



COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

PARKSIDE, STATION APPROACH, BURTON STREET, MELTON MOWBRAY

21 JUNE 2017

PRESENT:-

Councillors A. Pearson (Chair) R. de Burle (Vice Chair),
M. Blase, A. Freer-Jones, M.R.Sheldon, D. Wright.

As Substitute:-

Councillor M. Glancy for Councillor Beaken

Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods, Strategic Director,
Central Services Manager, Administrative Assistant for Communities and
Neighbourhoods.

C1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were given for Councillor Beaken and Councillor Posnett.

C2. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Committee held on the 24 January 2017, 01 February 2017 and 21 March 2017 were confirmed and authorised to be signed by the Chair.

C3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Pearson declared a disclosable pecuniary interest regarding the 'Tennis' portion of the Melton Leisure Vision- Update report due to his recent links to SLM.

Councillor Glancy declared a disclosable pecuniary interest regarding the 'Tennis' portion of the Melton Leisure Vision- Update report due to her knowing the people who have set up the Tennis Provision at the KEVII site.

C4. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM OTHER COMMITTEES

There were no recommendations from other committees.

C5. UPDATE ON DECISIONS

The Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods submitted a report for Members to note the update on decisions from the previous meetings of this Committee.

RESOLVED that The Update on Decisions be noted.

It was noted that Item 6 of the Agenda was to be removed from this Committee meeting.

C6. RECONSTITUTE TASK GROUPS

The Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods asked members if they like to reconstitute the current Tasks Groups for this Committee and if so elect members onto the respective task groups.

RESOLVED that the Members for that Task Groups 2017-18 be approved.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES GROUP:

Councillor M. Blase
Councillor A. Freer-Jones
Councillor M. Glancy
Councillor S. Lumley
Councillor A. Pearson

HOUSING REPAIRS CONTRACT GROUP:

Councillor M. Blasé
Councillor R. de Burle
Councillor S. Lumley
Councillor A. Pearson
Councillor D. Wright

C7. HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT (HRA PROVISIONAL YEAR END POSITION 2016-17)

The Head of Central Services and Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods submitted as joint report to provide members with information on the provisional year end position for 2016-17, which is subject to external audit certification and the implications for the working balance on the HRA.

The Central Services Manger gave an over view of the report brining Member attention to:

- Appendix A which compares the provisional year end position for 2016-17 to the original estimate set in January 2016 and the approved estimate. Noting the comments re: Variations against approved estimate.
- 3.2 Noting the provisional year end position shows an actual deficit of income over expenditure of £273,468 (line 47); an underspend of £194,513 against the approved budgeted deficit of £467,980 (line 47) and a resulting working balance of £1,186,019.

A brief discussion took place regarding the noting that the report was very clear and positive.

The Chair sought a proposer and seconder to move the recommendation. All Members were in favour.

RESOLVED that Members took note of the variations to the 2016-17 original estimates and the latest approved estimates as set out in the attached paper and the effect on the working balance.

C8. WHEELS TO WORK (W2W) – OPERATIONS & FEES AND CHARGES

The Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods submitted a report to provide members with an update on the W2W's programme for 2017/18 and seek Members' approval for the fees and charges for the service from 1 July 2017.

The Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods gave an overview of the report bringing Members attention to the information they were made aware of during the 14 September 2016 meeting of this Committee and their approval of the interim charges for 2016-17 that were to be effective from 1 October 2016 until 31 March 2017.

The Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods brought Members attention to:

- 3.6 Noting at the end of March 2017 there were over 90 users on the W2W scheme.
- 3.7 Stating a bid to Daventry District Council has been submitted to deliver up to 30 Fleet and potentially 50 client services. Officers were still awaiting the outcome of this bid.
- 3.9 Noting the importance of focus on income collection, bad debt collection and exploring other funding schemes to continue to remain a successful, value for money, budget balanced and well used service.
- 3.12 Asking Members to advise officers on whether to introduce the charges recommended.
- 5.1 Noting the current budget projections anticipate a budget shortfall in a worst case scenario of up to £51K (if the Daventry bid is unsuccessful) ,but note that this includes a number of assumptions one of which is that the proposed fees and charges will be approved and implemented from 1st July.
- 5.2 Noting that there is currently £21k in a W2W personal account from previous years and members could approve that this is used to mitigate the projected shortfall.

A Brief talk through of the report recommendations was given by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods.

A discussion was had regarding what the total cost and the total shortfall of the scheme was. The Central Services Manager stating the total cost was £341k and shortfall was £51k, which had assumed all of the bids would be successful and the relative income was budgeted for.

It was noted that this shortfall could be helped with improving the recovery and recouping charges.

Members enquired as to whether this was still a viable scheme with the projected deficit, the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods stated that although it is a complicated budget it is still viable and has potential. It was also noted that the scheme is a surplus and the reason it shows as a shortfall is due to the over

estimation of funding, if this had not been done the report would be showing the scheme as viable.

The Strategic Director wanted to note the importance that Members remember the role the scheme has to helping individuals become financially independent and the proven benefits it has had to the community so far, their would be a big social impact if removed.

A Discussion was had regarding the £140 CBT charge being too much and may discourage people who could not afford this; a Member also noted that CBT charges are lower elsewhere. A Member suggested that the council use a 50% cost recovery option. The Head of Communities & Neighbourhoods advised that they would ensure that they would only look to recover actual real costs.

The Chair sought a proposer and seconder to move recommendation 2.1 of the report. All members were in favour.

The Chair sought a proposer and seconder to move recommendation 2.2, with the addition of covering CBT costs. One Councillor was not in favour, this recommendation was moved by a majority vote.

The Chair sought a proposer and seconder to move recommendation 2.3, with the addition of this to exclude CBT. All Members were in favour.

The Chair sought a proposer and seconder to move recommendation 2.4 and 2.5, all Members were in favour.

RESOLVED that

- (1) Members noted the progress of the W2W scheme and endorse its future development;
- (2) Members approved the increase in fees and charges as detailed in section 3.9 with the addition of full cost to include CBT charge and approved the charges to take effect from 1 July 2017 as attached as Appendix A;
- (3) Members delegated to the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods in consultation with the Head of Central Services to set the charges for additional services outlined in section 3.2 on a 50/50 cost recovery basis to exclude CBT which would be full cost recovery.
- (4) Members approved the recommendation to the Policy, Finance & Administration Committee to utilise the current unallocated £21k from the Wheels to Work contributions reserve to help towards offsetting the current shortfall.
- (5) Members delegated to the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods in consultation with the Head of Central Services to determine the best course of action to deal with any de-commissioned vehicle and equipment.

C9. COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN

The Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods submitted a report to seek Members approval on the Melton Community Safety Plan.

The Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods gave an overview of the report bringing Members noting the priorities within the plan for Melton area stated in 3.4

of the report as well as bring members attention to Appendix A the Community Safety Plan 2017-2020.

A Discussion was had regarding the terminology used in section 4 of the plan as some Members felt the word ' increase' did not read correctly. Members felt it needed to be corrected to read as encouraging people to report by giving more confidence and easier access.

A Member also noted that the ' Contribution of partners' list of the Community Safety plan should also include private sector companies i.e. schools or MARS, not just government businesses.

The Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods noted he would take these comments back the Safer Melton partnership to consider.

The Chair moved that the recommendation be approved subject to comments. All Members were in favour.

RESOLVED that Members approved the Melton Community Safety Plan 2017-2020 attached as Appendix A; Subject to comments.

C10. MELTON LEISURE VISION- UPDATE

The Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods presented a discussion and decision paper outlining the current status of the 3 main clubs operating from the King Edward VII site.

It was decided to take each club separately to allow the Chair and Councillor Glancy to leave before the Tennis Club was discussed.

The Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods gave a brief over view of the Melton Town Football Club section of the report noting that Tranche 1 of the plan has now been fully paid allowing the club to move on to Tranche 2.

The Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods noted that the Key Decisions of the report would be regarded as the recommendations, the key area being around the difficulty the Football Club have in paying their rent in the first 3 years.

The Strategic Director noted that the Football club had undertaken work and repairs of £2.6k in 2016/17; this work would have been Melton Borough Councils (MBC) work to pay for, so potentially the Club have already paid for the rent for 2016/17.

It was also stated that the Members should think about the potential a high standard football team could have in regards to bring to Melton e.g. other income ventures and sponsorships.

The work done by the Club could lead a significant grant from the FA to build a stadium, noting this stadium would always be there even if the club was to finish.

A Member noted that it was concerning that they were struggling at the start of a 21 year agreement to which the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods stated

that MBC have only asked for 2 years to start to see what their wider development looks like and will be renegotiated after this.

A Member noted that they would like to have a report back addressing the issues.

A Member enquired as to whether it can be stated in the agreement that the club will not do anymore improvements that MBC should be completing, without authorisation. The Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods stated that yes this will be assured.

The Chair moved that the recommendations be approved. All members were in favour.

RESOLVED that

(1) Members approve the request to waver rent for 2 years (2017/18 &2018/19)

(2) Members took note that as part of any new development it will be necessary to renegotiate terms based on new facilities.

The Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods gave an overview of the Melton Mowbray Rugby Football Club section of the report noting that the Club have been paying £5k a year as well as maintaining the pitches which should have been MBC duty.

It was noted by some Members that they would like a report on the actual figures, the Strategic Director noted that in regards to needing to move on this quickly he would be happy to go through the details and figure in depth with members outside the meeting, if any further concerns were raised these could be brought back to the committee, however, the advanced discussions with the Rugby Club indicated that the final figure would be greater than what is currently being received.

It was noted that the Members would approve the recommendations and the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods would bring back a report on figures.

The Chair proposed that the recommendations of the report be approved. All Members were in Favour.

RESOLVED that

(1) Members delegate to the Strategic Director to agree the rental amount due from the rugby club for 2016/17 and 2017/18

(2) Members took note that as part of any new envelopment it will be necessary to renegotiate terms based on the facilities.

(3) Members took note of each response to point 1-8 outlines in the report.

(4) The Head of Communities & Neighbourhoods to bring back a report outlining the 'rental' agreement for the Melton Rugby Club.

The Chair and Councillor Glancy left the meeting at this point.

The Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods gave an overview of the Melton Mowbray Tennis Club section of the Report.

A Member noted they were in favour of the cabin but wanted to ensure that's they had correct insurance in place for this. With another Member noting that they would like assurance the club would not come back in a year and claim Melton Borough Council should have paid for the cabin. The Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods sated that these terms are both stated within the agreement..

A Member noted that they would want a report on the full financial details, The Strategic director noted he would provide a briefing note as this is already agreed it was just to be noted by Members.

The Vice Chair moved that the Recommendations be approved. All Members were in favour.

RESOLVED that

- (1) Members took note of the new agreement that takes the club up to the start of the new management contract.
- (2) Members took note that it will for the potential bidders to determine their own arrangement for the long term tennis provision on the site which will be part of their submission.
- (3) Members took note and approved that the cabin highlighted above is to be included in the 1 year agreement on appropriate terms as discussed by the working party.

C11. **URGENT BUSINESS**

There was no urgent business.

The meeting which commenced at 6.30 p.m. closed at 8:15 p.m.

Chairman