

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 18th SEPTEMBER, 2018

• Income Review 2018/19

The Committee approved the proposed changes to fees and charges, as outlined in Appendix A attached to the report subject to the following amendments:

- No increase in cemetery fees
- Enforcement re: dogs on leads, dog fouling and litter – fine to be increased to £150

We also approved the proposed changes to Agency Fees for Disabled Facilities Grants and the Invest to Save Scheme proposed to extend the Niche Wall at Barrowford Cemetery.

Subsequently the above decision (relating to DFG's pre-application planning advice and bulky household waste) was called in and was referred back to the three group leaders for discussion and reconsideration at the next meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee.

• Budget Savings 2019/20

The Council's updated Medium Term Financial Plan, which showed the forecast budget deficit for the period to 2021/22 of £3.9m was noted by the Committee. We recommended Council approve the following budget saving proposals:

	£000
Staffing – Management of Vacant Posts	60
Grounds Maintenance – Contributions from Local Councils	90
Accommodation Savings	30
Total Proposed Savings	180

• Community Investment Fund

We deferred this item for further information. A further report is to be considered by the Committee on 27th November, 2018.

• Fleet Review and Procurement

The Committee confirmed the commencement of the procurement process for the Council's fleet and appointed Brian Farrington Ltd., as external consultants to assist the Council through the procurement process.

• The Borough of Pendle (Lomeshaye Industrial Estate Extension Phase 2) Compulsory Purchase Order 2018

The Committee agreed the process for the compulsory purchase of Phase 2 of the extension to Lomeshaye Industrial Estate and instructed officers accordingly.

• Trawden Forest Neighbourhood Plan

We recommended Council accept the Independent Examiner's recommended modifications to the Trawden Forest Neighbourhood Plan; to agree that the Trawden Forest Neighbourhood Plan, as modified, acknowledged that it met the Basic Conditions and was compatible with EU obligations and human rights legislation; and agreed that the Trawden Forest Neighbourhood Plan should proceed to referendum.

- **Land at Thomas Street, Colne**

The Committee accepted a higher offer of £15,000 for land at Thomas Street, Colne

Subsequently the above decision was called in and was referred back to the three group leaders for discussion and reconsideration at the next meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee.

- **Policy Themes – Annual Report**

We noted the annual report and the challenges to deliver it; approved the Annual Emissions Report for 2017/18; and asked that any review topics for the Health and Social Care Panel Workplan be referred to Lynne Rowland in Democratic Services.

- **Safeguarding Policies**

The Committee endorsed the revised 'Family Support and Safeguarding Children Policy' and 'Promoting Welfare and Safeguarding Adults Policy.' We also agreed that mandatory training be provided for all Councillors at a session to be held prior to the December Council meeting.

- **Animal Licensing Changes**

We recommended Council amend the Officer Scheme of Delegation in the Council's Constitution to authorise the Planning, Building Control and Licensing Services Manager to deal with all licensing activities covered by the Animal Welfare (Licensing Activities Involving Animals) (England) Regulations 2018. We also recommended the fees for the applications be approved, as set out in the report.

- **Mosscaire St. Vincent's Home Improvement Agency Funding**

We deferred consideration of this item and asked for an all-party meeting to be arranged with representatives from Mosscaire St. Vincent's and relevant officers to discuss the impact the withdrawal of this funding would have on the service they provided in the Borough. This meeting has been arranged for 6th December, 2018.

- **19 Market Square, Nelson**

The Committee granted a 3 year lease to Burnley, Pendle and Rossendale Council for Voluntary Service for 19 Market Square, Nelson and authorised the Chief Executive to negotiate terms.

- **Matters Referred from Area Committees**

- (a) **Future Provision of Grit Bins**

The request from Nelson Committee for a supplementary estimate of £1,617 for the provision of grit was not approved.

- (b) **Land at Wickworth Street, Nelson**

We declared the land adjacent to 50 Wickworth Street, Nelson surplus to requirements; that the loss of open space be advertised to facilitate the disposal; and that the land be marketed for disposal under the Council's Self-Build Scheme.

- (c) **Land at End Street, Colne**

We declared land at End Street, Colne surplus to requirements; asked that consideration be given to developing the site in conjunction with the land opposite, at the site of the former chapel; noted that this site may be of interest to the Peter Birtwistle Trust and we supported their efforts to acquire land in Colne to expand its supported housing stock; and asked the Housing, Health and Economic Development Services Manager to consult with officers at Lancashire County Council to

discuss the possibility of a joint scheme to develop the rectangular piece of land above Bankfield Street, Colne.

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE 23rd OCTOBER, 2018

- **Planning Application – 18/0501/OUT Outline: Major: Residential development for 36 dwellings (access only) at the allotments south west of 197-239 Halifax Road, Brierfield**
The Committee refused this application.

- **Pendle Leisure Trust – Savings Proposals 2019/20**

We noted the initial savings proposals from the Pendle Leisure Trust and agreed that they be considered in the development of Management Team's proposed budget for 2019/20. We also granted delegated authority to the Chief Executive to explore alternative options for the continued operation of the ACE Centre.

- **Call In Notices**

- (a) **Income Review (DFGs, Pre-Planning Application Advice and Bulky Household Waste)**

We reaffirmed the Committee's decision to change the fees and charges in relation to the above items.

- (b) **Future Provision of Grit Bins**

We reaffirmed the Committee's decision not to agree a supplementary estimate of £1,617. We asked the Chief Financial Officer to look at decommitting projects to enable the grit to be funded from revenue monies brought forward from Nelson Committee's 2017/18 Capital Programme.

- (c) **Land at Thomas Street, Colne**

The Committee deferred this item pending further discussions with the potential purchaser of the site.

- **Income Review Phase II (2019/20 Budget Setting and Medium Term Financial Plan)**

We recommended Council approve the changes to the licence fee structure for Houses in Multiple Occupation and approve the Mobile Homes, Charges for Residential Sites Policy.

- **Matters Requiring Financial Approval**

The Committee agreed a contribution towards the 3G sports pitch at Brieffield Mill – Northlight up to a maximum value of £55,000.

- **Recommended Write Offs**

We agreed to write off £134,152.71 in respect of Housing Benefit Overpayments, £135,037.31 in respect of Council Tax and £71,032.09 in respect of Business Rates.

- **Glen Cottage, Rainhall Crescent, Barnoldswick**

The Committee agreed to proceed with the compulsory purchase of this property and instructed officers accordingly.

- **32 Rhoda Street, Nelson**

The Committee agreed to proceed with the compulsory purchase of this property and instructed officers accordingly.

- **Upsizing and Diversion of Culvert to Skipton Road, Barnoldswick**

We supported the above scheme and agreed that it be placed within the Council's Capital Programme for 2019/20. We also asked that the County Council be requested to consent to any future repairs of the culvert at Ghyll Meadwos, as riparian owners of the road; and in the meantime, that the work for the replacement of the culvert be put out to tender.

- **PublicSpaces Protection Order for Parks**

We agreed to the implementation of this Order.

- **Pendle Sculpture Trail**

The grant award of £78,992 for the further development of the Pendle Sculpture Trail was noted. We further noted the requirement to provide £6,869 from existing budgets as match funding and a further £3,500 for a Lead Artist.

- **Matters Referred from Area Committees**
Environmental Blight (West Craven Committee)

We did not agree the request of £3,000 from West Craven Committee towards the cost of resurfacing Cemetery Road Car Park and drew the Committee's attention to the forthcoming Community Investment Fund.

Councillor Paul White,
Leader,
Pendle Borough Council