

**Extract from Joint Strategic Committee 13 September 2016**

**JSC/037/16-17      1st Capital Investment Programme and Projects Monitoring  
2016/17**

Before the Committee was a joint report by the Director for Digital and Resources, copies of which had been circulated to all Members and a copy of which is attached to the signed copy of these Minutes as Item 6.

The report updated the Joint Strategic Committee on the progress and expenditure position for the capital programme and provided an update on the progress of digital programming projects. The Committee noted the intention to include details of other important Council projects in future reports.

A Member asked whether the Housing Register could be accessible to view online? Officers advised that they had embarked on a programme of works to develop a new Housing Strategy which included a range of changes across the housing team. More information on this would be reported at a future meeting.

The Committee queried the necessity of the proposed replacement gas main as part of the Crematorium Driveway Works. Officers advised that several different problems needed to be addressed including:- the provision of an uninterrupted supply; improved capacity to enable the use of the facilities 3 existing burners; the future proofing of the supply to enable the facility to run up to 5 burners. It was also noted that further testing of the condition of the pipe was ongoing. Members were not satisfied that sufficient information had been provided to support this proposal and requested that a thorough technical response be brought to a future meeting. It was proposed, seconded and agreed that recommendation (b) bullet point 2 in the report, should not be approved at this time.

A Member challenged the £19,800 figure quoted for the replacement and resiting of the car park attendant's kiosk at the Crematorium. Officers agreed to revisit this proposal and value engineer the cost of replacing the kiosk.

**Decision**

The Joint Strategic Committee:-

(a) with respect to the Capital Investment Programme for Adur District Council

*Not included here*

(b) With respect to the Capital Investment Programme for Worthing Borough Council

- noted the reprofiling of the Worthing Borough Council capital schemes listed in paragraph 5.2 and Appendix 4;
- approved the additional Council Resource funding of £82,650 from overall underspends in the 2016/2017 Capital Investment Programme, for the Brooklands Park replacement of the Par 3 club house following a re-allocation of the EON Rampion Offshore Wind Farm capital receipt as advised in paragraph 5.4.3.
- **recommended to the Council the creation of an ICT Budget of £10,900 for the provision of broadband, Wifi and ICT equipment for the newly refurbished Colonnade House Artists' Studios funded from overall underspends in the 2016/2017 Capital Investment Programme as detailed in paragraph 5.4.1.**

(c) *Not a recommendation to Council*

**JSC/038/16-17      Outline Forecast 2017/18 to 2021/22 and Budget Strategy**

Before the Committee was a report by the Director for Digital and Resources, copies of which had been circulated to all Members and a copy of which is attached to the signed copy of these Minutes as Item 7.

The report aimed to set out how council funding was expected to change over the next few years, outlining the revenue forecast and setting out our strategic response, creating the conditions to be self-financing by 2020/21. With the detailed budget proposals for 2017/18 coming forward to Joint Strategic Committee in December, the report set out the broader context for the detailed work that was well underway.

**Decision,**

The Joint Strategic Committee:-

- (a) noted the report and the outline 5-year forecasts in Appendix 2;
- (b) approved the proposed budget process as set out in section 8 of the report;
- (c) **recommended to Adur and Worthing Councils to approve the Budget Strategy for 2017/18, outlined in Section 9 of the report.**

**JSC/042/16-17      Improving the Supply of Temporary Accommodation**

Before the Committee was a report by the Director for Communities, copies of which had been circulated to all Members and a copy of which is attached to the signed copy of these Minutes as Item 11.

The report focused on the rising national pressures around homelessness and the lack of local emergency and temporary accommodation. It set out key proposals for the way in which Adur and Worthing Councils' could meet their obligations and tackle the pressures on the system, which include; management and capacity issues, and increasing the supply of more cost effective emergency and temporary accommodation.

The Committee were advised that the range of measures proposed would provide more appropriate, sustainable and efficient solutions for future emergency and temporary accommodation.

Members acknowledged that the pressures on housing was immense and resulted from a lack of housing stock and that potentially, there was more scope for building in Adur than there was in Worthing.

Concerns were raised about the appointment of additional staff and clarification was sought as to how they could improve the situation. Officers advised that a benchmarking exercise identified that the number of cases being processed by members of staff was very high. It was suggested that additional staff would improve the situation and provide greater resilience.

Officers advised that a significant amount of time was being spent in emergency accommodation which was very expensive. The Committee noted that the Councils needed to speed up the assessment of cases and move tenants into either temporary or alternative accommodation.

The Committee were advised that para 5.3 should be amended to read:- *'appraisals will be approved for WBC by the Leader in consultation with the Executive Member for Customer Services and for ADC by the Executive Member for Resources in consultation with the Executive Member for Customer Services'*.

**Decision,**

The Joint Strategic Committee:

- (i) approved the recruitment of two additional staff for 12 months at a cost to the Councils of £76,000 which was to be funded from the reduction in temporary accommodation costs and overtime payments. The reduction in time in emergency interim accommodation and overtime payments are to be assessed during this time to ensure that the posts represent value for money;
- ii) approved the market testing of the provision of emergency interim accommodation and private sector leasing schemes, via a procurement exercise within 12 months, to see whether there are other suppliers in the local area who could offer similar value accommodation to that detailed;
- iii) **recommended that Adur and Worthing Councils approve an invest-to-save capital budget for the acquisition of emergency interim or temporary accommodation funded from prudential borrowing as follows:-**
  - Adur District Council £1.2m; and
  - **Worthing Borough Council £1.8m**
- iv) approved exploring the formation of an independent housing company with a broad strategic remit which would also provide temporary accommodation for the Councils;
- v) note the implications and risks associated with the Welfare Report to be brought back to the Joint Strategic Committee in October 2016.

**JGC/16-17/025      Appointment of Honorary Alderman or Alderwoman under  
Section 249 (1) of the Local Government Act 1972**

Before the Committee was a report by the Director for Communities, copies of which had been circulated to all Members and copies are attached to the signed copy of these Minutes as Item 12.

The report set out options for conferring the title of Honorary Alderman of the Borough on two former Mayors who have retired from the Council, Michael Donin and Vic Walker. In addition, the Committee was asked to consider a request for the conferment of the title of Honorary Alderman/Alderwoman of the Borough on a former councillor of the Borough, Norah Fisher.

Cllr Tom Wye addressed the Joint Governance Committee to propose conferring the title of Honorary Alderman / Alderwoman to Norah Fisher in recognition of the outstanding contribution Norah had made to Worthing Borough Council.

**Resolved,**

The Joint Governance Committee:-

- recommended that a special meeting of the Council be arranged under section 249(1) of the Local Government Act for the specific purpose of conferring the title of 'Honorary Alderman' to Michael Donin and Vic Walker;
- recommended that the title of Honorary Alderman/Alderwoman be conferred to Norah Fisher at a special meeting of the Council.

**(will follow once the Joint Strategic committee draft minutes have been published)**

**(will follow once the Joint Governance Sub- committee draft minutes have been published)**