than the discounts on the revised charges. The Head of Central Services explained that the Officer involved in the project spent a great deal of time researching and benchmarking the facility and will ask the Officer to circulate an email of explanation to Committee Members.

All recommendations were moved by Councillor Higgins and Councillor Orson seconded.

All Members were unanimously in favour.

RESOLVED that the level of charges for 2017-18 for Civic Suite bookings set out in the table (Appendix A) to operate from 1st April 2017 be approved.

P61. **ITEMS FOR APPROVAL UNDER FINANCIAL PROCEDURE RULES**

The Head of Central Services submitted a report to provide requests for approval of this Committee under Financial Procedure Rules and to provide information on amounts approved under delegated powers and to report the impact of these on the Council's reserves and balances.

A Member questioned what "minor funding changes" were and the Head of Central Services clarified that this would be where it does not affect the overall cost of the project.

All recommendations were moved by Councillor Rhodes and Councillor Orson seconded.

All Members were unanimously in favour.

RESOLVED that:

- 1) The virements approved under delegated powers (para. 3.1.1 refers) be noted.
- 2) The updated funding profile for the Cattle Market redevelopment project be approved and that delegated authority be given to the Head of Central Services to agree minor funding changes to the capital schemes which don't change the overall programme, as recommended by the Rural, Economic and Environmental

Affairs Committee and outlined in paragraph 4.1.

P62. REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGET PROPOSALS 2017-2018

The Head of Central Services submitted a report to outline the key budget issues that will be going forward to the Council's budget setting meeting on 8th February 2017 and provide the opportunity for Members to comment on these in advance of the meeting.

The Head of Central Services explained that the report brings together the proposals made at the Budget Away Day for Members information before they are formally submitted for discussion and approval at Full Council.

With regard to the general expenses revenue budget the proposal from the Away Day is for an overall Council Tax increase of £5 to keep within the referendum limit. Parish special expenses being set at a level to break even, special expenses Melton Mowbray are set at 0% increase and the remainder on general expenses. This recognises the additional pressure the general expenses are under compared to special expenses. To fund the growth set out in Appendix A with the non-recurring items being met from the corporate priorities reserve. Members at the Away Day did not propose that the saving set out in appendix B be approved in 2017/18 but that it be reconsidered in 2018/19. No proposals were put forward with regard to special expenses Melton Mowbray.

For capital, the schemes proposed for funding are set out in appendix C and D with one general fund capital project not proposed for funding as set out in appendix C. Any comments will be incorporated into the report for Full Council.

A Member questioned what grade the removal of the provision for employee professional subscriptions would affect. The Head of Central Services agreed to ensure the grade and numbers of Officers affected was circulated at the Council meeting.

(The discussion here went into exempt session and then returned to public session until Agenda Item 10)

All recommendations were moved by Councillor Glancy and Councillor Wyatt seconded.

All Members were unanimously in favour.

RESOLVED that:

1) Comments on the revenue and capital budget proposals for submission to the Council meeting on 8th February 2017 were received.

2) Delegated authority to the Head of Central Services to amend the amount in the capital programme, once funding confirmation has been received in respect of Disabled Facilities grant as referred to in para 3.4.2, be approved.

P63. URGENT ITEMS

There was no urgent business.

EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED that the Public be excluded during the consideration of the following item(s) of business in accordance with Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (Access to Information: Exempt Information) under Paragraph 3.

P64. PHOENIX HOUSE LET

The Head of Central Services submitted a report make a decision on whether or not to proceed with the potential letting of part of the Phoenix House car park.

RESOLVED that the recommendation within the report be approved.

The meeting which commenced at 6.30 p.m., closed at 7.05 p.m.

Chair