

# REPORT BY THE LEADER ON THE WORK OF THE POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

The attention of Members is drawn to the following items which have been discussed by the Policy and Resources Committee since the last ordinary meeting of the Council:-

## **POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE 24th May, 2018**

- **FINANCIAL STRATEGY AND UPDATED MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2019/22**

We noted the report and the uncertainty with the Council's core funding beyond 2019/20. In particular the increased uncertainty regarding the timing and implications of the Fair Funding Review and the move to 75% (formerly 100%) local retention of business rates income. We also noted the use of balances and reserves over the same period; agreed that further reports be submitted to the Committee throughout the year in order to assist with the development of budget proposals and to reduce the Council's net expenditure by £1m as part of the budget process for 2019/20. Further work would also be undertaken to develop options to address the balance of the projected budget deficit for 2021/22.

- **TENDERS**

We considered a report on tenders and asked for a report to be submitted to the next meeting on the introduction of the blue wheeled bin scheme.

- **PROPOSALS TO ESTABLISH A PENDLE LOCAL LOTTERY**

After considering a report on proposals for a local lottery scheme in the Borough we felt it would be useful to meet with an External Lottery Manager to find out more information about the initiative.

- **INTEGRATED COMMUNITIES STRATEGY GREEN PAPER: CONSULTATION**

We agreed that the Chief Executive, in consultation with myself, be granted delegated authority to agree a response to the consultation.

- **PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER FOR PARKS**

We decided to defer this report and asked that the relevant Town and Parish Councils be invited to comment on the proposed recommendations and that this be considered further at the September meeting.

- **LOMESHAYE INDUSTRIAL ESTATE EXTENSION PHASE 1**

A request by a landowner affected by the Compulsory Purchase of land to extend the industrial estate to act as developer for the scheme was presented to us. After a lengthy discussion we agreed that discussions continue with the landowner and his agent and that the outcome of these decisions be reported to us at our next meeting. We did, however, reaffirm the Executive's decision made on 15<sup>th</sup> March, 2018 that when the land was acquired by the Council, either through negotiation or Compulsory Purchase, it be transferred to PEARL2 on a long leasehold at market value following completion of the infrastructure works.

- **RIGHT TO BUILD/SELF AND CUSTOM BUILD SITE: BAMFORD STREET, NELSON**

We asked for a further report to be submitted to a future meeting explaining how the Council could promote self and custom build within the Borough. We agreed that the Council take on the responsibility for the maintenance of sewers required to connect the self/custom build plots which the Council had provisionally sold at Bamford Street into the existing adopted system. This would include entering into easement agreements with the relevant landowners. We also agreed that the Council would pay for the legal/surveyors costs incurred for this.

- **DISPOSAL OF BRIGHT STREET, COLNE**

The disposal of this site was agreed under a negotiated procedure to a company (yet to be registered) with Jonathan Pritchard and Andrew Hopkinson as directors. The sale would be conditional upon planning permission being granted for housing.

- **WATERSIDE COMMUNITY CENTRE, COLNE**

We reaffirmed the Executive's decision to transfer the responsibility and running costs of this building to Positive Action in the Community. Officers were asked to explore the scope to also work with Lancashire Sport Partnership Ltd. Delegated authority was granted to the Chief Executive, in consultation with myself, to negotiate the terms on which the building would be transferred. Should the negotiations conclude with a proposal that the building be disposed of at a discount then the matter is to be referred back to the Committee for confirmation.

Councillor Paul White,  
Leader,  
Pendle Borough Council