

The Action Plan had been endorsed by Council on 23rd March, 2016 and 6 monthly progress reports would be submitted to the Executive.

Representatives of the original Peer Team were due to visit the Council on 25th November, 2016. During their visit they will review the action plan developed from their findings and recommendations in their detailed report and the progress made to date in addressing these.

RESOLVED

That the Action Plan be submitted to Council for information.

REASON

The Corporate Peer Challenge forms part of the Council's continuous improvement plan.

61. TRANSFER OF SERVICES

Minutes of a meeting of the Transfer of Services and Facilities to Town and Parish Councils Committee held on 15th September, 2016 were submitted for information. The Executive were, however, asked to consider a number of recommendations.

RESOLVED

- (1) That it be agreed that Hill Top Recreation Ground and Springfield Playing Pitch be transferred to Earby Town Council; and Trawden Recreation Ground be transferred to Trawden Forest Parish Council.
- (2) That it be agreed that the tenants of the following garage sites be invited to purchase their sites at the current market value:
 - (i) Back Bamford Street, Nelson
 - (ii) Barkerhouse Road, Nelson
 - (iii) Clayton Street, Nelson
 - (iv) Lee Road, Nelson
 - (v) Pickering Street, Brierfield
 - (vi) Union Street, Brierfield
- (3) That it be agreed that no further action be taken at this time on the disposal of other garage sites or their transfer to Town and Parish Councils.
- (4) That with regard to miscellaneous pieces of land the following be approved:
 - (i) That the miscellaneous pieces of land in Nelson be further reviewed and any located next to a gable end of a house be marketed for sale with an appropriate condition regarding the use of the land.
 - (ii) That all the miscellaneous pieces of land in Barnoldswick be offered to Barnoldswick Town Council.
 - (iii) That all the miscellaneous pieces of land in Earby be offered to Earby Town Council whilst

noting the concern regarding the open area at Selbourne Terrace; that the Executive agrees in principle to discussions being held with the appropriate body with a view to the Youth Hostel maintaining its current use; and that further discussions be held with the Town Council regarding the other sites it put forward.

- (iv) That the open area fronting numbers 268-276 Colne Road, Sough be offered to Kelbrook and Sough Parish Council.
- (v) That further discussions take place with Salterforth Parish Council regarding the land fronting 3-10 Moor View, Salterforth.
- (vi) That a meeting be arranged with Colne Town Council to discuss the following pieces of land – land at Greenfield Farm, Greenfield Road; open area adjacent Byron Road junction, Keighley Road; land at junction of Langroyd Road and Skipton Road; open area off Windy Bank; adjacent car park on Collingwood Street, Greenfield Road; open area corner of Dewhurst Street and Knotts Lane; open area fronting numbers 1-4 Allison Grove; open area adjacent to the Bethel Chapel, Burnley Road; open area adjacent Hagg Street/Cross Helliwell Street and the open area at the corner of Cotton Tree Lane and Keighley Road.
- (vii) That the open area at Town Top, corner of Noyna Road and Skipton Road, Foulridge be offered to Foulridge Parish Council.
- (viii) That the open area adjacent to Covey Bridge, Carriers Row, Laneshaw Bridge be offered to Laneshaw Bridge Parish Council.
- (ix) That further discussions take place with Trawden Forrest Parish Council regarding the miscellaneous pieces of land and also the tram tracks and land near to the bus turnaround.
- (x) That the views of Brierfield and Reedley Committee be noted.”

REASON

To continue with the Council’s programme for the transfer of services and facilities to Town and Parish Councils.

62. BUDGET SAVINGS 2017/18

The Financial Services Manager submitted a report on a number of savings proposals which the Executive were asked to consider and to recommend that they be submitted to Council for early approval as part of the development of the Council’s revenue budget for 2017/18.

The proposals submitted totalled £533k and the relevant pro-formas were attached to the report.

RESOLVED

- (1) That Council be recommended to approve the following savings:

	£
Transfer of Services – Income from Town and Parish Councils	50,000.00
Transfer of Services – Full Impact of transferring Colne Town Hall	20,000.00
Staffing – Primarily Management of Vacant Posts	200,000.00

Executive (22.09.2016)

Liberata - Software Rationalisation (IDOX)	50,000.00
Rationalisation of Telephones/Related IT	10,000.00
Property – Reduction in Reactive Maintenance (greater planned maintenance)	30,000.00
Waste Management – Reduction in ‘Flyer’ Service	25,580.00
Waste Management – Vehicle Changes	25,000.00
Discover Pendle Visitor Centre	40,000.00

Total 450,580.00

- (2) That the proposed saving in the reduction in mechanical sweeping be deferred and considered further during the budget making process along with other savings proposals.
- (3) That the transfer of Discover Pendle into the Boundary Mill store be approved subject to Boundary Mill making a contribution towards the costs of operating the instore facility.

REASON

To support the requirement to save an estimated £4.8m by 2019/20.

63. LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE SETTLEMENT AND RELATED MATTERS

The Financial Services Manager submitted a report recommending acceptance of the Government’s offer of a four year funding settlement with a request that officers be authorised to notify the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) accordingly by the deadline of 14th October, 2016.

The report also outlined other matters:

- the requirement for an Efficiency Plan in support of the offer of a four year funding settlement;
- proposals for the flexible use of capital receipts in the period 2016/17 to 2018/19;
- a draft consultation response for submission to DCLG linked to the Government’s proposals for the 100% ‘local’ retention of business rates and fair funding reforms.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the Government’s offer of a four year funding settlement covering the period from 2016/17 to 2019/20 be accepted and officers be authorised to formally notify DCLG by the deadline of 5.00 pm on 14th October, 2016.
- (2) That the requirement for an Efficiency Plan be submitted to DCLG when taking up the offer of a four year settlement and delegated authority be granted to the Strategic Director to submit this on behalf of the Council in consultation with both the Leader and Executive Member for Finance.
- (3) That the intention to develop a capital receipts strategy as part of the next update of the Medium-Term Financial Plan to enable the Council to benefit from the flexible use of capital receipts in the period 2016/17 to 2018/19 be endorsed.
- (4) That the draft consultation response, as set out in Appendix C attached to the report, be approved and this be submitted to the DCLG by the closing deadline of 26th September, 2016.

REASON

To respond formally to the Government's offer of a four year funding settlement for local government and address other related matters arising from the local government finance settlement as announced earlier this year when the final settlement for 2016/17 was announced.

64. INCOME REVIEW 2016

The Financial Services Manager submitted a report which reviewed fees and charges in advance of the 2017/18 budget process in line with the Fees and Charges Policy but equalling in response to the significant financial pressures faced by the Council.

RESOLVED

- (1) That, with the exception of vaulted graves, the proposed changes to fees and charges, as outlined in Appendix A attached to the report, be approved and that these charges be implemented from 1st October, 2016.
- (2) That a charge of £20 (excluding VAT) be agreed for the treatment of rats, mice and cockroaches in residential premises (as per paragraphs 17-19 in the report) and this be recommended to Council for approval.
- (3) That the Environmental Services Manager be requested to undertake a comparison with neighbouring Councils on charges for vaulted graves.
- (4) That junior football clubs be consulted on the proposed introduction of a £7.50 (excluding VAT) charge for junior football pitches.
- (5) That the possibility of Lancashire County Council taking the administration of residents parking permits back in-house during 2016 bringing an end to the current arrangement with Pendle Council and the implications for the Council be noted.
- (6) That a 1% increase in the hourly rate for Building Control chargeable activity be approved with effect from 1st November, 2016.
- (7) That in the event of VAT being applied nationally to fees for local land charges it be agreed that this be applied in addition to the Council's tariff of charges for this service.

REASON

To implement the Council's financial strategy action plan, specifically in support of the 'charging' theme outlined as part of the updated Medium-Term Financial Plan reported to the Executive in May, 2016.

65. MISCELLANEOUS MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of the Budget Working Group held on 30th August, 2016 were submitted for information.

66. TENDERS

The Democratic Services Manager submitted, for information, a report on tenders which had been received and accepted.

67. WHITEFIELD HOUSE SALES

The Housing, Health and Economic Development Services Manager submitted an update on progress with the sale of properties in Whitefield.

It was reported that there were 21 properties still to sell with five properties under offer. In some instances offers had been accepted but the purchaser had withdrawn at a later stage. Potential purchasers were now asked to complete a form which required evidence that funding was in place with a view to reducing the number of properties that remained under offer for several months and then did not proceed to sale.

Other incentives had been introduced but sales were still slow.

RESOLVED

- (1) That progress be noted.
- (2) That a further report be submitted in 6 months' time.

REASON

To keep the Executive informed of progress with disposals.

68. PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDERS PROGRAMME 2016/17

The Neighbourhood Services Manager submitted a report on proposals and options for Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPOs) in relation to sports grounds, local nature reserves, Barnoldswick and Earby town centres and alley gating schemes in Pendle.

RESOLVED

- (1) That it be agreed that a public consultation exercise on the current options starts in October 2016.
- (2) That further reports with proposals for how the PSPOs can be worded and enforced be submitted to the Executive and Area Committees in December and January.

REASON

To enable the Council and its partners to respond to concerns regarding behaviour that is detrimental to the quality of life in public spaces in Pendle including enforcement action.

69. MATTERS REFERRED FROM AREA COMMITTEES

(a) Sough Park – Carnegie Field (Fields in Trust Deed of Dedication

At a meeting of the West Craven Committee on 6th September, 2016 it was resolved “that the Executive be recommended to put forward Sough Park for Fields in Trust status in view of it being identified as a lost Carnegie Field.”

A copy of the report considered by the Committee was submitted for information.

RESOLVED

That it be agreed that Sough Park be put forward by the Council for FIT status in view of it being identified as a lost Carnegie Field.

REASON

To enable Sough Park to be recognised as a lost Carnegie Field and ensure that it is protected as a public recreational space in perpetuity.

70. LICENCE FEES FOR VEHICLES, DRIVERS AND OPERATORS

The Planning, Building Control and Licensing Services Manager submitted a report on the results of the consultation exercise undertaken on proposed licence fees.

RESOLVED

- (1) That Council be recommended to approve the fees as set out in the report and that these fees be implemented from 1st November, 2016.
- (2) That it be agreed that private hire operators and drivers licences be issued for a lesser period if there are exceptional reasons for doing so.

REASON

In order to comply with requirements of Sections 53 and 70 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 and Sections 10 and 11 of the Deregulation Act 2015.

71. FORWARD PLAN

The Executive’s Work Programme and Forward Plan of key decisions for the four month period commencing 16th September, 2016 were submitted for information.

Chairman _____